

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2920 - VOL. 2, NO. 14

April 6, 1946

LATEST ON HOUSING ORDER: Further inquiries at CPA this week about impact of Housing Order VHP-1 (Vol. 2, No. 13) elicit these developments: 1) There's no use getting too perturbed over the order until CPA interprets it further and shakes down its field staff. 2) CPA is awaiting a report on industry's status, due from the FCC, before ruling on radio portion of ban. Meanwhile, NAB and TBA are filing briefs asking for liberalization in cases of radio construction, emphasizing many jobs and opportunities for vets in FM and TV. Several transmitter manufacturers have also filed appeals, pleading that unemployment will result if FM and TV are held up by too literal interpretation of order.

FM ALLOCATION MAPS: Our book of 60 FM Allocation Maps, covering commercial channels by cities, goes into the mails to you next week from our printer -- Supplement No. 21A. If you are concerned with FM, these maps should prove as useful to you as our previously published set of 13 TV Allocation Maps (Supplement No. 24) was to our clients concerned with television.

Our FM maps cover Metropolitan and Rural Channels No. 221 to 280 (92.1-103.9 mc). We did not prepare maps for Non-Commercial, Educational Channels No. 201-220 nor for Channels No. 281-300, because no channel assignments have yet been made on them. However, we have included 10 extra blank maps in your set, to be used as additional channels are assigned, and extra copies of these blanks will be made available at nominal cost.

We are indebted to the engineering department of Mutual Broadcasting System, and to its director, Col. Esterley C. Page, for the technical data that went into these maps. There is no extra charge for your set of FM Allocation Maps, but clients only may obtain extra sets at \$15.00 each.

FCC RADIO SET SURVEY: FM and TV broadcasters have an enormous "promotion and circulation" job ahead of them if they hope to capture the ears and the eyes of the American audience. For it's a rather lugubrious picture of FM and TV set production prospects that the FCC paints in reporting this week on results of its survey of set manufacturers. Four out of 5 receivers scheduled for "probable production" this year, the report shows, will be AM sets only, including the expected deluge of cheap table models, portables, auto sets -- always the bulk of receiver production. Out of a total anticipated production of 21,129,760 units, less than 10% will include FM; and only about 115,000 TV receivers are in sight -- if the FCC report is to be believed.

Questionnaires were sent to more than 300 manufacturers, 85 of whom replied. But the FCC says only 4 of those not answering may be classified as large-scale producers. Here's what the 85 reported they expect to produce:

AM band only, 16,736,862 units, or 79.2%; AM-FM band, 1,689,750, or 8%; receiver type unspecified, 2,481,300, or 11.7%. None of the other categories ran as high as 1% -- FM band only, 86,286; TV band only, 44,706; AM-FM-TV combinations, 54,606; miscellaneous, 21,250. Then there were a scattering of oddments: AM-TV

only, 500; FM-TV only, 500; TV for Channels 1-6 only, 4,000; AM-TV for Channels 1-6 only, 10,000. And FM adapters are promised by 4 firms to the number of 47,000, FM converters by 3 firms to the number of 37,000.

Names of the 4 unreporting companies are not disclosed (Zenith admits it was one) so if they include any other major set producers the figures and percentages might be thrown entirely out of line, might even present an utterly different picture. It is hard to believe that AM-FM combinations will run less than 1 out of 10 sets produced, yet it is understandable that the set makers will make a strenuous bid for the immediate market, mostly cheap little sets, until enough FM and TV stations are on the air to create a demand for adequate receivers. Moreover, production lines are subject to overnight changes, and the FCC's figures may reflect tentative estimates only.

Obviously disappointed with its own findings, the FCC made this statement in releasing its survey: "In the light of the rapid progress being made for the development of FM on the station side, the Commission hopes that manufacturers may revise their production schedules to include a greater proportion of FM receivers." Then, on Friday, FCC sharply denied a UP story quoting an alleged FCC spokesman as saying that "in view of the very few FM sets to be produced this year, it is hardly worthwhile for the broadcasters to continue with station construction plans." No one in any responsible position has made such a statement, said FCC, adding that it is "erroneous, gravely misleading, does not represent the views of the Commission." The statement went on to say, "Far from discouraging broadcasters from continuing with their station construction plans, the Commission urges all of them to proceed with their plans with the greatest possible speed."

* * *

That the foregoing estimates probably represent the sum of guesswork on the part of the manufacturers -- OPA, labor and production problems being what they are -- is further indicated by the confusion still prevailing in the trade as to when FM and TV sets can be made available in quantity and at what prices. Few manufacturers know as yet, and they freely say so. However, a handful have ventured when they hope to be able to make deliveries to their dealers. Here's what little data we can get up to now from trade sources:

Probable FM deliveries and costs if determined: Stromberg-Carlson, March 15; Zenith, April, \$54 to \$295; Farnsworth, May, \$200 to \$1,375; Bendix, July, \$60 up; Electronics Corp. of America, August; Sentinel, August, \$70 to \$300; General Electric, third quarter 1946, \$60 up; Wells-Gardner, third quarter 1946; Lear, fall 1946. Stromberg, Zenith, Lear and GE still say they will produce two-band FMs.

Probable TV deliveries and costs if determined: Viewtone, May, \$100; Belmont (Raytheon), July, \$150; Farnsworth, August or September, \$200 to \$1,500; General Electric, third quarter 1946, \$300 up; Emerson, September, \$200; Lear, fall 1946; Electronics Corp. of America, latter 1946; Stromberg-Carlson, fall 1946 or spring 1947 depending upon demand; Sentinel, end of 1946 or beginning of 1947, \$150 up. Most TV production apparently will be direct-viewing console models.

TELEVISION JUNKET: Mum seems to be the word among the big delegation of Commissioners and FCC staffmen who journeyed to Princeton and New York last Monday for a first-hand sizeup of the TV situation, particularly as respects the current color vs. black-and-white controversy. To a man they maintain a discreet silence when asked for comment on what they saw -- RCA's laboratory-version color, CBS's color, DuMont's new Wanamaker setup. Equally discreet, CBS's latest publicity merely mentions their presence; quotes President Stanton's report on sponsor-agency comments in favor of color; quotes him also as having urged the FCC to "be prepared to give prompt approval to commercial standards for color television when recommendations are received within the next few months."

So the next move seems to be up to CBS -- a formal request for hearing on proposed uhf color standards. Meanwhile, RMA's engineering standards committee has

been holding meetings, the latest 2 weeks ago, exploring purely technical phases of uhf TV. Indications are that it won't have recommendations until next autumn, if then. CBS engineers have been participating in the RMA discussions.

On Monday's TV junket were Commissioners Denny, Jett, Wakefield, Durr (Walker absent due to illness); General Counsel (commissioner-designate) Hyde; Chief Engineer Adair; Attorneys Wilkinson, Plotkin, Jorgenson; Engineers Willoughby, Braum, Simpson, Boese, Plummer; Chief Accountant Norfleet; and Walter James.

M-G-M AND OTHERS DROP TV: Unkindest cut of all to low-band TV was this week's withdrawal of Loew's (MGM) applications for New York and Los Angeles -- this despite fact that its big rival, Paramount, is pursuing its TV applications with unabated enthusiasm. Nor do Warner, Disney, Hughes Productions, Fox show any signs as yet of withdrawing their respective applications. Having previously dropped out of Washington race too, Loew's now has no TV applications on file. Reason for dropping, it said, was "to await further development of the art."

Also dropped this week were the TV applications of Westchester Broadcasting Co. (Macy newspapers) for White Plains, N. Y., and WHP Inc. (Stackpole newspapers) for Harrisburg, Pa. This leaves only Steinmans' WKBO seeking Harrisburg's one channel, and hearing scheduled for April 15 has been postponed to May 16 at behest of Steinman counsel due to their absence from country. Lancaster, Pa. TV hearing scheduled for April 18 has been postponed also, to May 20.

Not yet filed but reported preparing to apply for TV in Dayton and Springfield, O., is Charles Sawyer, ex-ambassador to Belgium, owner of AMS in those cities. Also contemplating filing for a TV Community in Trenton, N. J. is ex-Congressman Elmer Wene, who owns WTTM there.

In recent weeks we have reported more than a score of TV withdrawals and some additions. We will bring up to date and reprint our TV directory (Supplement No. 18) as soon as this situation stabilizes itself. Meanwhile, we suggest you bring your own records up to date by making all reported changes.

MORE EAs GRANTED, MORE VIPs APPLY: Nine more Engineering Approvals for new FM stations, the equivalent of CPs (see Vol. 2, No. 11), were issued by the FCC Thursday (Supplement No. 33C herewith). These bring the total EAs to date to 24, and their issuance attests to Commission's eagerness to get construction started quickly and more of them may be expected regularly henceforth. Again, as in the previous grants, power factors sometimes ranged high -- up to 243 kw.

FM applications are being filed at a faster pace now, and we'll have a full report on new ones shortly. Among this week's was one from John W. Studebaker, U.S. Commissioner of Education, and his son Lt. Col. John Gordon Studebaker, seeking an FM in San Diego, Cal., which the son proposes to operate. Another was from Frank Parker, the radio crooner, for a Community station in Danbury, Conn. Also seeking a Community, in New Bedford, Mass., is Max Kramer, formerly business manager of the New Bedford Standard-Times.

One of the most unusual FM applications yet filed is that of Elyria-Lorain Broadcasting Co., Elyria, O., capitalized at \$100,000, which lists 57 stockholders, none holding more than 8%. Chairman is Neely Power, head of Colson Corp., truck and trailer manufacturers; president is Roy Ammel, head of local independent telephone company; and stockholders include such figures as Raymond Gram Swing, the radio commentator who is trustee of nearby Oberlin College; Ralph Henderson, publisher of Scripps-Howard's Columbus Citizen; Ronald Woodyard, former Ohio broadcaster, now owner of WINK, Fort Myers, Fla.; and numerous other local interests.

Granted a Special Temporary Authorization (STA) for 30 days to test WLW's tower as a prospective site for FM was Crosley Corp., Cincinnati, assigned 3 kw on 98.1 mc (Channel No. 251). And dropping its San Francisco FM application this week was Hearst Publications Inc.

RECAPITULATING FM APPLICANTS: Newcomers to the broadcasting field cut a big swath in the number of FM applications filed with the FCC, but they're still outnumbered about 2 to 1 by AM operators. We recapitulated our records of FM applicants as of March 30 (date of our Supplement No. 14H listing latest FM applications) and these are some of the things we found out:

There were 808 FM applications on file, including the handful already granted CPs or Engineering Approvals and excluding withdrawals.

Of these, 534 were from interests already identified with AM, 274 from non-AM interests.

That left approximately 425 AM stations in the United States that had not yet applied for FM, as of March 30, leaving out of account the nearly 100 holders of CPs for new AM stations.

Only States from which no FMs have yet been filed are Montana, New Mexico, South Dakota. No AMers have filed from North Dakota, Arizona and Puerto Rico either, but newcomers have asked for FMs in each of those States. Only States with all of their AMs seeking FM also are Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware. In such big cities as Cleveland, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Oklahoma City, Portland, all AMs have also asked for FM; in New York City, all but Bulova's WOV and the Watchtower part-time station WBBR; in Washington, all but CBS's WTOP (for reason that network is asking for maximum allowable 6 FMs in as many other cities).

Applications are heaviest from the most populous States, lightest from the lightly populated States. Most 50 kw AMs have applied for FM, but there are a few that have not, notably WRVA Richmond; WLAC, Nashville; KBWU, Corpus Christi.

DuMONT'S 'INDUCTUNER': Details of DuMont's new TV tuning system, which we reported in Vol 1, No. 3, were made public this week. The Mallory-Ware "Inductuner" covers, without switching, 44 to 216 mc -- all 13 TV channels and FM band. Virtues claimed include superior gain, image suppression, uniform band width, stability, simplicity, economy. Company expects to offer system to other manufacturers in near future.

TELEVISION NOTES: Arrival from England of Scophony's financial controller, W. G. Elcock, has led to all sorts of rumors about disposition of Dept. of Justice's anti-trust suit (Vol. 2, No. 10), but best bet still is consent decree -- this despite General Precision Instrument Corp.'s annual report last week stating company's position "that the facts do not support the charge and that the Government's action is wholly unfounded"; defendants have till April 26 to file answers.... Reaction to Rauland-GE demonstrations at Schenectady this week of microwave-transmitted large-screen theater TV was that it is "promising" but "not yet comparable to movies"; 11x15-ft screen looked yellow and production errors were described as "exaggerated to high degree"....With grant this week of CP for developmental color TV station in Washington, Cowles hopes to get signal on air by fall, using Westinghouse transmitter somewhere between 485-600 mc, housed in WOL structure....First Philadelphia department store to buy local TV time, Gimbel's, has purchased two 15-minute periods on Philco's WPTZ....TV reception at UNO meetings enabled NBC commentators to give "eyewitness" reports without leaving newsroom.

NEWS AND VIEWS: Boston FM hearing got under way there Tuesday, Durr sitting, with 9 applicants seeking the 9 available channels; at last minute Bieberbach, seeking Waltham outlet, withdrew....Having decided to call its Los Angeles FM station KMGH, Loew's (MGM) is asking FCC to chance call letters of its WHNE, New York, to WMGM....FCC annual report for fiscal year ending last June 30 reiterates its belief 100 mc FM will provide superior signal; sees TV ready to go ahead on low band, but future in 480-920 mc bandWestern Electric has taken license from Maj. Armstrong to use his system in its dial-any-telephone mobile FM equipment; Bell Labs now making tests....Lt. Lamar A. Newcomb, ex-FCC and Navy radio engineer currently is sweating out living and office space in Washington preparatory to starting consulting practice; temporary address 703 Albee Bldg., phone RE 3931.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 15

April 13, 1946

FM POLICY AND SMALL BUSINESS: FCC seized the occasion of publication this week of the Senate Small Business Committee's report on FM (a copy is enclosed herewith) to avow publicly what has become apparent to all observers of the FM field -- that its policy is not to assign away all Metropolitan channels in any one locality. No sooner was the Senate report issued, titled "Small Business Opportunities in FM Broadcasting," than the Commission issued a formal statement setting forth that policy which we publish herewith as Part I, Supplement No. 34.

With respect to the reservation of channels, it states it is granting FM permits city-by-city, but not assigning all frequencies in each city immediately. Thus far, for example, it has granted only 8 actual CPs for Washington's 11 channels (3 applications having been passed over). Conditional grants have been made where channels exceed number of applicants. Results of last week's Boston hearing are being watched, for there 9 applicants seek 9 channels and FCC may turn down several in order to "save" channels in line with the now expressed policy.

The Senate Committee's report makes three recommendations: (1) reserve some channels for veterans or small business applicants; (2) permit small-scale initial operation so FM can be started with modest budgets; (3) publicize opportunities for small business in FM. To the latter points, the FCC replied that modest beginnings for modest bankrolls are permissible under Special Temporary Authorizations (STA) allowing a grantee to go on the air with minimum equipment; that Community stations are available in great numbers for small businessmen; that FM should get publicity impetus from new primer now being drafted, titled "How to Apply for an FM Broadcast Station," which Senate committee will shortly publish.

HEARINGS OFF, DETROIT GETS TVs: Looks now like the log-jam holding up issuance of CPs for TV stations has been broken, with the FCC's action this week approving 2 Metropolitan TV's in Detroit -- to the Detroit News and King-Trendle. At the same time it called off April 24 hearing on Detroit's TV applicants, who had dwindled down to only 4 whereas 5 channels are available. It also called off May 13 hearing on Cleveland's 5 remaining TV applications for the 5 channels available there, but has made no grants as yet. Other hearings set for cities where the supply of TV channels exceeds or equals the demand (as in Pittsburgh, Baltimore, San Francisco) may also be called off; and decisions granting CPs in such cities may be expected to follow.

Detroit grants were the first post-war since the Washington TV hearings (Supplement No. 31). Though channels are available, the 2 other Detroit applicants were passed over -- The Jam Handy Organization (at its own request) and United Detroit Theatres Corp. (pending further investigation, presumably because it is a Paramount subsidiary). Previously, International Detrola and WJR had withdrawn their Detroit applications.

In Cleveland, DuMont, NBC, Scripps-Howard, United (Plain Dealer) and Western Reserve U remain as applicants, WGAR and WJW having withdrawn. All are believed

to be seriously intent upon securing TVs there despite the current campaign to discourage low-band monochrome TV in favor of uhf color. Scripps-Howard, which dropped its Washington and Pittsburgh applications, says it intends to pursue the Cleveland application because that is the city where E. W. Scripps founded the newspaper chain and it wants to make Cleveland a proving ground for later TV activities.

Western Reserve's Cleveland application is new, having been filed last week. It asks for a commercial channel but says it will operate non-commercially, says it is prepared to invest \$100,000 less building costs and spend \$3,500 monthly plus salaries. Barclay S. Leatham, professor of dramatic arts, is to be in charge, and WGAR's Morris Pierce has been engaged as consulting engineer.

ARE HEARINGS NECESSARY? There will be fewer hearings on TV and FM applications than the FCC has scheduled (see full calendar in our Special Report, March 16). And there would be fewer still if applicants from certain communities, where channels are in plentiful supply, would gang up and ask for grants without hearings -- stipulating their cases, as the lawyers put it.

That's the word from official FCC sources. Reasons for FCC's willingness now to avoid hearings are manifest: 1) Why hold hearings where there are more channels than applicants? 2) Why hold hearings when, as in the case of Pittsburgh's 4 available TV channels, there are only 2 applicants left -- DuMont and Westinghouse, on both of whom the FCC has full dossiers? 3) Why hold hearings when the already overburdened Commission can ill afford to spare personnel or time to conduct them?

Counsel for applicants are also asking why hearings should be held when the number of applicants exactly equals the number of channels, such as the long-drawn-out and perfunctory ones held on the 9 applications for Boston's 9 FM channels and on the 11 applications for Washington's 11 channels. Another case in point is Pittsburgh's FM hearing there April 15, Attorney David Deibler presiding, which goes ahead despite fact only 6 applicants are left for the 6 available channels, 2 (Butler and Eagle) having withdrawn to ask for Community channels.

Yet FCC spokesmen insist policy is to hasten TV and FM grants, point to steps already taken in calling off Detroit and Cleveland TV hearings (see story in this issue). But they also point out that strong pressures are being exerted to reserve some FM channels for later applicants, particularly veterans; that local interests sometimes demand the right to be heard against certain applicants, as was the case in Boston. Result is that Commission wants to point back to a record of "open hearings" in disputed areas in the event of later recriminations.

DuMONT'S BIG TV PLANS: Indicating its firm faith in black-and-white TV, DuMont is pulling all the stops for next Monday's inaugural of its new Wanamaker studios, whose 50x60 ft main studio with 50 ft ceiling is said to be largest in the world. Two-hour inaugural program, with coaxial linking its New York WABD with its Washington W3XWT for two-way program exchanges, will include Governors and Senators from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, plus contingent of VIPs from United Nations Conference and FCC Chairman Denny.

DuMont's 1945 annual report, out this week, reveals company planning a network of affiliated TV stations in addition to the 5 outlets it expects to have in its own name. (DuMont now holds a license for New York; has a CP for commercial operation in Washington; seeks stations in Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati. Annual report indicates company's high hopes for its "Tele-recorder," a camera for recording TV shows on 16-mm film, with sound, for multiple broadcasts on a network or syndicate basis. Report also stated DuMont made only \$46,280 last year -- but that was after \$345,298 had been spent on TV station operation; is installing intra-store TV system for Wanamaker's; promises new TV receivers before this year is out; does not believe mechanical color TV will ever be satisfactory for commercial usage. In latter connection, DuMont published big newspaper displa

ads Friday replying to attacks on black-and-white, asserting: "Practical color television for the public is not yet in sight. Black and white television is ready to serve the nation now."

BUILDING FM-TV CIRCULATION: Second gleanings and thoughts on FCC's radio set production report of last week (Vol. 2, No. 14), showing that 85 out of 300 manufacturers surveyed calculate they will produce slightly more than 21,000,000 receivers this year -- of which less than 10% will include FM and only about 115,000 units will be TV:

1. RMA board members, meeting in New York this week, expressed skepticism, can't see that much production in sight in view of fact that only 550,000 radios were produced in January, 700,000 February, 1,000,000 March. Prospects of larger production are still dimmed by material, labor and other problems (with Westinghouse, supplier of 90% of all tube bases, still strike-bound) -- and best hope is that production may reach up to 2,000,000 per month by summer. RMA sources predict not more than 15,000,000 sets this year.

2. Small proportion of FMs may or may not be correct, for FCC admits 4 major firms failed to supply figures. Names of 4 are withheld, but Zenith admits it is one of them, and its line is preponderantly FM. As for TV, Niles Trammell, president of NBC, which is an RCA subsidiary, was quoted this week as predicting 300,000 sets in hands of public by end of this year.

3. Biggest immediate threat to FM -- and TV, too, to some extent -- is flooding of market with cheap table models that cannot possibly give high quality reception; yet they may sell like hot cakes in absence of anything better.

4. It isn't the small number of FM and TV sets to be produced this year that counts -- it's where they are placed. In other words, FM and TV broadcasters, as they go on the air, must urge their local dealers to stock and push FM and TV. The dealers are their "circulation departments." FCC must be prodded to help get stations on the air quickly, and manufacturers must channel their sets to communities where reception is available. That means a big local promotion job ahead for each FM and TV broadcaster.

DRIBBLE OF FM GRANTS: All 4 of Seattle's FM applicants, all also AMers, got Engineering Approvals this week (Supplement No. 33D herewith), but EAs went to only 4 out of 6 Conditional Grant holders in Portland, Ore. Each city has been allocated 12 channels, so there are still plenty to go around. Actual CPs were issued to 6 Area II EA grantees of last month, each having furnished the requisite program data. And the FCC noted a new FM category -- Conditionals to applicants having program approvals but who must yet have their engineering data approved; these are noted in Supplement 33D footnotes. Keep all our pink supplement series on file with Supplement 33 and you have a complete record of Conditionals, EAs and CPs to date.

FM RULES AMENDED: Joint program logs and station identification announcements for operators of AM and FM stations who duplicate transmission simultaneously were okayed by the FCC Thursday. Action was based on NAB petition, filed last November. Commission, however, denied NAB request that FM licensees be permitted to judge best hours of operating (Section 3.261). Because you should keep your FM Rules up-to-date, we are reprinting amended sections (Part II, Supplement No. 34), which we suggest you clip and paste over the proper portion of Supplement No. 7.

TVs TO GET CPs DIRECT: There will be no conditional TV grants, FCC announced April 11; CPs will be issued direct for cities where applicants do not exceed available channels. Before applications can be processed, Commission pointed out, they must be up-to-date and completely filled out, unless information is unavailable -- such as equipment data. If not, FCC warned, applications will be dismissed.

EFFECT OF PETRILLO BILL: It's the firm conviction of Rep. Lea, author of the Petrillo Bill, that duplication of AM programs over FM stations should again be possible. Interviewed, the Californian who sparked the bill through Congress (passed by the Senate 47-3, by the House 186-16), was emphatic on that point; declared that Section 506(a), Paragraphs 1 and 2, covering the hiring of more employes than desired by a station owner, specifically meets this problem. There is no doubt about the intent of Congress, he said. (For text of bill, see Part II, Supplement No. 28.)

Petrillo's next move is subject of much conjecture, the show business publication "Variety" predicting he will test the legislation in the U. S. Supreme Court. In some quarters, the remark of Colorado's Senator Johnson during Senate debate was regarded as significant: "So far as I know, Mr. Petrillo has offered no objection at all to this measure, and that is what has worried me." The statement was not altogether accurate, for at the eleventh hour there was an outpouring of opposition in name of American Federation of Radio Artists and some of its "big name" members, like Bing Crosby and Bob Hope. But the Senate ignbred them.

This was a busy week for the AFM czar. Last Monday he met with NAB President Miller and a radio industry committee, discussing broadly (in a conciliatory atmosphere, according to reporters who were admitted for the first time) the whole question of radio and music. Then, on Tuesday, he threw a roundhouse at the motion picture industry by presenting it with 91 demands, 2 of which concern TV. He would prohibit use on TV of film or sound track with music by AFM musicians. If this becomes part of movie contracts, it would effectively deny TV a secondary source of talent since Petrillo last year prohibited musicians on live video programs.

The NAB-AFM meeting did not get down to specific cases, did agree to set up a joint working committee to take up particular problems. Next meeting is April 15. AFM contingent has not yet been announced, but radio members, in addition to Judge Miller, are Frank K. White, CBS v.p.; Paul W. Morency, WTIC and WTIC-FM, Hartford; Marshall Pengra, KRNR, Roseburg, Ore.

TELEVISION NOTES: Paramount still promises its TV newsreels on Paramount Theatre screen in New York by August, though plans haven't been abandoned for possible private showing of coverage of Louis-Conn fight June 19 RCA's Dr. Vladimir K. Zworykin and other researchers, also developing theatre-screen TV, have been working in Hollywood with Warners, RKO, Disney and Republic Television Productions Inc., Paramount subsidiary, resumed telecasts Friday from its experimental W6XYZ, using Channel No. 5 from transmitter atop 6,000-ft Mt. Wilson; with Don Lee's W6XAO also back on the air (Channel No. 2), Los Angeles area thus gets TV service from two stations Color TV isn't contemplated when England's BBC resumes telecasts from London's Alexandra Palace June 7, operating 1½ hours each afternoon and 2 hours each night; 405-line system projects much same image as our monochrome, but London has some 30,000 prewar sets out as against only about 10,000 here NAB Ninth District (Illinois and Wisconsin) has recommended TBA come into association as separate department, as did FMBI last fall.

NEWS AND VIEWS: RMA joined Federal Telephone & Radio this week in petitioning CPA to put radio construction in \$15,000 exempted class; CPA has taken no action yet Ira A. Hirschmann has purchased pioneer FM station WABF and experimental TV station W2XMT, New York, and will personally operate them, severing all connections with Federated Stores Inc., big department store holding company whose subsidiary Metropolitan Television Inc. has held licenses National Electronics Laboratories, 815 King St., Alexandria, Va. (Frank C. Mallinson), is experimenting with mobile FM on 30.56 mc and 39.54 mc in Washington area to serve doctors, nurses, taxis, ambulances, newspapers, etc. Czechoslovakia is planning on FM in rebuilding her war-battered broadcasting system, says J. Ehrlich, technical head of the Ministry of Information, here studying our communications; he can be reached through the Embassy Inter-American Broadcasting Assn. conference in Havana, scheduled for May 10, has been called off until autumn.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE NICHIBAN 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 16

April 20, 1946

IT'S THE LAW: That the Musicians' Union will test constitutionality of the Petrillo Bill, signed by President Truman Tuesday (text herewith as Supplement No. 35), is manifest. AFM Attorney Joseph Padway intimated as much to a UP reporter Thursday, added, "If an employer refuses to enter into an agreement with us, we shall continue to exercise our economic strength by strike, picket or boycott." A spot check of key broadcasters indicates that they are biding their time before renewing duplication of AM programs over FM transmitters, want to study the act more carefully. Next step in Miller-Petrillo convocation is establishment of permanent advisory committee to work out policies on national level -- among them FM and TV. This was decided at Monday meeting of joint committee, which will meet once again, date not yet set.

ONE-TO-A-CUSTOMER? If you are an applicant, or likely to be, for more than one FM station, don't be too disturbed by FCC's "one-to-a-customer" statement of April 10 in answer to the Senate Small Business Committee's suggestions (Vol. 2, No. 15). FCC, in a statement Friday, cleared up some of the misleading inferences being drawn. After you have received your first grant, you can still get up to the rules' limit of six (1) if you win out in a hearing -- as did NBC, in Washington, for example, or (2) if you offer FM service in a community where there are no other applicants -- the Speidel Newspapers' grants for Cheyenne, Wyo., and Reno, Nev., were based on just that reasoning. Not to be overlooked, either, is the promise of the Commission that when it has taken care of all single applications, it will back-track to take care of multiple applicants (Supplement No. 26). And, of course, there are always exceptions to any policy.

TREND IS TO COMMUNITY FMs: Favored by a plenitude of channels (20 in Area I, 10 in Area II), more and more Community class FM stations are being sought in current applications. They're wanted because they are cheaper to build and operate, do not require as rigid engineering as Metropolitans and Rurals, promise better coverage than a 250-watt AM, can usually be had without going to expense of hearing.

In fact, when Pittsburgh area applicants went to hearing there last week, the two from Butler, Pa., withdrew, announcing they were changing to Community. A third, from Beaver Falls, asked to withdraw "without prejudice," indicating it would re-file for a Community. That left only 5 applicants for Pittsburgh's 6 available channels; decision is expected shortly.

Similarly, on eve of consolidated Cleveland-Akron area hearing in Cleveland next Monday, one applicant (United Garage) asked to change to Community in suburban Lakewood. That leaves 11 applicants for 10 channels, for Cleveland Plain Dealer, Akron Radio Corp. and Telair Corp. have withdrawn from Akron race. Another Akron withdrawal this week was Knight Radio Corp., Publisher Jack Knight having just concluded deal to buy 42% interest in Summit Radio Co. (WAKR), also seeking FM. Plain Dealer and Telair remain in for Cleveland.

Illustrating FCC's willingness to encourage Community applications, was its

conditional grant last week to Elias I. Godofsky, ex-manager of WLIB, Brooklyn. He got a Community FM permit for Hemstead, Long Island, New York City suburb, only a few days after he had amended his original Metropolitan application for New York. Thus he not only avoids participation in July 1 New York hearing (which has 22 applicants competing for 9 available channels) but gets his station without hearing.

This week brought forth two interesting Community applications. Siskiyou Bcstg. Co., already applicant for Ashland, Ore. (Supplement No. 14H), asked also for one in nearby Yreka, Cal., proposing to link them by radio relay to operate as unit to give adequate coverage in mountainous area. And Lt. Comdr. Jay R. David, of Lakewood, O., who was O-in-C of the Navy's radio stations at Kwajalein and Okinawa, asked for a station in Tiffin, O., which he proposes to build for only \$8,500.

Baltimore FM application dropped this week was that of WHOW Inc., formed by owners of WWDC, Washington, recently left out of Washington's 8 grants (Vol. 2, No. 12); they intend to press for a Washington FM rather than try for Baltimore.

EMERGENCE OF FACSIMILE: Long-dormant facsimile may yet prove FM's biggest boon, bearing promise of delivery of newspaper pages into home via radio. On the heels of Capt. William G. H. Finch's demonstration of his facsimile system to FCC observers last week, Inventor John V. L. Hogan this week showed his rival system to both FCC and the press. Observers reported they were deeply impressed by what they saw -- the Finch system (operating from his FM station WGHF) producing an 8½x11-inch newspaper in 2 minutes, the Hogan system (operating from FM stations WBAM and WQXQ) printing four 9½x12-inch pages of text and photos in 15 minutes.

Lay observers were amazed at striking clarity of images and speed of reception. At Hogan's Wednesday demonstration, he said fax attachments to FM receivers can be built only slightly larger than a portable typewriter case, should cost about the same as such a typewriter. GE will manufacture both transmitting and receiving equipment, he said. Still needed, however, are FCC commercial standards, unfreezing of equipment, determination of public wants and needs.

Hogan revealed that his Radio Inventions Inc. is being aided with finances by a group of broadcasters and publishers, organized late in 1944 as Broadcasters' Faximile Analysis. They will be first to be supplied with dual scanning transmitting setups and 50 recorders each for field tests for program experimentation expected to start in about 15 cities within next 6 months.

At a private showing for his backers on April 10, Hogan demonstrated sound-and-fax with 15-minute playback of an air check of Tom Breneman's "Breakfast in Hollywood," synchronized with 3 photographs of the show and a full sheet containing a cartoon sketch of the radio program's dizzy-hat features. Balance of page was devoted to good-sized copy of the Ivory Flakes box and an easily identified blurb about the soap. This was one of 3 quarter-hour synchronizations produced by Jose E diDonato, of Compton Advertising Inc., who is making a special study of facsimile.

Besides the N.Y. Times, with which he is associated in the operation of WQXR-WQXQ, which he founded, Hogan is being backed by this group of newspaper and radio interests: Washington Post (WINX-W3XO); Chicago Tribune (WGN-WGNB); Cleveland Plain Dealer (WHK); Des Moines Register (WOL, Washington); St. Louis Star-Times (KXOK); Philadelphia Inquirer (WFIL and WFIL-FM); New Bedford Standard Times (WNBH) Toronto Globe & Mail; Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph (WCAE); Boston Globe; WOR-WBAM, WABC (CBS) and WABF, New York; KYW, Philadelphia; WOKO, Albany; KMBC, Kansas City; WWL, New Orleans; WDRC and WDRC-FM, Hartford. WOR's Ted Streibert is chairman of BFA exec committee, with Wayne Coy, WINX; C. William Lang, WGN; Roger W. Clipp, WFIL.

AFM CRACKS DOWN ON TV FILMS: If the television industry wants films, it will have to make its own or have them made specially, under an agreement reported reached in current negotiations between movie companies and Petrillo for new studio contract. At Friday session in New York, producers agreed in principle to two anti-TV clauses in AFM proposals, but not on wording which remains to be rephrased. Because virtually all firms contain music, effect is obvious.

MONOCHROME TO UHF? MORE TV'S DROP: Next strategic step in the wait-for-color campaign will probably be to ask FCC to shift all commercial TV, whether black-and-white or color, to the now experimental uhf band 480-920 mc. Thus whereas there are now only 13 low-band channels for 525-line black-and-white, there would be nearly 6 times that many in the high band for the same definition monochrome. And there might be 2 to 3 times as many channels available for color.

Moreover, so it's argued, any eventual shift from monochrome to color would render neither transmitters nor receivers completely obsolete if everything is centered now in the uhf band.

This is supposed to be the latest tack taken by CBS's Dr. Goldmark. Let those that want to operate black-and-white do so; let the color school go ahead too -- but do it all on 480-920 mc. That may be the big argument advanced when CBS proposes its new standards for uhf TV. Against this argument, of course, will be the go-ahead-now proponents' conviction that we haven't had enough experience yet with uhf, don't know much about those channels; also that low-band offers better coverage.

Meanwhile, CBS undertook to refute argument that color TV is not feasible for network relay because coaxial cable cannot carry such high definition. On Friday, with Bell and CBS engineers present, it transmitted its color images via coaxial from its Madison Ave. studios to its Grand Central controls, thence on AT&T's coaxial circuit sent uhf color images to Washington and back to New York again where images were transmitted from its W2XCS atop Chrysler Tower. Though some decrease in definition was noted, CBS President Stanton stated test proved that network TV for color is as feasible now as for monochrome and that no modification of coaxial is necessary. AT&T is shutting down coaxial for awhile for technical changes, but CBS promises public demonstrations of cable color transmissions again when it reopens.

This week there were still more withdrawals, making 41 in all since we published the list of TV applicants as Supplement No. 18. First, stating it would wait for color, Disney withdrew its Los Angeles application (as M-G-M did 2 weeks ago), leaving 11 competitors for that city's 7 channels, all to be heard there May 20. Then United (Cleveland Plain Dealer) withdrew its Cleveland, Columbus and Akron applications, stating it would file immediately for uhf; that leaves only 4 applicants for Cleveland's 5 channels, and May 13 hearing has already been dropped.

Also withdrawn this week were Capitol (WISH) for Indianapolis, leaving only 3 applicants for 5 channels; Johnson-Kennedy (WIND) for Chicago, leaving 4 for 6; Louis Wasmer Inc. (KGA) for Spokane, leaving none for 5; and Hearst (San Francisco Examiner) for San Francisco. But this week the San Francisco Chronicle filed for that city, proposing to spend \$346,000 on plant and \$30,000 per month on operation, so that there are still 7 for 7 for the hearing scheduled there July 15.

Next hearing is set for Pittsburgh, April 25, but since only DuMont and Westinghouse remain as applicants for that city's 4 channels it is practically a certainty that hearing will be called off just as were the Detroit and Cleveland hearings (Vol. 2, No. 15).

FM UP FOR SALE: Ever since FCC ordered Evansville-on-the-Air Inc. to divest itself of one of its two AM stations (WGBF and WEOA), it has been shopping for another station somewhere else. This week, it looked as if it had found a buy -- Associated Broadcasters' Indianapolis FM station WABW and its CP for AM station WBBW (250 w daytime on 1550 kc). Price, according to brief on transfer filed with FCC, is 1,350 Class A shares (no par value) of Curtis Radiocasting Co., holding company for the Evansville licensee. Associated's reasons for selling include more than \$10,000 deficit WABW operation since October, 1945, when it went on the air. Application for transfer says equipment is worth \$8,780. Evansville-on-the-Air also has an FM, WMLL, which it has operated since 1941.

MORE CPs FOR AM THAN FM: Oddly enough, in the light of the FCC's repeated avowals of zeal to get FM under way quickly, CPs for new AM stations actually outnumber combined CPs and Engineering Approvals for new FMs. And the granting of CPs for new Standard stations continues at a fast pace, hardly a week going by without a substantial number of grants. There were 8 new AM grants this week, 18 last week.

Inquiry at the FCC discloses that as of this week there are exactly 178 CPs outstanding for new AMs. Yet, to date, only 14 CPs and 26 EAs have been issued for FMs since the lifting of the wartime freeze (see Supplements 33 to 33D). The Commission, of course, regards its nearly 400 Conditional FM Grants to date as an earnest of its intention to get FM going, but holders of Conditionals can't do much until they know their channel, power and antenna specifications.

We are promised more EAs and CPs as soon as the Commission engineers can process them, but the pace has been slow; this week there were none at all.

Among the 178 new AMs authorized for construction, only 22 are applicants also for FM -- plus the one pre-war FM licensee (WABW, Indianapolis) holding an AM construction permit for 250 w on 1550 kc (WBBW). Most of the AM grantees are getting local or daytime assignments only; most doubtless are biding their time before applying also for FM. The FM applicants who also hold CPs for new AMs are:

Mobile, Ala., Giddens & Rester, 1 kw daytime on 710 kc; Phoenix, Ariz., Sun Country Bcstg. Co., 250 w on 1450 kc; San Jose, Cal., Santa Clara Bcstg. Co., 1 kw daytime on 1590 kc; San Jose, Cal., Valley Broadcasting Co., 5 kw local sunset on 1170 kc; San Mateo, Cal., Amphlett Printing Co., 250 w on 1550 kc; New Britain, Conn., New Britain Bcstg. Co., 1 kw daytime on 840 kc; Savannah, Ga., Carter C. Peterson, 250 w on 1450 kc; Paducah, Ky., Paducah Newspapers Inc., 1 kw daytime on 800 kc; Alexandria, La., Central La. Bcstg. Corp., 250 w on 1490 kc; Chicopee, Mass., Regional Bcstg. Co., 1 kw daytime on 730 kc; Meridian, Miss., Birney Imes Jr., 250 w on 1240 kc; Rochester, N.Y., Monroe Bcstg. Co. Inc., 250 w daytime on 680 kc; High Point, N.C., High Point Enterprise, 1 kw daytime on 830 kc; Canton, O., Stark Bcstg. Corp., 1 kw daytime on 1060 kc; Toledo, O., Unity Corp. Inc., 1 kw daytime on 1560 kc; Eugene, Ore., Valley Bcstg. Co., 250 w on 1400 kc; Bethlehem, Pa., Bethlehem Globe Pub. Co., 250 w daytime on 1110 kc; Clearfield, Pa., Airplane & Marine Instruments Inc., 250 w on 1490 kc; Lancaster, Pa., Peoples Bcstg. Co., 1 kw daytime on 1320 kc; Norristown, Pa., Rahall Bcstg. Co., 500 w daytime on 1110 kc; Oil City, Pa., Kenneth E. Rennekamp, 250 w part-time on 1340 kc; Marshfield, Wis., Dairyland's Bcstg. Service, 250 w on 1450 kc.

CHEVROLET SIGNING FOR TV: First major automobile sponsor to contract for a commercial television series is Chevrolet, scheduled to be signed next Monday, thru Campbell-Ewald, by Paul Mowrey, ABC's TV manager, for 4 programs on DuMont's WABD. Contract is due to be closed with the aid of King-Trendle's WXYZ, the network's Detroit affiliate, which will thus receive cooperative credit in the projected Manhattan telecasts as well as experience in program planning, a useful item when it begins to exercise privileges of its recent TV grant (Vol. 2, No. 15).

NEWS AND VIEWS: President Truman told his Wednesday press conference he was considering several men for the FCC vacancy, but post will not be filled very soon; it had been understood job was being held open for Paul Porter's return....Asst. General Counsel Ben Cottone, has been named acting FCC general counsel, Rosel Hyde having been sworn in as commissioner Wednesday....DuMont offered Washington Star 3 kw transmitter for November delivery in answer to latter's objection to Channel No. 7 at oral argument this week....Loew's (MGM) got FCC grant this week of new handy calls for its FM stations -- WMGM for its WHNF, New York; KMGM for KTLO, Los Angeles....Lt. Col. Wm. C. Boese, back at FCC after duty on Army radio-radar, is now in charge of TV allocations....Wm. T. Davies, back from Army, who directed Farnsworth's mobile TV in 1939-40, is now assistant to Manager Pierre Boucheron of Farnsworth Broadcast Division; Paul J. Boxell, ex-press aide to Marine Commandant Gen. Vandegrift, is new director of company's public relations....If FCC approves, WSDC will be call letters of Everett Dillard's FM station in Washington.

MARTIN CODEL'S
AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 17

April 27, 1946.

HUBBARD DUPLICATING AM-FM: Dynamic Stanley Hubbard, president of St. Paul's NBC outlet KSTP, who clashed once before with Jimmy Petrillo but didn't get much industry backing, isn't going to dilly dally about duplicating his AM programs on FM now that the Lea bill is law (Vol. 2, No. 16). Having just put KSTP's temporary low power FM on the air (pending delivery of equipment for the 318 kw Rural station for which he holds a CP), Hubbard makes no bones about his purpose. Replying to our inquiry, he wired us Friday:

"It is our intention to duplicate our AM programs on FM to augment and intensify our present coverage. I have always considered Petrillo a law-abiding citizen and I would not be so presumptuous as to suggest that he might be considering violating our Federal laws. It must be remembered that when he defied Congress and President Roosevelt, there was no Federal law involved as today. We are now on air daily with FM."

PUBLISHERS LOOK AT RADIO: No longer the bone of contention of former years, radio was treated as "one of ours" by publishers attending this week's ANPA convention in New York. There was intense interest among them in the various facets of radio as discussed or demonstrated. This is gist and these were highlights of radio phases of the convention:

1) Publishers already in radio indicated again they are highly pleased with it as a public service and promotion medium, said it does not detract from newspaper advertising. 2) Most radio-publishers are planning to go into FM, some very big newspapers into TV also. 3) Many non-radio publishers propose to go into radio for first time via FM and are eager to promote FM. 4) Many more big and small newspaper-radio purchase deals are on the fire, about which you will be hearing soon. 5) AP's officers, board and executive committee are almost all publishers already in radio or planning to get into radio. 6) Facsimile demonstrations at Waldorf made deep impression on publishers, auguring new phase of news distribution, and Capt. Wm. G. H. Finch announced purchase of full UP service for his facsimile newspaper published via his FM station WGHF. 7) NAB's executive director, A. D. Willard Jr., in speech, called on editors to study FCC Blue Book on programs, urged them to join in fight for freedom of utterance, warned them that facsimile newspapers of future may be subjected to same licensing power and duress of FCC. 8) Many of the nation's most important publishers, both radio and non-radio, crowded the special showings of color TV staged for them by CBS, and they generally expressed themselves as deeply impressed -- so deeply that you can expect some more of them, who have applied for monochrome, to join the growing procession of applicant withdrawals.

CONSTRUCTION BAN AND FM: On the heels of CPA's turndown of industry requests that radio be placed in the \$15,000 exemption class, we checked what some FM permittees are doing to get their stations on the air. While we didn't find a single case of

CPA approval for construction, there were indications that not all FM building plans are at a standstill. Some grantees are planning temporary housings that will come under the \$1,000 maximum for radio construction; others are still shaping their plans and haven't yet approached CPA regional offices for special approvals; still more, usually satisfied AMers, are perfectly willing to bide their time until things loosen up, especially in view of the paucity of FM receivers.

In formally rejecting Federal Telephone & Radio's petition for \$15,000 exemptions (also RMA's and NAB's), Washington headquarters of CPA indicated that appeals to local field offices would be given liberal treatment -- but it was evident CPA is itself still in organizational throes. For example, Beer & Koehl, owners of the Ashland (O.) Times-Gazette, eager beavers in the FM woods and newcomers to radio, could get no information from the Cleveland CPA office. In Washington, the Evening Star found the local CPA office wasn't yet set up this week to handle any applications.

However, some grantees say they don't think they will need to go through CPA red tape. Omaha World-Herald (KOWH) hopes to get its FM on the air with low power in temporary building costing under \$1,000 to fix up, as yet has not been able to get delivery promise on 25 kw transmitter. St. Paul's KSTP, holder of CP for 318 kw, reports it has erected single-layer turnstile atop Hotel St. Paul with temporary power of 250 watts authorized this week, the construction job costing less than \$1,000. Theodore Granik, the MBS Forum mediator who got a Washington grant, has determined that trailers and Quonset huts are available and says he is thinking of using one or the other to house his FM transmitter. Macon's WMAZ (which up to April 19 had not yet been informed by the FCC that it had been granted a CP on April 10!) reported its FM was at a standstill since plans involve costly move to another floor in present building to house both FM and AM operations.

MAY CHANGE FM NOMENCLATURE: Far-reaching implications for FM are seen in FCC's current concern with Area II station designations, discernible in the several EAs granted recently that bear no classification. Solution may be forthcoming in week or so, may take form of a complete change of nomenclature for Area II FM stations.

Gist of the problem is this: Should a station which can cover almost an entire State because of its antenna height be favored with a Rural classification, and all that tag connotes, when it needs no greater power than that provided by a 1 or 3 kw transmitter? Or, conversely, how can the Metropolitan nomenclature be justified for a station whose coverage radius extends 80 miles or more?

Take Reno, Nev., for example. There, Reno Newspapers Inc. has been given an EA for 9.7 kw with an antenna height of 2,774 ft. Because of this elevation, the station is expected to serve most of Nevada, with a probable 3 kw transmitter. Should that station be classified Metropolitan or Rural?

A corollary to the problem is fact that classification of stations will play an important part in those Area II sections which someday may be incorporated into Area I. By virtue of a Metropolitan classification, such stations would be protected only to their 1,000 uv/m contour. Yet the Rules make no reference to power considerations for Rural stations. All that the Rules state is that a Rural station must cover a metropolitan district plus an additional area that is predominantly rural in character. It is also understood the FCC has yet to complete its service area outlines for the majority of Area II channels.

While the Commission struggles with this problem, FM grants continue to dribble forth. This week's FM grants include 4 CPs, 8 EAs, 38 new conditionals (see Supplement No. 36A), as against 8 more new AMS. Hearings were also designated for St. Louis and Atlanta, but no dates set. In St. Louis 5 applicants are contesting for 4 remaining channels, the other 5 channels being already allotted to 3 CP holders and 2 conditional grantees; in Atlanta, 5 applicants are vying for 4 available channels, the fifth being reserved for the 1 conditional in that city (see Supplement No. 36).

FCC READYING TV GRANTS: If you're an applicant for low-band TV but aren't sure whether you want to go ahead with your application, you had better make up your mind -- for FCC is preparing to act soon on many TV applications and grant them without a hearing, as it did in Detroit (Vol. 2, No. 15). In fact, the great number of withdrawals in recent months -- there were 6 more this week -- may mean no more TV hearings at all except possibly those scheduled for Los Angeles, May 30; New York, June 3; Philadelphia, June 17; San Francisco, July 17 (see TV hearing schedule in our March 16 Special Report). Pittsburgh hearing scheduled for April 25, was called off since there are only 2 applicants left for 4 channels.

From a peak of about 150, number of TV applicants has dwindled to less than 100 since turn of the year. This week's withdrawals were: Travelers (WTIC), Hartford; Star-Times (KXOK), St. Louis; Joseph M. Zamoiski Co., Baltimore; WFIL Broadcasting Co., Philadelphia (but Philadelphia Inquirer, which recently acquired that station, is not withdrawing its separate application); Keystone (WKBO), Harrisburg, Pa. (but other Steinman station applications are still on file); WCAU, Philadelphia (withdrawal long expected because of its interlocking ownership with CBS; Dr. Levy accompanied announcement with promise to demonstrate CBS color locally soon, via coaxial from New York). Also out of running, though not yet formally withdrawn, is Alfco group, St. Louis.

Formally filing this week for monochrome TV was Fort Worth Star-Telegram (WBAP), proposing to spend \$334,500 on plant and \$15,000 per month on operation.

WCBW RESUMES; DERBY FILM TELECAST: Despite CBS campaign for uhf color TV, highly successful thus far in persuading several dozen applicants to withdraw low-band applications, that network's low-band TV station WCBW, New York, resumed commercial operation on monochrome Saturday. To reconvert to its new Channel No. 2 (54-60 mc), it has been off air since Feb. 27; now it's back with Saturday, Sunday and Thursday 8:15 p.m. live programs; with films and remotes Wednesday and Friday nights. CBS is holding onto low-band for time being, it says, to study operations, perfect program techniques.

Besides getting contract for Gillette aural broadcast of Kentucky Derby May 4, CBS's television station has sold big sponsor Bristol-Myers (for estimated \$1,000) film telecast next day of turf classic. Cameramen will shoot race on 16-mm silent film, fly it back to New York, telecast it with live commentary. Race runs little more than 2 minutes, but 15-minute movie will show background, crowds, etc. Agency is Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield.

Another reconverted low-band TV station, Philco's WPTZ, Philadelphia, now on Channel No. 3 (60-66 mc), which hitherto has not sold time, announced it was starting commercial operation May 1 from new studios in Architects Bldg., telecasting 2 hours each Monday, Wednesday, Friday nights. First time-buyers are Gimbels and two local newspapers, Bulletin and Inquirer, each seeking its own TV station but planning to use WPTZ to gain experience.

URGE AM STATUS QUO PENDING FM: FM was projected into the FCC's perennial clear channel AM hearings this week when both CBS President Frank Stanton and ABC President Mark Woods urged no changes in existing AM allocations until FM is the public's accepted method of broadcasting. Stanton foresaw FM supplanting AM in 3 years, Woods within 10 years. Allocation changes now would only be transitory, said Stanton, for "we believe that aural broadcasting of the future will be identified almost entirely with FM broadcasting." He even suggested eventual widening of FM band to include present TV Channels 5 and 6. Woods proposed FCC itself fix date of FM's acceptance as the basic medium, then review all broadcast allocations.

Stanton proposed a plan whereby a 200-station FM network might serve 90% of the U.S. population in 50% of the nation's area, augmented for daytime coverage where needed by AM stations and for night skywave coverage by only two 1,000-kw AM stations at around 1000 kc -- one located in eastern Colorado, the other in northern Kentucky. These AMs could fill in where FM's limited coverage fails. Alterna-

tively, he said Westinghouse's Stratovision system (of which you will hear more amazing coverage results soon) offers possibility that only 20 high-altitude planes could lay down FM signals that could be heard by 94% of the country's population.

To Commissioner Durr's suggestion that, to speed FM acceptance, FCC should set date after which no single licensee could own both an AM and FM station in same city, Stanton agreed it might hasten FM but thought FM would suffer if such limitation were effected too soon. He took position FM will win speedier acceptance by its ability to carry popular standard programs.

When Woods remarked that every standard AM set sold from now on will delay FM, pointing to FCC's recent survey (Vol. 2, No. 14), Chairman Denny called attention to fact that survey did not include 4 manufacturers "whose FM production is anticipated to be large." Referring also to the set survey, Stanton gave opinion FM set market will spurt and manufacturers will divert from AM to FM when demand is there. Every AM grant today is a setback for FM, said he.

TV ANTI-TRUST SUIT TO TRIAL: Consent decree in Government's TV anti-trust suit (Vol. 1, No. 16, 17, et seq.), which seemed likely up to midweek, faded as all 7 American defendants filed answers in N.Y. Federal court Thursday. So case goes to trial this autumn. Meanwhile, what has been bruited for long time -- that defendants were quarreling among themselves -- came into open.

While all answers denied illegality of alleged "patent cartel" contracts with Scophony Corp. of America, that defendant sprang surprise cross-claim for \$1,500,000 and triple damages, under Sherman anti-trust act, against 4 of its co-defendants -- General Precision Equipment Co. (20th Century-Fox); Paramount Pictures Inc.; Television Productions Inc. (Paramount); Scophony Ltd. (British). SCA President Levey also asked for \$270,000 and other damages against the four.

General Precision President Earle G. Hines, still smarting from way Government initiated case with public announcement, held press conference Wednesday to reveal his answer, called it "a complete refutation....facts could easily have been ascertained by (Government) before suit was instituted by communicating with Paramount or Television Productions or ourselves." Meanwhile, deposition of British Scophony's controller William George Elcock was being taken; his counsel does not admit jurisdiction over his company, which has 10 days more to answer. Effect of pending suit on Paramount applications for TV licenses from FCC was subject of legal speculation; already FCC has "passed over" application of its Detroit subsidiary, United Detroit Theatres Corp., while granting others there (Vol. 2, No. 15).

NETWORK OF RURALS: Asking for 4 Rural FM stations, which it proposes to link into a network and operate commercially, the powerful Ohio Council of Farm Cooperatives showed it means business by refiled applications which had been returned last month as incomplete. If stations are granted, the Council will form a subsidiary, to be known as "Farm and Home Radio Inc.," to own and operate FMs in Lancaster, Ada Dalton, Lytle, with an additional studio, but no transmitter, in Columbus. Engineering is being handled by engineering Prof. Robert C. Higgy of Ohio State U.

NEWS AND VIEWS: FCC Friday made final its Washington TV grants; made no changes in its proposed decision (Supplement No. 31)....Lemke Bill (H.R. 6174) directing FCC to include portion of 50 mc band in FM allocations has been submitted to the Commission for comment; Rep. Lea will determine on basis of FCC reply whether to hold hearings....W6XAO, Don Lee's Hollywood TV, will carry its first night outdoor pickup when it trains cameras on William-Bolanos lightweight champion bout April 30....Philco hopes to have TV receivers on market late in 1946, according to annual report....TBA will conduct symposium on "Television and Education" at Institute for Education by Radio in Columbus, May 3-5; Prof. Kenneth Bartlett, Syracuse, chairman....DuPont is showing an all-plastic TV receiver console at the New York National Plastics Exposition; set has 24x14-inch screen....RCA has purchased Navy's big war-time tube plant at Lancaster, Pa., will manufacture its TV tubes there.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 18

May 4, 1946

CHICAGO TVs GRANTED SANS HEARING: We told you last week FCC was preparing to act on pending commercial TV applications, grant them without hearing where supply of channels exceeds demand as it did in Detroit (Vol. 2, No. 15). On Thursday it did exactly that, granting CPs for Chicago to NBC and Zenith. NBC got Channel No. 5, with 21.8 kw and 592 ft antenna. Zenith got Channel No. 2 with 4.5 kw and 580 ft. NBC's grant is its second postwar, first having been for Washington (Vol. 2, No. 10); it also holds TV license for New York. Zenith held a prewar CP for TV and already holds an experimental license for Channel No. 2. But its president, Gene McDonald, recently plumped strongly for color TV and against low-band TV; whether he will go ahead under new grant is conjectural. Chicago still has 4 channels left, and it is likely the remaining applicants (ABC, Raytheon, WGN) will also get grants without hearing if their engineering and financial records are in order. Meanwhile, Worcester Telegram & Gazette, apparently loath to get grant now, yet unwilling to drop its application formally, wrote Commission this week to ask it not to act on the application until it completes a "survey" of TV field and makes up its mind what to do.

'TASK FORCE' TO SPEED FM GRANTS: Smarting under criticism of its slowness in issuing CPs for FM stations, while granting them right and left for new AMs, FCC this week pushed through 20 more CPs, 9 of them for Rurals, also granted 3 EAs and 1 Conditional (Supplement No. 36B herewith). Coincidentally, it was indicated it proposes to issue CPs and EAs in greater quantity by setting up an engineering "task force" -- assigning group of its engineers to do nothing but process FM applications for month or so -- as soon as it decides what to do about Area II FM station classifications (Vol. 2, No. 17). "Task force" is expected to overcome main reason for delay in getting FM rolling, which is shortage of engineering personnel.

FM enthusiasts' disappointment with slow rate of FM grants has been directed mainly at paucity of information in outstanding conditionals which do not specify frequency, power, antenna heights. FCC staffers maintain applicants and their lawyers and engineers are themselves partly to blame because of incompleteness of applications (lack of engineering, financial, corporate data).

Meanwhile, fact remains that as against only about 60 CPs and EAs for FM thus far (Supplements No. 36, 36A, 36B), there are now nearly 200 CPs outstanding for new AM stations (FCC granted 9 more this week). There are also more than 600 pending applications for new AMs. This prompted Commissioner Durr's self-criticism in Columbus speech Friday that "Commission is today still devoting more time to processing of new and enlarged standard broadcasting stations than to processing of FM applications." Durr's thesis was that broadcasters are not meeting postwar obligations, aren't converting to new and better FM, are showing "disturbing inclination to cling to old system rather than give free rein to a new system." But he recognized fault was at least partly the Commission's.

New FM applications apparently have slowed down to snail's pace, only 16 having been filed in last 3 weeks, mostly from newcomers (Supplement No. 14-J).

STILL MORE DROP TV, AND WHY: From what we gather from both principals and counsel, it's not only CBS's uhf color campaign and the huge costs involved in TV but also the temper of the times -- building bans, labor problems, and now the newest Petrillo edict against films -- that accounts for the wave of withdrawals of TV applications which we have been reporting weekly. This is borne out, too, by fact that with few exceptions even those who say they've been "converted" to color haven't yet applied for uhf experimental frequencies. In effect, they intend to "sit television out," let the big boys like RCA-NBC, DuMont and Paramount carry the ball for the time being.

This week a half dozen more applications were withdrawn -- and, on top of these, Milwaukee Journal, holder of a CP for TV since prewar, dropped its CP, stating it would apply for uhf instead. The latest dropouts were: Fox West Coast Theatres Corp., and Consolidated Broadcasting Corp., for Los Angeles; A. Frank Katzentine, for Miami Beach; St. Louis Globe-Democrat and Thomas Patrick Inc., for St. Louis; Twentieth Century-Fox Corp., for New York (see Part III, Supplement No. 18). These withdrawals make it all the more likely there will be few hearings on TV applications since there are no cities left except New York, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, San Francisco where supply of channels is under demand (Vol. 2, No. 17).

In fact, Baltimore hearing scheduled next Monday has been "continued" without date (3 applicants for 3 channels) as was April 25 Pittsburgh hearing (2 for 4). Harrisburg TV hearing is still set for May 16 but there are now no applicants from that city. Three applicants for Baltimore have dropped out, but there are still 3 for 3; in addition to Hearst and Baltimore Sun, a newcomer filed this week -- Radio-Television of Baltimore Inc. Its application states it will spend \$242,000 on installation, \$20,000 per month on operation, has proposed tieup with Johns Hopkins, plans AM and FM also. Its principals are Ben and Herman Cohen, owners of local men's store and real estate; Sam Carliner and Herbert Levy, attorneys; Frederick L. Allman, War Dept. radio engineer who owns WSVB, Harrisonburg, Va.

PETRILLO MAKES POSITION CLEAR: In addition to stating unequivocally that his ban on AM-FM duplication stands, AFM President Petrillo deals TV a paralyzing blow by his edict that Musicians Union members "shall not play for television in any form until further notice." He implements his no-film-for-TV agreement with film producers in article in International Musician, union house organ, which dispels hope indefinitely for lifting ban on "live" video music in effect since February, 1945. His action on FM may be tested in light of Lea Bill, but as respects TV it hits the chime same as if records and transcriptions were barred from radio. On his film agreement, the New York Times commented editorially Thursday: "This was just as if the International Ladies Garment Workers Union had passed a resolution that suits cannot be worn by red-headed women."

On FM, Petrillo states "we cannot permit the services of our members for both types of transmitters for one fee." He reasons: "The Federation was in a just position all the time, because FM employs separate announcers and engineers to do FM only. Why should they not employ musicians in the same manner?" Prefacing these remarks, he recalls that FCC at one time ruled (it was not a ruling, but merely a proposal--Editor) broadcasters were not permitted to carry same program on AM and FM stations, later reversing itself. But he says, AFM did not change its mind. As to TV, he states it "is not going to grow up at the expense of the musician."

CPA ON VHP-1: CPA, in a supplement to its VHP-1 (See March 30 Special Report), this week stated officially what it has been assuring broadcasters informally -- that tower installation, transmitters and receiving equipment would not come under restrictions of the order. But restrictions still cover construction involving building alterations. Criterion still is: Does project use labor and material applicable to housing? And exceptions to \$1,000 limitation are procurable locally under certain conditions.

BIG BOUT SEEN BOOMING TV: As NBC announced exclusive rights to telecast Louis-Conn fight June 19 via its WNBT, with Gillette as sponsor, its TV v.p. Jack Royal called big bout "springboard for the greatest boom television has yet seen." Promoter Mike Jacobs said it should do for TV what 1921 Dempsey-Carpentier fight did for radio. (Neither mentioned inability of public to get sets yet, though Royal told an NAM audience in Philadelphia Thursday that TV sets will be in dealers' hands "within a few months" in cities having stations, and will cost \$200 to \$300.)

Prizefighting, being confined to small enclosure, is particularly well adapted to TV coverage, and black-and-white is just as suitable as monochrome movies. Covered by 5 TV cameras, including 3 RCA Image Orthicons, bout will be viewable on most of the 10,000 TV sets now in hands of public -- in New York on WNBT (which resumes regular schedule May 9), in Philadelphia on Philco's WPTZ (piped via coaxial), in Washington at private showings planned for special guests and Capital VIPs. Curiously enough, though NBC got TV rights, ABC holds network broadcasting franchise, Gillette also sponsoring. And if Paramount wants to carry through on its proposed theater TV projection of the bout (Vol. 2, No. 15), it will have to make deal with NBC which holds TV rights on all Madison Square Garden boxing.

TV FORCES COUNTER CBS: CBS's Peter Goldmark returned from West Coast this week in time to deliver paper on color TV before technical meeting of Society of Motion Picture Engineers in New York next Friday, but he was noncommittal (as was TV v.p. Adrian Murphy also) on reports the network is preparing Los Angeles and Chicago color demonstrations. Unless these are planned off-the-line, they are unlikely, for a while at least, since CBS still doesn't hold experimental uhf licenses for those cities as it does for New York, though it has applied for frequencies.

And so seriously intent is CBS on uhf color that, lacking its own manufacturing facilities, it has discussed with Raytheon a purchase or exchange-of-stock deal -- but that company, itself an applicant for low-band TV in New York, Chicago and Waltham, Mass., is understood to have shown no interest. There have been intimations before (Vol. 1, No. 1) that CBS might itself go into manufacture of receivers capable of picking up its chromatic images. Meanwhile, in addition to its recent license to Westinghouse (Vol. 2, No. 10), CBS this week also licensed Federal Telecommunications Laboratories Inc. (IT&T) to manufacture uhf color transmitters under its inventions.

Meanwhile, the let's-go-now forces were moving to counter CBS's highly effective campaign for uhf color as against low-band monochrome. DuMont, in new booklet on color TV to be published next week, asserts flatly it will take minimum of 6½ years "before commercial color television can proceed on an orderly basis." It reckons 3 years for development of color, 1 year each for standards and field tests, 6 months minimum for FCC approval, 1 year for stations and receivers.

This week, Sonora's President Joseph Gerl, also an RMA director, loosed blast against CBS for what he called its "campaign of irrelevancies and falsehoods, designed only to confuse the American people until CBS has time to catch up with its more astute competitor, NBC....a campaign of obfuscation designed entirely to bewilder and delay." He spoke to South Bend Chamber of Commerce.

Then NBC, also as countermeasure to CBS campaign, seized upon Television Magazine poll of 35 consulting engineers for publicity blast. Asked to predict when color TV would be ready, 29 replies were recorded; 20 reportedly predicted TV was this far away (the rest being noncommittal): 1 year: Frank H. McIntosh; 2 years: George C. Davis, Henry B. Riblett; 5 years: Victor J. Andrew, John H. Barron, William E. Benns, Joseph A. Chambers, John Creutz, A. James Ebel, Alfred N. Goldsmith, John J. Keel, Andrew D. Ring, Harold C. Singleton, Ernest J. Vogt, V. Watson; 6 years: Everett Dillard; 7 years: Benson D. Gille; 10 years: H. Verne Anderson, Paul F. Godley, Garo Ray. There were enough if's, ands and buts in answers, we're told by some of the engineers, that precise dating is not altogether accurate; so you can expect CBS will soon see to it that another poll is conducted, another result reported.

LIMIT ON METROPOLITAN FM? FCC engineers' intent to set 20 kw-500 ft ratio for Metropolitan FM stations in Area II came into open Friday during Washington engineering conference on Cleveland-Akron applications. But engineers for applicants balked like steers, said they wanted to use as much power as possible to cover wider areas. United Broadcasting (WHK) wanted 90 kw for 703 ft antenna height; NBC, 36.5 kw for 621 ft. NBC's Ray Guy said he had to use 10 kw anyway, so might as well serve more listeners by operating at full capacity.

Engineering conference, first of its kind, was postlude to last week's regular hearings at Cleveland. Another engineering conference, postlude to recent Pittsburgh hearing, is scheduled for next Tuesday in Washington.

Next regular hearing on FM applications will cover Dayton-Springfield area, will be held in Dayton starting next Monday. Six applications are on file for 5 channels (Supplements No. 14A to 14H), Crosley dropping out this week, and Charles Sawyer, applicant for both Dayton and Springfield, may be expected to drop one of these. Scheduled thereafter is Indianapolis hearing there, May 13.

TV-FM IN KING-TRENDLE DEAL: American Broadcasting Co., not yet a TV or FM licensee but planning extensive operations in those fields, inherits a CP for TV (Vol. 2, No. 15) and an FM conditional grant (Supplement No. 36), both for Detroit, if FCC approves its proposed \$3,650,000 cash purchase of King-Trendle's WXYZ, Detroit, WOOD, Grand Rapids, and Michigan State Network, disclosed Friday. ABC said King-Trendle operations grossed \$2,357,000 in 1945, noted it would sell WOOD (now NBC affiliated) to conform with network rules. Deal was revealed shortly after ABC Chairman Ed Noble announced network was asking both FCC and SEC approval of public offering of some of its shares, about \$5,000,000, as part of expansion program decided upon after reported dickers with Marshall Field and others to sell network for \$15,000,000 had come to naught. Network is TV and FM applicant for New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, where it already owns AM stations; already holds conditional FM grant for San Francisco.

FMBI BOARD TO REVIEW 'MERGER': Even if board of FM Broadcasters Inc. (FMBI) should decide at its special meeting in Washington next Thursday that its "merger" with NAB isn't working out satisfactorily, probably nothing can be done about it until full FMBI membership meets coincident with NAB convention in Chicago Oct. 21. In light of FM's recent troubles, there is growing feeling among certain FMers that NAB (of which FMBI is now a department) isn't doing right by FM, isn't promoting it adequately, is too involved with AM problems to give it attention it needs, especially now. They want FMBI revived to concentrate on their own problems, especially on promotion campaign to urge FM set buying, on advice about new construction, on pressuring FCC to speed up CPs for FM. On other hand, others feel NAB has done all it can, has accomplished all it was asked to do under the "merger" agreement except in 3 instances -- getting more channels for FM, getting license extensions to 3 years, getting authority for FM broadcasters to choose own hours of operation.

NEWS AND VIEWS: CBS was stopped from filming Kentucky Derby and televising it next day on WCBW, as planned, when ATSE insisted it held 16 mm film rights; rather than get into dispute with union, CBS dropped idea....DuMont will unveil its complete line of TV receivers, due on market in late summer, to dealers and others in New York, May 6-8....Standard Brands has signed year's contract with WNBT-NBC for weekly one-hour variety show, said to be first of kind sponsored by major radio advertiser; series begins May 9, 8 p.m., EDT, thru J. Walter Thompson....If you want technical details on the inexpensive Electronics Research Inc. FM converter (Vol. 2, No. 11), see Radio News for May....Charging New York Daily News with bias and intolerance, American Jewish Congress petitioned FCC for right to intervene in New York FM hearing July 1; newspaper objected, denied allegations....Howard S. Frazier and Paul F. Peter, ex-NAB engineering and research chiefs, have formed radi management consultant firm of Frazier & Peter, 1730 Eye St. NW, Washington.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1513 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 19

May 11, 1946.

USE YOUR WEEKLY REPORTS: There were no FM permits or TV grants by FCC this week, though it was in session Friday and may announce some more Monday (Saturday is a non-workday for Federal employes). So the usual Supplements reporting CPs, EAs and conditional grants are omitted. However, we include with this newsletter a set of Separation Index Sheets for your loose-leaf binders, with directions for filing your Supplements and newsletters for ready reference. We suggest you maintain your file for your own convenience. It will save you a lot of unnecessary queries to Washington about the status of FM and TV applications, grants, etc.

\$6,000,000 DEAL FOR WCAU: Some \$3,500,000 in cash reserve, securities and real estate assets are included in the \$6,000,000 deal, announced Wednesday, whereby Philadelphia Record proposes to acquire the Levy-Paley owned 50 kw WCAU along with WCAU-FM. Thus actual purchase price requiring FCC approval (and 60-day period to advertise for other bids, under new FCC rule) really involves about \$2,500,000 cash, as engineered by Cleveland newspaper broker Smith Davis who also has handled Publisher David Stern's newspaper financing and Jack Knight's purchases of Miami Herald, Detroit Free Press etc. It is biggest single station deal on record, exceeding Philadelphia Inquirer's purchase of WFIL and WFIL-FM for \$1,900,000. ABC purchase of Michigan State Network for \$3,650,000 (Vol. 2, No. 18) involves 2 stations and network operation. Levys stay with WCAU under contract, go on newspaper board. Newspaper plans new combined radio-newspaper plant, with provision for 612-ft uhf color TV tower, on valuable downtown block acquired with station. One reason for sale is fact that the Levy brothers' large stock ownership in CBS, plus Bill Paley's minority interest in WCAU, have led to WCAU being regarded as virtually a CBS-owned station, and Washington trend is to limit network ownership. At one time Levy rejected another publisher's offer of \$8,000,000.

PETRILLO, FM AND NAB: Eminent jurists asked for opinions on recently enacted anti-Petrillo legislation (Supplement No. 35) have expressed firm views it can be made to stick, won't be declared unconstitutional if and when tested by AFM. One of these is ex-Judge Justin Miller, who left Federal appellate bench to head NAB, who this week advised stations affected to discuss their problems with local U.S. district attorneys. But meanwhile, in view of network contracts with musicians union that run till next February, and reiterated ban on AM-FM duplication, no one seems disposed to risk a strike or walkout on whole network for this or some other reason Petrillo might cook up. Yet anything might happen, any day now.

This is situation that obtains as of today despite attitudes expressed -- but not formally acted upon -- at NAB board and music committee meetings here this week that time has come for showdown; despite, too, unverified reports that several AM-FM broadcasters are already duplicating. If they are, they won't admit it; chances are that they are duplicating local shows only, though these too are proscribed by Petrillo so far as live musical programs are concerned. If there are network duplications, they probably include only non-musical shows.

Leonard Asch, pugnacious operator of Schenectady's independent FM station

WBCA, a full affiliate of Mutual, which has lost that network's sustaining and sponsored musicals and a revenue of some \$700 per week as result of Petrillo ban, spoke to NAB group Thursday, got very sympathetic audience for his plea for support if he should duplicate and test Petrillo edict. He said he is willing to do so, pay his own legal costs, but of course network can pull the plug. However, no action was reported. Said NAB's executive v.p., Jess Willard: "Currently it is the FM broadcasters who are suffering most directly from the ban on duplication. The prohibition is a retarding influence on the growth of this new and better service for the American people. It is a vital question to FM operators and of major concern to NAB. The question, you may be sure, heads the list of items in our negotiations with Mr. Petrillo."

FMBI committee, as expected, left to full membership meeting, to be held concurrent with NAB convention next October, question of final merger with NAB, where former FM trade association is now operating as a department. Sentiment of AM members was pretty largely to stay with NAB except perhaps for a special promotional campaign on behalf of FM as a whole. But nothing will be done on that either until October.

After NAB board met with President Truman at White House Thursday, Judge Miller told newsmen they went to discuss with him implications of Petrillo actions as well as of FCC Blue Book. Mr. Truman was quoted as saying, "There must be complete freedom of radio."

FM PROJECTS AND ANGELS: Getting financial angels for new station projects doesn't seem to entail much difficulty these days, judging from some applications filed with FCC. It has just been disclosed, for example, that Ohio-Michigan Corp., seeking both FM and AM in Toledo, is backed by Electric Auto-Lite Co., 33.3% stockholder, to the tune of \$150,000. But its president is Lynne C. Smeby, ex-NAB engineering chief now with War Dept., its other officers and stockholders Harold J. True, v.p., news commentator for Detroit's WWJ, and Nicholas J. Walinski, secy-treas, formerly asst. Attorney General of Ohio -- each a 22.2% stockholder.

A new AM-FM applicant for Philadelphia appeared this week in the person of Patrick Joseph Stanton, now general manager of Philadelphia's WDAS, which also is an FM applicant separately. Though Mr. Stanton is applying personally, his application discloses he is backed for \$90,000 by James T. Duffy Jr., president of Read Machinery Inc., York, Pa.

This week ex-FCC Chairman James Lawrence Fly, now an attorney in New York, withdrew FM application of Book-of-the-Month Club, leaving 21 applications still on file for New York's 9 available channels; more may be expected to drop, or change to Community status, before July 1 hearing. Dropping its Los Angeles FM application was Warner Bros., operating AM station KFWB. (For list of New York and Los Angeles FM applicants, see Supplements 14-A to 14-J.)

Next FM hearing scheduled covers Indianapolis, starting there next Monday, with Walter Emery, former assistant to Commissioner Walker, sitting for FCC. While 8 applicants are listed for 6 available channels (Special Report, March 16), it is expected Evansville on the Air Inc. will drop in view of its pending deal to purchase Indianapolis' existing FM station WABW (Vol. 2, No. 16).

New FM applications since we published Supplement 14-J are relatively few, this week's being Telemusic Inc., for Hartford, Conn., headed by Murray L. Grossman, ex-commercial manager of WBRY, Waterbury; Charleston (W. Va.) Daily Gazette; Radio-Television of Baltimore Inc., also applicant for TV there (Vol. 2, No. 18); WLPM, Suffolk, Va.; Skyway Broadcasting Corp., Asheville, N.C., headed by Charles M. Britt, wholesale grocer, and his nephew, Charles B. Britt, just out of Air Corps; WRVA, Richmond, refiling its previously withdrawn application; Topeka (Kans.) State Journal, a Stauffer newspaper; Colony Broadcasting Corp., New Haven, headed by Sam Botwinik, realtor, and ex-gob Sol Chain, who ran Navy's WXLB in Adak, Alaska.

WESTINGHOUSE, RAYTHEON AND TV: Strike-freed Westinghouse is getting wobbly about its 5 pending low-band TV applications (Supplement No. 18), and it won't be surprising if all or some of them are soon withdrawn. Company's inclination has been to go along with RCA-NBC in promoting TV now, but its new receiver line includes no TV sets because it can't see much market in view of the multitudinous withdrawals of station applicants in recent months. That it custom-built some of CBS's uhf color apparatus and has taken out patent license with CBS, is cited as evidence Westinghouse is getting lukewarm toward low-band TV.

You can expect some news to break soon also from Raytheon, applicant for TV stations in New York, Chicago and Waltham, Mass., though its officials are silent about rumors of withdrawals and reports of negotiations with CBS (Vol. 2, No. 18).

This week's TV withdrawals were Warner Bros., applicant for Los Angeles; J. E. Rodman (KFRE), for Fresno; WDEL Inc., for Wilmington, Dela. Latter leaves the Steinmans' Lancaster, Pa. application the only one they have left on file since dropping the one for Harrisburg (Vol. 2, No. 17). Warner dropout leaves only 8 applicants in race for Los Angeles' 7 available channels, scheduled for hearing there May 20 (see listing in March 16 Special Report). There were intimations at FCC that another withdrawal or two might cancel that hearing. 20th Century-Fox, which with MGM, Disney and Consolidated previously withdrew, gave as its reason for dropping both Hollywood and New York applications that video situation is "too confusing" at present to warrant investment of about \$1,500,000 in monochrome stations.

Milwaukee Journal, in dropping its prewar CP for TV (Vol. 2, No. 18), stated its action was taken "with the full realization that high frequency color TV is still a long way off -- possibly as much as 5 years from now." It gave as reasons for dropping: building restrictions, long wait for equipment delivery, uncertainty of network service out of Chicago; and said this might mean 2-3 years before a low-band station could be completed, which means such station "might have only some 2 years to operate before uhf color becomes a reality."

Plumping for uhf color was IT&T President Sosthenes Behn in his annual report, which told of Federal's manufacture of CBS's transmitter and concluded that high definition color was "inevitable in the not-too-distant future." But RCA's President David Sarnoff at his annual meeting this week reiterated faith in today's monochrome TV, pointed to historic import of Louis-Conn telecast June 19, and added: "We firmly believe that color ultimately will provide an added interest in certain television programs for the homes as it does in certain motion pictures for the theater. However, the majority of television programs will, we believe, continue to be in black-and-white, as they are in the movies, even when color is available. Although color processes have been available to the movies for years, only 6% of the feature motion pictures shown in the theater today are in color."

GE DELIVERING 250-w FM: GE's Russ David reports his company begins delivery this month on its backlog of 250-w FM transmitter orders, but will need 4 months more before it can fill new orders. GE schedule calls for new 1 kw transmitters by October, 3 kw by November, 10 kw by March, 1947 and 50 kw "in about a year." Number of 250-w orders was not indicated but since units are basic, it should be possible for those stations to get on air though with less than authorized power. FCC has stated it will authorize lower powers when requested so that some sort of FM service can be made available as soon as possible.

SHARED TRANSMITTER AND SITE: Federal Telecommunications Laboratories Inc. (IT&T), now licensed to build CBS color equipment (Vol. 2, No. 18), has cut out an interesting FM development schedule. Noteworthy is its pulse time work. Successfully applied in the past to transmission of many telephone signals on a single channel, idea is being adapted to FM to allow as many as 8 programs broadcast simultaneously on one channel, around 3 mc wide. Chief advantages are use of best transmitter site and single transmitter by several stations.

LODGE CARRIES THE BALL: Notwithstanding heavy attack from clear channel proponents at FCC hearing this week, Bill Lodge, CBS director of general engineering, stuck to his guns and gave as his "firm opinion" that Columbia's projected 200-station FM network would give better service than the same number of AM stations. The average number of stations on each of the 4 big networks is about 200. The CBS plan, first introduced by President Frank Stanton (Vol. 2, No. 17), proposed additionally to cover those areas of the country not served by the FM net by a number of 50-kw AMs for daytime and by only two 1,000-kw Ams for nighttime.

Although the network's FM network projection was only worked out on a 50 uv/m contour basis for each station, Lodge stated that it was his belief that good FM signals could be received as low as 5 uv/m and that such a "usable" signal would still give better service to rural listeners than many now receive even from the best AM station. The FM net would cost \$8,270,000 to construct, Lodge estimated, and \$3,320,000 to operate annually. He submitted to the Commission a table listing the stations in the FM net, city by city, with radiated power and antenna height indicated for each. Power ranged from a high of 320 kw for Minneapolis-St. Paul, with antenna height of 750 ft, to a low of 250-w, with antenna heights of 250 ft, for such cities as New London, Conn.; Albany, Ga.; Salina, Kan., Lima, O.

Opposition to Lodge's optimism centered on whether smaller communities could economically support more than 1 or 2 FM stations. Also brought into question was whether it was right for a community to be deprived of a choice of at least the present 4 network programs when the number of FM stations, under the allocations, is limited to 2 or 3 stations in some cities.

PORTABLES FOR FM ARE OUT: If you've considered using a Quonset hut or a trailer to house your transmitter in order to beat need for CPA approval, forget it. CPA this week interpreted Order VHP-1 to mean restrictions apply to erection of portable or prefabricated housings if they are to be placed on foundations, connected to ground by plumbing, wiring, etc., or if they are to remain at one place for an undetermined time. So, if the job costs more than \$1,000, you still have to get approval from your nearest CPA field office; if it doesn't cost that much, you can, as before, go ahead without any red tape. First reported CPA okay for FM construction was application of Alliance (O.) Review, holder of FM conditional, which got clearance from Cleveland field office to remodel 3-story brick structure.

ADAPTING ORTHICON FOR MOVIES: Look for RCA's light-amplifying Image Orthicon, or "magic eye," to be developed and applied by motion picture industry as basis of high-speed, lightweight, noiseless camera. Dr. Zworykin's recent Hollywood visit seems to have borne fruit, judging from statement Thursday by Loren L. Ryder, Paramount director of recording in Hollywood, to New York conference of Society of Motion Picture Engineers. Said he: "The improved Image Orthicon now available to television may point the way to a higher speed, lighter and noiseless camera with a picture recorder operating off stage in a manner similar to sound recording. The light amplifier demonstrated by Dr. Zworykin may have application to existing type cameras and lenses."

SOUND AND SIGHT: During coal emergency, FCC has waived minimum hours, powers for all broadcasting; Chicago's WBKB has cut telecast schedule to 4-5 p.m. weekdays.... Freed-Bismann in New York this week unveiled 7 consoles with FM, promised dealer deliveries in 30 days, demonstrated them via local FM stations....Emerson announced 3 FM models, ready late this summer, ranging from \$60-\$200, said it was delaying TV line until fall....Excellent popularized story on FM, captioned "Something's happening to radio and listeners shouldn't miss it," appears in May "Science Illustrated"....WNBT's new antenna atop Empire State Bldg. is 61 ft high, 1,250 ft above sidewalks of New York....Possibility that ban on films for TV in proposed AFM-movie contract may be regarded by Dept. of Justice as restraint of trade under Sherman Act, is said to be holding up Petrillo contract with movie makers... New FCC Order No. 130-G this week permits amateur experimentation in FM on various bands from 27 mc up, also TV here and there from 420 mc up.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2329 - VOL. 2, NO. 20

May 18, 1946

FM MAKES WASTE SLOWLY: So jammed is the FCC clerical staff, that not a single grantee of a CP for either FM or TV has as yet been notified of his grant by the Commission. All the grantee knows is what he reads in the trade press, despite fact that CPs and EAs for FM at least began to be issued in mid-March. Inquiry at the Commission brings the frank admission that it's due to "lack of personnel and pressure of other business," but first formal notifications will go out next week.

To the FM grants tabulated in our Supplements No. 36, 36A and 36B, the Commission this week added 8 more CPs, 9 EAs and 16 Conditionals (see Supplement No. 36C herewith). Withdrawn this week, at request of grantee, was the Conditional recently awarded Crooner Frank Parker for a Community station in Danbury, Conn. Also withdrawn were FM applications of Dorothy S. Thackrey (New York Post) for Los Angeles and San Francisco, though she is pursuing TV applications in those cities (see story in this issue). There were unverified rumors Mrs. Thackrey may dispose of her recently acquired AM stations in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Indianapolis FM hearing this week went on there as scheduled, no dropouts. Next FM hearing is in Chicago June 3, with 18 remaining applicants seeking 12 available channels. Publisher Jack Knight, having recently bought into Johnson-Kennedy Radio Corp. (WIND), has withdrawn his separate Chicago application. Engineering hearing on recently completed Dayton-Springfield (O.) FM cases takes place in Washington May 21; for Indianapolis applicants, also in Washington, May 28.

9 TV GRANTS WITHOUT HEARING: As predicted, the FCC this week got around to granting more TV applications without hearings in cities where the supply of channels is adequate. Standing by its support of low-band TV, proudly proclaiming it was now making video service available in 15 cities, the Commission authorized CPs for 9 out of the 80-odd applicants remaining after recent wholesale withdrawals. It intimated others may be forthcoming soon also if their engineering and other files are brought up-to-date, noting particularly that hearings probably won't be necessary now on Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Baltimore applications. These were the 9 grantees announced Friday and facilities assigned:

Worcester Telegram Publishing Co., Worcester, Mass. (WTAG), granted Channel No. 5 with 13.6 kw visual power, 10.8 aural power, 772 ft antenna height. Grant was made despite fact applicant, whose manager recently signed CBS station advisory board manifesto in favor of uhf color, asked FCC to hold off until it makes up its mind whether to withdraw (Vol. 2, No. 18).

Raytheon Manufacturing Co., Waltham, Mass., granted Channel No. 2 with 50 kw visual power, 30.7 kw aural power, 373 ft antenna height.

The Outlet Co., Providence, R. I. (WJAS), granted Channel No. 11 with 50 kw visual power, 50 kw aural power, 420 ft antenna height.

A. S. Abell Co., Baltimore (Baltimore Sun), granted Channel No. 2 with 17.1 kw visual power, 17.1 kw aural power, 397.4 ft antenna height.

National Broadcasting Co., Cleveland (WTAM), granted Channel No. 4 with 19 kw visual power, 19.5 kw aural power, 568 ft antenna height. (NBC now holds a license for New York, and CPS for Washington and Cleveland.)

Havens & Martin Inc., Richmond, Va. (WMBG), granted Channel No. 3 with 12.16 kw visual power, 6.4 aural power, 465 ft antenna height.

KSTP Inc., St. Paul, granted Channel No. 5 with 13.68 kw visual power, 6.48 kw aural power, 547.1 ft antenna height.

Intermountain Broadcasting Corp., Salt Lake City (KDYL), granted Channel No. 2 with 13.2 kw visual power, 7 kw aural power, 542.4 ft antenna height. (Applicant has long held an experimental CP for TV, now gets commercial.)

Oregonian Publishing Co., Portland, Ore. (KGW), granted Channel No. 6 with 10 kw visual power, 11.2 kw aural power, 98.4 ft antenna height.

The Commission indicated that 46 of the applications still on file may also be granted without hearing, but pointed out that some of their data is still incomplete. Its reference to 15 cities to which it was making low-band TV available was to Chicago, New York, Schenectady and Philadelphia (where stations are already operating); Detroit (where it recently granted 2 without hearing, as reported in Vol. 2, No. 15); Washington (where it has authorized 4 stations, as reported in Supplement No. 31); and the foregoing 9. Total really is 16, if you count the 2 experimental stations already operating on commercial channels in Los Angeles.

* * * *

Other TV news developments of the week:

1. Four more applicants withdrew: Kansas City Star Co.; World Publishing Co., Omaha; Palmer K. & Lois C. Leberman, New York; WDAS Broadcasting Station, Philadelphia (Supplement No. 18). In addition, FCC returned as incomplete application of Western Reserve U, Cleveland, for a commercial station (Vol. 2, No. 15).

2. One more new application was filed -- Paul Block's Toledo Blade, stating it is ready to spend \$175,000 on a TV installation. It was designated for hearing along with Fort Industry Co. application (George Storer).

3. Crosley Corp. replied to rumors it might drop TV by stating it will pursue applications for Cincinnati and Columbus definitely, but Dayton application "depends much on where we can locate our transmitter service in Cincinnati. It conceivably could be used to serve Dayton." Leberman's withdrawal from New York, he advised us, does not mean he will drop his Seattle (KRSC) application.

4. General Electric reported it expects to make first TV sets, using 10-inch direct-viewing tube and costing about \$300, available to public in August or September "in areas where stations are now operating or will soon be on the air." Other sets, it added, will follow shortly thereafter, including large-screen projection models. Transmitters and studio equipment are already being manufactured at new Syracuse plant and will be delivered early in 1947.

5. Continuing his counter-blasts at CBS for its espousal of uhf color TV as against low band (Vol. 2, No. 18), Sonora's President Joseph Gerl, speaking again Wednesday at Evansville, Ind., called CBS campaign "calculated sabotage" and added: "The truth of the matter is that color TV, despite the experimental work, is not ready for public use, that color transmitters are at least twice as costly as other transmitters, and that color TV receivers are at least twice as expensive as ordinary TV receivers....If the American public were to wait until color TV were ready...the wait would be at least 5 to 7 years."

6. And Stanley Hubbard of KSTP, which got its TV grant this week and has already placed order for an RCA transmitter, also took occasion to blast color claims by issuing a statement that "they can be demonstrated under carefully controlled conditions existing in the research laboratory" and opining color is at least 5 years away. Deploring "misleading propaganda," he declared "black-and-white TV is ready and desired by the public today....many broadcasters are going to be caught asleep at the switch and will be replaced by those willing to pioneer."

NOT YET DUPLICATING: All sort of rumors of AM-FM duplication are rampant, but inquiries disclose no verifications as yet. Don Lee's KHJ-FM denies it is duplicating MBS musical programs, its executive v.p. Lewis Allen Weiss wiring us: "We do not believe that the Lea Bill provides any protection for such duplication." Nor is Stanley Hubbard's KSTP-FM carrying anything yet other than news and transcriptions. Latter, incidentally, is on air with a home-built 250-w transmitter, although its Rural CP calls for 318 kw. Its engineers report test reception covering 25 miles, but say some of first FM receivers coming out apparently had FM added with only one stage so do not have sufficient sensitivity to pick up signal more than 15 miles away. Hubbard says he expects to have his 10-kw RCA transmitter operating by Sept. 1 with effective radiated power of about 80 kw.

PARAMOUNT PROBE IN L. A. HEARING: Into the already muddled TV situation, the FCC this week interjected still more jumble -- to the undisguised consternation not only of principals and counsel but of the diminishing school of adherents to its own policy favoring low-band TV now. Entirely unheralded at the eleventh hour, it added new issues to the Los Angeles TV hearing, scheduled to start there next Monday with Asst. General Counsel Harry Plotkin sitting as examining officer on the 8 remaining applications for the 7 available channels.

Last Wednesday, it advised counsel of additional issues to be made part of Los Angeles hearing: (1) an investigation into stock ownership and management interest of Paramount in DuMont; (2) an investigation of Paramount's interest in pending TV applications of Television Productions Inc., for San Francisco; United Detroit Theatres Inc., Detroit; New England Theatres Inc., Boston; Comerford-Public Theatres Corp., Scranton, Pa.; Interstate Circuit Inc., Dallas; Maison Blanche Co., New Orleans (see Supplement No. 18). Inquiries have to do with multiple ownership rule, limiting number of TV stations to 5 to one company.

Though Commission said issues were prepared last May 2, it didn't notify counsel until 2 weeks later, giving them scarcely time to prepare cases, let alone catch trains or planes to Los Angeles. Recognizing this, Chairman Denny agreed to separate DuMont inquiry from Los Angeles hearing, but will hold a separate hearing on that later in Washington. Meanwhile, DuMont's other applications remain on ice despite plenitude of channels -- for Pittsburgh, where it is one of only 2 remaining applicants for 4 available channels; for Cleveland, where there are only 3 applicants for 5 channels; for Cincinnati, where there are 3 for 4. (DuMont already has a station in New York, holds a CP for one in Washington, these designed to be part of projected network.)

But the Paramount inquiry goes ahead. Paramount's Paul Raibourn is in L.A. for hearing, presumably will answer the questions. Its TV holdings include: (1) all Class B stock ownership in DuMont, a minority of the total issue, but with 3 out of 8 directors; (2) its subsidiary Balaban & Katz's license for WBKB, Chicago; (3) its subsidiary Television Production Inc.'s experimental license for W6XYZ, Los Angeles, presently operating in low-band; (4) its control or part ownership in the 6 other applicants mentioned (although its connection with Maison Blanche, part of big dept. store chain, is rather obscure even in FCC records).

Inquiry is to be conducted with idea of preventing "monopoly" control of TV -- if not on still wide open low-band, then later on high-band when low-band pioneers will presumably expect prior consideration. Inquiry was ordered in face of fact that FCC itself is being embarrassed by wholesale withdrawals of low-band applications -- so many in recent months that there are only 4 cities left where demand exceeds supply of channels (Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, Chicago) -- and in face of possibility Paramount, one of few remaining movie companies willing to risk investment in low-band, may also be goaded into withdrawing in disgust.

Los Angeles hearing finds these applicants remaining in race for that city's 7 channels: Hughes Productions; Earle C. Anthony Inc.; Don Lee (already operating experimental W6XAO on Channel No. 2); National Broadcasting Co.; American Broad-

casting Co.; Times-Mirror Co. (Los Angeles Times); Television Productions Inc. (already operating experimentally on No. 5); Dorothy S. Thackrey (New York Post), owner of AM station KLAC, Los Angeles (formerly KMTR). Previous applicants for TV in L.A. who have dropped are: Warner Bros., M-G-M, Fox West Coast, Walt Disney, Consolidated Broadcasting Corp.

TWO-BAND TV SUGGESTED: There's talk now -- but talk only -- about possibility of correlating low and high band TV standards in such a way that a 2-band monochrome receiver might be manufactured at cost slightly more than a low-band set, thus perhaps laying the spectre of obsolescence. Adding color, of course, would make cost of receiver commensurately higher, requiring second chassis in same cabinet.

Idea is attributed to FCC Commissioner Jett (though he won't acknowledge it) as possible way of resolving current controversy between rival low-band monochrome and uhf color schools. It is predicated on agreement of latter, notably CBS as chief proponent, to accept 525-line video standard for uhf which CBS is understood to be willing to do. It also presupposes that other technical details, including moot problem of uhf propagation characteristics, can be made common to both systems.

RMA's video standards committee has received no specific proposal from FCC or anyone else, says its chairman David B. Smith, Philco engineering v.p. Nor has RTPB Panel No. 6 received any concrete recommendations, though FCC Chief Engineer Adair did bring up subject at one of its recent meetings.

This highly technical subject inevitably will come up when hearings on uhf standards are called by FCC, which it has promised when asked for. CBS has said it will ask for hearings "soon" but neither it nor any other advocate of abandoning low-band in favor of uhf has indicated when. Meanwhile, though many withdrawing low-band TV applicants have said they plan to go to uhf color, only CBS's experimental license on uhf video band 480-920 mc is outstanding. The only CPs for such experiments thus far issued are to Cowles Broadcasting Co., Washington; Kansas State College; Times-Mirror Co., Pasadena (Los Angeles Times in collaboration with California Institute of Technology). Also with license authorizing experimentation in uhf transmission, though not necessarily color, is Balaban & Katz (WBKB) Chicago; and holding CPs in this category are Raytheon and Zenith, Chicago; Sherron Metallic Corp., Brooklyn; North Jersey Broadcasting Co., Clifton, N. J.; Farnsworth, Ft. Wayne; Metropolitan Television Inc., New York City; P. R. Mallory & Co., Indianapolis; Philco, Philadelphia, Washington, New York City.

Only applicants thus far for uhf TV (in addition to CBS's additional requests for St. Louis, Boston, Chicago and Pasadena) are Milwaukee Journal and Continental Television Corp., Boston. Don Lee, already in low band, says it will immediately seek uhf permit "to explore color television," meanwhile has modified low-band application to ask for 5 kw instead of original 50 kw.

SIGHT AND SOUND: NAB officials are still hinting at test case on Lea Bill but can't say from what quarter it may be expected; meanwhile, there is possibility President Miller and his advisory committee may hold another meeting with Petrillo before AFM June convention....GE's 16mm film "The Story of FM" can be secured through local dealers or by writing company's Electronics Dept., Syracuse, N.Y.; there is no charge for loan of 17-minute movie....Telecast of Louis-Conn fight June 19, will be piped via coaxial to Washington, where NBC will stage special showings to top VIPs from White House, Supreme Court, Congress; meanwhile, NBC pulled its TV apparatus out of United Nations conference rooms at Hunter College, needing it for fight and other TV events....Kaufmann's, big Pittsburgh dept. store, is inviting producers of goods to take part in its intra-store TV demonstrations with RCA June 17-29....Emerson will seek to enter TV field in a few months with an "industrial" television system installed in a big New York dept. store....American Optical Co. reports that the corrector plate used in the Schmidt system of large-screen TV can now be made of glass, with attendant superiority and economy over the plastic plates made pre-war....FCC Commissioner Paul Walker this week got his expected third-term nomination from President Truman.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 21

May 25, 1946

FM CLASSIFICATION CHANGES: Due from the FCC next week is a revision of FM Rules that will substitute for present Community, Metropolitan and Rural station nomenclature a dual system of classification. New system, according to our information, will classify FM stations in only two categories according to an established power-antenna height ratio. Exact nomenclature of the two categories is undetermined.

That some change in FM station classification was brewing, has been apparent for some time. Although present Rules indicate no fixed ratio between power and antenna height for Area II stations, FCC engineers at recent engineering hearings in Washington let it be known they were using the 20 kw-500 ft antenna height ratio, as established for Area I Metropolitan stations, for Area II Metropolitan stations also (Vol. 2, No. 18). In some instances, the FCC, in granting conditionals or EAs, was unable to fix proper designations and left station classifications "to be determined" (Vol. 2, No. 17).

INCOMPLETE DATA SLOWS FM: One big reason why FCC is issuing CPs for FM at such a snail's pace, is that many applicants and their attorneys and engineers have filed inadequate data. Out of 205 applications thus far examined as to engineering details, the Commission reported Wednesday, 115 require additional data which has been requested. And many others have failed to submit the requisite statement as to program plans. So you can't blame the overburdened FCC staff entirely if you still haven't been apprised what your channel, power and antenna height must be.

This week there were only 6 CPs issued for FM, plus 6 Engineering Approvals (EAs), as reported in Supplement No. 36D herewith. Actually, since it began issuing CPs and EAs, the Commission has granted only 52 of the former, 29 of the latter (see Supplements No. 36 to 36D). EAs are automatically granted CPs as soon as program-promise data is filed (Vol. 2, No. 11).

According to FCC records, 441 conditional grants have been made since Oct. 8, 1945. Applications on which there has been no action at all, it says, totaled 256 up to May 22. Involved in hearings are 131 applications -- but not even the heavy April hearings (Boston, Pittsburgh, Cleveland-Akron) have been reported on as yet. Commissioner Durr conducted Boston hearing nearly 2 months ago (April 2) but his report is held up while engineers study record, and there's possibility that an engineering hearing may also be necessary.

That the Commission means business in requiring program plan data, was evidenced again this week when, in renewing certain AM licenses after perusing their program logs in the light of policy laid down in its recent Blue Book, it stated: "The Commission's action in granting current renewals should not be construed as an indication that in all instances the program structures are in keeping with the overall public service responsibilities enunciated by the Commission from time to time....current renewals are being granted on the showings made but with the expectation that all licensees will review their program structure....in instances where

there appears to be an extreme disregard of public service responsibilities, a hearing will be ordered on current renewals."

In other words, as applied to FM, this is a warning that applicants get off on the right foot by filing program promises which they will be expected to perform -- or else!

3 MORE TV GRANTS, 5 MORE DROP: Three more TV grants without hearing this week re-emphasized FCC's determination to stand by its approval of low-band video, indicated anew its intention to issue CPs as quickly as possible to qualified applicants in cities where channel supply is adequate. Meanwhile, 5 more withdrawals of TV applications were made known -- one of them the Westinghouse application for a station in its home city of Pittsburgh. Wednesday's TV grantees were:

Hearst Radio Inc., Baltimore (WBAL), granted Channel No. 11 with 14.4 kw visual power, 7.3 kw aural power, 456 ft antenna height. (Commissioner Durr voted for hearing because station has been cited for alleged program deficiencies.)

Radio-Television of Baltimore Inc., Baltimore, granted Channel No. 13 with 31.65 kw visual power, 20 kw aural power, 410 ft antenna height. (This application was filed less than a month ago by newcomers to radio, see Vol. 2, No. 18.)

Albuquerque Broadcasting Co., Albuquerque, N.M. (KOB), granted Channel No. 2 with 15 kw visual power, 8 kw aural power, 18 ft antenna which will have overall height of 100 ft above ground and 5,240 ft above sea level. (Principal is C. M. Pepperday, publisher of Albuquerque Journal.)

Baltimore is only city with multiple TV applications where all applicants have now secured grants, the third having been last week's grant to Baltimore Sun (Vol. 2, No. 20). City is allocated 3 channels; 3 other applicants had withdrawn.

The week's dropouts, in addition to Westinghouse, were: WAVE, Louisville, leaving only WHAS on file for that city's 2 channels; WOW, Omaha, leaving none on file for that city's 3 channels; WIRE, Indianapolis, leaving only WFBM Inc. and the William H. Block Co. dept. store on file for that city's 5 channels; and Television Productions Inc. (Paramount), for San Francisco (see story below).

Our information is that WHAS and WFBM are also seriously considering withdrawal. Westinghouse withdrawal from Pittsburgh leaves DuMont as only applicant there, though that city is entitled to 4 channels.

Whether Westinghouse will drop either or both of its 2 remaining applications -- for Boston and Philadelphia -- is conjectural. But it is plumping strongly for its own system of Stratovision broadcasting for both TV and FM (see story on next page) and may decide that this offers better possibilities on uhf. (Incidentally, we erred in Vol. 2, No. 19, in stating that Westinghouse was applying for 5 TVs; actually, it had applications in for 3 TVs, 5 FMs.)

We erred last week also in listing Chicago as one of 4 cities where channel supply exceeds demand and in failing instead to say Philadelphia. The Chicago situation is that it is entitled to 7 channels; already has one occupied (by Balaban & Katz's WBKB); has 2 CPs issued (to NBC and Zenith); has 3 applications still pending (ABC, WGN, Raytheon). Philadelphia gets 4 channels; has one occupied (by Philco's WPTZ); has 6 applications pending (Bulletin's WPEN, Gimbel's WIP, Inquirer's WFIL, Seaboard's WIBG, Westinghouse's KYW, and non-radio-owning Daily News), all scheduled for hearing June 17.

* * * *

Los Angeles TV hearing there this week, with 8 seeking 7 channels (Vol. 2, No. 20), was being watched with hawk eyes by movie industry, eager to get further inklings on possible impact of TV on their business. Our correspondents report it was proceeding slowly, looked at week's end like it would go into better part of next week. Late Friday, Paramount's Washington counsel withdrew its subsidiary

Television Production Inc.'s application for San Francisco, stating it intended to concentrate on Los Angeles because of greater importance of that city to TV. This now leaves 6 for 6 in San Francisco, presaging probable dropping of July 15 hearing. It also means Paramount is now involved in 5 pending applications (Vol. 2, No. 20), in addition to its Chicago subsidiary's already-licensed station WBKB. Mystery of its relationship with Maison Blanche (WSMB) New Orleans application was cleared this week when inquiry disclosed that WSMB Inc. is owned 50% by Paramount, 50% by big department store.

STRATOVISION TESTS SUCCESSFUL: Westinghouse officials are certain now that "Stratovision holds the answer to transmission problems which have delayed TV and FM expansion by limiting their service to big-city audiences." Certainty, in fact, has displaced their former frank attitude that the thing looked foolproof on paper but that "we won't know the answers until we try it" (Vol. 1, No. 1). Try it they did -- and the results achieved thus far with their "skyhook transmitters" convince them, as Vice President Walter Evans reports, that "the day is not far distant when economically practical TV and FM radio services, for farm and city homes alike, will be available all over the land."

Within next few weeks, Westinghouse and its collaborating Glenn L. Martin Co. will announce a regular schedule of flight times, and will ask FM set owners to report on reception on 107.5 mc. Test flights begun last December have carried their specially equipped monoplane over courses embracing Baltimore-Wilmington-Philadelphia-New York-New Haven and Washington-Richmond-Rocky Mount, N.C. Flying circle courses at 25,000 ft, plane has transmitted usable signals 240 airline miles with only 250-w power. Stratovision plans envision a few dozen such planes serving whole country, including rural and remote areas not now reachable with 35-50 mile line-of-sight radius of ordinary FM and TV transmitters.

SOME NEW FMs GET GOING: Though plagued by all sorts of obstacles -- equipment delays, CPA restrictions, lack of receivers -- a corporal's guard of FM stations nevertheless is getting going under FCC's special temporary authority (STA) policy. Latest to join the select list of FMers actually putting out signals, but with minimum power, is Portland Oregonian (KGW) which went on air 30 minutes after receiving FCC blessing May 7. It joined Supreme Broadcasting's WRCM, New Orleans, and KSTP, St. Paul, latter using home-built transmitter. Three other FM grantees have STAs to broadcast: Patriot Co. and WHP Inc., both Harrisburg, Pa., and New Orleans Times-Picayune, but reports on their activity are still lacking.

While it is difficult to get data on who are receiving local CPA approvals to build, Washington gleans that numerous exceptions are being made to the \$1,000-minimum rule, depending on local conditions. Last week KOMO, Seattle, holder of CP for FM, got approval for \$500,000 building for its AM-FM-TV projects. Best advice to proposed builders still is to try secure dispensations from district CPA offices; complete addresses of 71 such offices now available from Washington CPA headquarters in Release No. 329. While you're at it, ask also for Supplement No. 2 to VHP-1 which explains what is meant by "beginning construction" and may be valuable to broadcasters finding it difficult to decide whether their installations were begun before or after March 26 issuance of VHP-1.

MANY AMs IGNORE FM: Our records show that only 32 out of the 198 outstanding CP holders for new AM stations have also applied for FM; also that about 375 AM licensees have not yet applied for FM. The latter are largely in thinly populated western areas, where operators don't think they need FM because ground conductivity of their AM signals is generally quite good. Thus no AM operators in Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota or South Dakota have applied for FM, none also among the 15 in Alaska, Hawaii or Porto Rico. Latest list of FM applicants (Supplement No. 14K herewith) discloses 13 already operating AM and 11 newcomers. Among new applicants are Larus & Brothers (WRVA) for Richmond and Norfolk; the Oklahoma City Oklahoman interests, along with Gov. Kerr of that state, for Peoria, Ill.

THEATER PROJECTION OF TV: Even if Paramount fails to secure video sub-rights from NBC to project on screen of New York's Paramount Theater an "instantaneous news-reel" of Louis-Conn fight June 19, you can expect a demonstration of Paramount's system of delayed (1½ minutes) telecasting to theater screens some time in August, as promised. As in case of Louis-Conn fight, if carried, projections will be shown first only to invited groups. The public isn't going to be let in -- yet.

That TV is not an immediate problem to the motion picture exhibitor "because no practical method of video projection has yet been presented," is opinion of Lester B. Isaac, director of projection and sound for Loew's Theatres (MGM). At recent confab of Society of Motion Picture Engineers, he declared it would not be practical to interrupt regular film shows for unscheduled news by TV. He found fault with both RCA and Rauland methods of instantaneous projection, said construction of average movie theater does not provide convenient location for a TV projector within the limits for satisfactory throw from projector to screen. Also, some proposals for clearing space for a TV projector in the center of a theater would cause elimination of seats, an uninviting prospect for exhibitors. Storage system of recording the TV image on film seems practical, he said, but to him it is just another way of presenting a newsreel.

BIG CHICAGO FM HEARING: Next hearing on FM, biggest to date in point of numbers, is scheduled for June 3 in Chicago's Board of Education Bldg., with FCC Counsel Sam Miller probably the presiding officer. Allocated 17 channels (Supplement No. 21), Chicago already has 5 licensees (Supplement No. 32) -- so that the 18 applicants now on the docket (and any more that may file before June 3) will compete for 12 available channels. Hearing is expected to last perhaps 3 weeks. With recent withdrawal of Knight Radio Corp. (since Publisher Knight bought into WIND) and Oak Park Amusement & Realty Co. (MGM), these are the applicants scheduled to be heard:

Agricultural Broadcasting Co. (WLS); Amalgamated Broadcasting System (Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union); American Broadcasting Co. (WENR); Balaban & Katz Corp. (Paramount); Chicago Federation of Labor (WCFL); Drivers Journal Publishing Co. (WAAF); Dual Engineering Corp.; United Automobile Workers (CIO); Johnson-Kennedy Radio Corp. (WIND); Lincoln-Belmont Publishing Co. & Myers Publishing Co.; National Broadcasting Co. (WMAQ); Raytheon Manufacturing Co.; Telair Co.; Gene T. Dyer (WAIT); John A. Dyer (WGES); WJJD Inc.; Radio Station WSBC; Nathan Schwartz. (For details about applicants, see Supplements No. 14A to 14J.)

SIGHT AND SOUND: Veteran FCC technical information chief Dr. L. P. Wheeler, past president of IRE, retires this week to join venerable radio scientist Greenleaf Whittier Pickard at Newton Highlands, Mass., to do special job for U.S.-Canadian military on radio problems in northern climes; also retiring from FCC, at 62, is V. Ford Greaves, its RID San Francisco supervisor....Promoted from acting to permanent status were these FCC Engineering division chiefs: James E. Barr, Standard; Cyril M. Braum, FM; Curtis B. Plummer, TV....Denver Post's first foray into radio, sponsorship of Barnet Nover Washington transcriptions on KOA, presages that newspaper's entry into FM (Denver has 10 channels, only 2 applicants) and possibly also TV; friendlier policy toward radio attributed to new Publisher Palmer Hoyt, formerly with Portland Oregonian....David B. Smith, Philco v.p. in charge of engineering and chairman of the RMA television systems committee as well as of RTI Panel No 6, has been elected to board of directors of Philco Corp.; Larry F. Hardy, home radio set division chief, has also been elected to board....TBA attorney Bill Roberts is planning to petition FCC to postpone July 1 beginning of 28-hour-per-week rule until video settles down to more normal state....DuMont's Washington TV station, W3XWT, will probably broadcast Louis-Conn fight, taking NBC telecast off line and putting it on the air for the few score sets in capital....July "Reader's Digest" features condensation of Alva Johnston's recent Satevepost series "Television -- Boom or Bust?"....G. Emerson Markham now heads up all GE broadcasting stations in Schenectady as manager (AM-WGY, FM-WGFM, TV-WGRB), succeeding Kolin Hager, resigned....Bendix of Baltimore hopes to start production of receive with FM in August with 2 models, one 7-tube and one 11-tube.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 22

June 1, 1946.

WHAT TO DO WITH SUPPLEMENTS NO. 37: Two copies of Supplement No. 37 (proposed changes in FM Rules and Standards) are sent you herewith -- one to be filed with your Supplement No. 7 (Text of Rules Governing FM Broadcasting) and one with your Supplement No. 9 (Standards of Good Engineering Concerning FM Broadcast Stations). While these changes are still in the proposed category, they will very likely be made permanent after June 15. If there are any further changes, we will advise you; meanwhile, these should keep your files on FM Rules and Standards up-to-date.

CLASS A AND B FOR FM: Predicted nomenclature changes for classes of FM stations, doing away with old Rural, Metropolitan and Community classifications, will shortly go into effect under proposed Rules amendments announced this week (Supplement No. 37 herewith). Soon they will be known simply as Class A or Class B stations.

Disquietude created at first by the proposed change has given way to a general feeling, as we gauge the pulse of the experts, that the Commission actually makes no radical departure in its approach to FM. Rather, the belief now prevails that it has merely changed the Rules to conform to present practice in granting assignments. New Rules were formulated on the basis of experience gained since Commission began making FM grants last autumn.

Crux of the proposed changes, which become effective without the usual hearings or oral arguments unless objections are raised before June 15, is the newly created Class B category. FCC engineers had found, under old Metropolitan and Rural classifications, that many a Metropolitan station in Area II, by reason of topographical heights, could operate with low power and yet cover half a State (Vol. 2, No. 18); whereas other Metropolitans, to cover just their own service areas, needed 10 times as much power.

Moreover, FCC had been adhering to a 20 kw-500 ft formula for Area II Metropolitans (Vol. 2, No. 17), yet the old Rules made no mention of such ratio. And in a number of cases the Commission was unable to determine whether a proposed station should be classed Metropolitan or Rural.

Thus, what the Commission has done in proposed amendments is to enumerate power-antenna height ratios so that applicants -- and their engineers -- can determine definitely where they are going. Consensus seems to be that the changes are all to the good, provide greater flexibility for assignments, correct vagueness of original regulations.

The proposed amendments, boiled down to their essence, mean this:

Class A stations correspond to old Community stations, but with power range of from 100 w to 1 kw. The 250-ft antenna height remains on the books for this type station. Separation also remains on a mileage basis as before (50 miles co-channel, 35 miles adjacent channel). No allocation plan is established for Class A stations. Old Community channels (Nos. 281-300) are designated for Class A stations, in all parts of U.S. No facsimile channels are reserved in Area II as before (but fax can be broadcast by FM operators either multiplex or after FM broad-

cast hours). Class A stations will not be assigned to principal cities; however, 10 such channels will be available for such cities having less than 6 FM stations (for present, FCC will not assign this type station to metropolitan cities where there are at least 4 Standard broadcast stations operating).

Class B stations combine old Metropolitan and Rural classifications, and will be assured protection in all sections of country to 1,000 uv/m contour. Power for Class B stations in Area I may start at 10 kw and 300 ft and go up to 20 kw and 500 ft. In major cities, with 250,000 population or more, Class B stations must put out at least 20 kw with 350 ft antenna height. Area II Class B stations can have minimum of 2 kw and 300 ft up to maximum of 20 kw and 500 ft. Exceptions for higher powers will be granted upon proper showings. Channels No. 221 to 280 are allocated for Class B stations and the current allocation plan stands.

Added to areas contiguous to Area I, for which applications will be given "careful study," are Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. Engineering standards are also amended to conform to Rules changes. Non-commercial educational FM stations Nos. 201-220) are not affected.

COLOR TV GAINING CONVERTS: Growing affinity between Westinghouse and CBS in matter of uhf color TV is being bolstered by former's Stratovision tests (Vol. 1, No. 1; Vol. 2, No. 21) revealing that ultra-high frequencies have excellent propagation characteristics when broadcast from "skyhook" transmitter. CBS not only has ordered some of its color equipment from Westinghouse, but its engineers have been eyeing Stratovision experiments closely. And Westinghouse's Walter Evans is a confirmed believer in uhf color TV, though confesses he is not sure of its timing. The timing factor, of course, is nub of whole low vs. high band argument.

Top echelons of both Westinghouse and General Electric, which fathered RCA and NBC, owned those companies along with AT&T until forced to separate by Government decree, have been evincing intense interest in CBS's color. They make no bones about fact they have been deeply impressed by what they were shown -- demonstrations which RCA's Sarnoff and NBC's Trammell, though invited, have never seen though many of their engineering and other executives have. One big company's highest executives, after a recent private showing, put CBS's Chairman Bill Paley through the stiffest kind of quiz, came away convinced of his complete sincerity if not yet entirely sold on optimistic CBS claims of immediacy. No one has ever questioned the intense sincerity of CBS's research chief and color TV inventor, Dr. Peter Goldmark.

Westinghouse explains its withdrawal of Pittsburgh low-band TV application (Vol. 2, No. 21) as due to fact that coaxial cable (hence network programs) is still some years away from that city. Present plans do not call for dropping its Boston and Philadelphia TV applications because, it is explained, the coaxial renders network service feasible and the company wants to hook up with NBC in TV just as its AM stations do in standard broadcasting. In other words, though leaning toward color, Westinghouse isn't letting itself be counted out of monochrome and promises to build low-band if granted CPs.

Meanwhile, the 60 custom-built color TV receivers which GE has made to order for CBS (at prices reputed to be far out of reach for public sale) are said to be ready for delivery, presumably will soon be placed around New York City. Meanwhile, too, CBS is still operating its low-band monochrome WCBW on regular schedule -- evoking frequent chiding, to which its reply is that it is retaining its low-band station to study program techniques and viewer reactions. But as a prelude to every night's telecasts on WCBW, it broadcasts this not too thinly-veiled statement:

"Good evening! We hope you enjoy our program. The Columbia Broadcasting System, however, is not engaged in the manufacture of television receiving sets, and does not want you to consider these broadcasts as inducement to purchase television sets at this time. Because of a number of conditions, we cannot predict how long this television broadcasting schedule will continue."

PETRILLO PICKS A GUINEA PIG: Chances ought to be better than even that the Lea Bill will be upheld in the court test Petrillo is deliberately forcing by calling a strike against the Chicago Drivers Journal's WAAF, a relatively obscure, non-network-affiliated, daytime station which he apparently has chosen for the guinea pig role because, as he says, "That station makes \$200,000 profits. If they're going to grow, we're going to grow with them. They need 6 men to turn the platters and play music and could have an organist, a piano player and a fiddler."

Coming so soon after the bill's passage (Supplement No. 35), coming at a time when the country's dander is up against union excesses, based on an out-and-out "featherbed" demand (that the station hire 3 more unwanted and unneeded disc jockeys) -- the test case has the usual bad psychology pattern Petrillo has always followed. If the law sticks -- and Rep. Lea and others who had a hand in it are sure it will, though other legal pundits say it won't -- whole music problem may clear.

It's Chicago Federal District Attorney J. Albert Woll's next move (he's a son of AFL's Matthew Woll). There seems to be little doubt the case will go all the way to the Supreme Court. So we may have lower court action before summer ends, Supreme Court decision by end of the year. That the lordly Caesar either was undecided up to the last moment which station to tackle, or may be contemplating action against other stations, was indicated by fact that his press release Tuesday left space for filling in other names; the call letters "WAAF" were typed in. That he's plenty sore, feels sure of his ground, is probably done with friendly negotiations with NAB, was manifested when he told reporters, as he pounded fist on table: "I'm ready to face the music, gentlemen. I demand that the Government keep its hands off. It should permit the unions and big business to handle their own affairs. Congress has shown that it is working for special interests."

By special interests, he explained, he means "the NAB, big business and Wall Street." Being czar in his realm, there is little doubt that his AFM's annual convention in St. Petersburg next Monday will go along with him. Meanwhile, prospects of further across-the-table parleys with NAB, on which Justin Miller placed so much store, seem to be fading, though the matter of a "joint advisory committee" is still on NAB's agenda.

NEW YORK TV HEARING NEXT: Only 6 applicants for New York area's remaining 4 TV channels are docketed for the hearing starting in Washington next Monday, with FCC Examiner Alfred Guest presiding. Withdrawing this week were Raytheon Mfg. Co. and Sherron Metallic Corp. Raytheon already holds CP for TV in Waltham, Mass. (Vol. 2, No. 20), still has application pending for Chicago. Sherron, holder of CP for experimental TV, stated it would concentrate on uhf color. At week's end, these were applicants still docketed for N.Y. hearing: Bamberger (WOR); American Broadcasting Co.; New York News; WLIB Inc. (New York Post); Debs Memorial (WEVD); Bremer Broadcasting Corp. (WAAT, Newark).

Los Angeles hearing (Vol. 2, No. 20) concluded there last Tuesday, but Asst. General Counsel Harry Plotkin, presiding officer, is not due back until week of June 10. The 8 applicants seeking 7 channels must next attend engineering conference in Washington, tentatively set for June 20, and FCC must yet conduct its projected inquiry into Paramount-DuMont relationship (Vol. 2, No. 20) before Plotkin submits his recommendations.

BUILDING BAN TIGHTENED: Impact of CPA Administrator John Small's order tightening up on non-housing construction approvals for the next 45 days -- issued to all field offices this week -- means that you're going to have a tougher time getting okays for radio construction during that period. Small actually directed his field men to reduce dollar approvals by two-thirds during the 6-week period. Still, if you can prove that your installation won't affect the veterans' housing program (through the use of non-critical materials or if you are in a non-critical housing area) you have a chance. And you can always appeal to CPA's Washington headquarters if you think the local board hasn't been fair.

THE WEEK IN FM: Eve of Chicago FM hearing (Vol. 2, No. 21), to be conducted there starting Monday, found 2 applicants withdrawing -- WLS and WIND -- leaving 16 seeking 12 available channels. One or more other dropouts can be expected. WLS gave as reason for dropping that it wants to "study Rural station," indicated it may file again. Peoria hearing there July 5 will have one less applicant, with F. F. McNaughton dropping, leaving 7 for 4 (Supplements 14A to 14K).

This week brought 21 more CPs, 1 more EA for FM stations (Supplement No. 36E herewith). Only one new application was filed all week -- that of CBS for Washington, where 8 grants have already been made but 3 channels are still unassigned (Vol. 2, No. 12). CBS already has 2 FM stations, in New York and Chicago; now has applications in for Boston, Los Angeles, Washington, St. Louis and Minneapolis; asks they be granted in that order. Although Minneapolis hasn't been withdrawn, presumably it would be left out in the cold under 6-station rule.

FCC Friday proposed decision to deny CBS purchase of AM station KQW, San Francisco, on grounds CBS already owns 7 AMs (6 of which are 50-kw outlets) and has minority interest in 2 other AMs, that eighth station would tend toward concentration of control; Jett and Wakefield dissented. Also, this week, reason why Book-of-the-Month Club dropped out of New York City FM hearing (21 for 9 channels) was shown in Ira Hirschmann's application to buy Metropolitan Television Inc. (WABF); Club is lending \$200,000 to finance deal, including \$106,000 purchase price.

NOT MANY SETS IN SIGHT: Outlook for radio set production this summer still isn't bright, boding ill particularly for cabinet models containing FM and TV. Shortages of copper, steel and wood are reason why manufacturers forecast production decline this month, continuing at low ebb possibly until September. Copper is in "most critical" category now because of recent strikes both at mines and mills. Some manufacturers are getting dribbles of copper through surplus property sales, refabricating parts to their own purposes. Steel shortage is still being felt as result of recent strike. Wood needed for cabinets is in exceedingly short supply, though a few firms have followed Crosley's lead in sending buyers out into the country to scrounge for it. Sawmills are still concentrating on low grade lumber and cabinet makers prefer to make furniture on which there is larger profit margin. Crosley, incidentally, has bought up a cabinet plant of its own.

SIGHT AND SOUND: Detroit News plans immediate installation of Finch system to operate on its FM station WENA's high-band channel (No. 245), will publish miniature newspaper starting every midnight....Importance Westinghouse attaches to Stratovision (Vol. 2, No. 21) is emphasized by naming of Col. John A. Holman, coordinator for company's 5 FM stations, to additional post of business director for Stratovision, headquartering at Baltimore plant and reporting to V.P. Walter Evans....With staff war-trained in designing and constructing radio-radar stations, headed by Ira Kamen, Conlan Electric Corp., 1042 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. is offering FM and TV applicants a "packaged service" that includes design, installation, construction plus aid in seeing papers through FCC; its brochure is available on request....Public offering of \$14,000,000 in new stock, reducing Chairman Ed Noble's holdings from 75% to 35%, is involved in proposed financing program of ABC submitted to FCC; money is needed for expansion program, including acquisition of King-Trendle stations and Michigan State Network (Vol. 2, No. 18)....Capt. William Crawford Eddy, director of Balaban & Katz's TV station WBKB, wartime head of Navy's radio-radar school in Chicago, has been recalled by Navy for several months temporary duty in connection with Naval Electronics TV program....Merger of General Instrument Corp. into Emerson Radio & Phonograph Co., voted this week, combines assets of \$20,000,000, involves expanded TV and FM set production plans....RCA Institutes is conducting 4-week-course in TV for broadcast station engineers, starting June 3....Legion of Merit went this week to CBS v.p. for TV, Col. Larry Lowman, for his wartime work with OSS....John H. Midlen, ex-Army, and William Thomson, ex-Navy, have joined Washington radio law firm of George O. Sutton....John W. Guider, partner in Hogan & Hartson, big Washington law firm handling many radio cases, has been named as defense counsel for Tojo in Tokyo trials; he recently was released from Navy.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2029 • VOL. 2, NO. 23

June 8, 1946

NEXT ON THE TV AGENDA: Philadelphia TV hearing in Washington June 17, next on FCC's agenda, looks like it will have 5 applicants for that city's 3 available channels (one channel being already occupied by Philco's WPTZ). Withdrawal of Seaboard Radio Broadcasting Co. (WIBG) is anticipated next week, leaving the following in the running: Westinghouse (KYW); Philadelphia Inquirer (WFIL); Pennsylvania Broadcasting Co. (Gimbel's-WIP); William Penn Broadcasting Co. (Philadelphia Bulletin-WPEN); Philadelphia Daily News, reportedly negotiating to purchase WDAS.

TV hearing docket will then be cleared except for San Francisco hearing scheduled there July 15, with 6 applications still on file for 6 channels. That hearing may possibly be dropped since all but two of applicants (Associated Broadcasters Inc. and San Francisco Chronicle) have already laid their cases before Commission in Los Angeles hearing where they are also seeking video outlets. The other 4 are: Hughes Productions, Don Lee, American Broadcasting Co., Dorothy S. Thackrey (New York Post).

Four more TV applicants withdrew this week: Stromberg-Carlson Co., Rochester (WHAM); WEBR Inc., Buffalo (Buffalo Courier Express); WFBM Inc., Indianapolis; Jam Handy Organization, Detroit.

'RESERVE PLAN' FOR FM CHANNELS: A proposal that every fifth FM channel allocated for Metropolitan and Rural stations be held in reserve for one year in certain areas was advanced Friday by FCC. Although at first blush the plan to "cold storage" channels would seem to be radical, by actual count it would hold back only enough for 93 stations inasmuch as it is applicable only to those communities allocated more than 4 channels. Move was proposed in order to provide backlog for late-coming veterans and small business men, although Commission's formal order merely states as its reason that the radio act "may be better effectuated and the public interest may be better served by a reservation of metropolitan FM channels under certain conditions."

No such plan is suggested for the 20 channels in the non-commercial educational band (88.1-92.2 mc), even though there are so few applicants for these that the band is still literally wide open. Nor are all of the commissioners sold on the proposal, which must be formally acted upon after oral arguments ordered for July 12 for which interested parties must file appearances by July 9.

Proposal obviously is result of Commissioner Durr's insistence since he first suggested reserving channels last year, bolstered by Senate Small Business Committee Report (Vol. 2, No. 15). No city as yet has had all its channels assigned. But in several cases, the proposal if it becomes final, may play hob with hearing plans. In Chicago, for example, the 12 applicants who think they are seeking 12 available channels (see story in this issue) may find they have been contesting for only 9. In New York, the 20 remaining applicants may be bidding for only 5 channels (20 are assigned, 11 occupied, 4 may be reserved).

Under the proposed policy, no channels would be held back if a community was assigned a maximum of 4 in the FM Allocation Plan of last Dec. 19 (Supplement

No. 21): One channel would be withheld from communities that got 5-9 channels, two, if they got 10-14; three, if they got 15-19; four, if 20.

Although no order has yet been promulgated, first apparent application of the proposed reserve plan came Friday when the Commission vacated its March 20 grants to 8 Washington applicants (Vol. 2, No. 12) and published proposed findings to grant the 8 as heretofore but offering 3 unsuccessful applicants further opportunity to win the 9th channel. Washington had 11 channels allocated, but apparently only 9 are now open for assignment. It's a good bet, too, that CBS, now an applicant for Washington (Vol. 2, No. 22), will file to get into the running via any hearing that may be held. Commissioners Denny and Jett wanted to assign the 9th channel to Capital Broadcasting Co. (WWDC) but were outvoted.

Analyzing the effects of the proposed order, in the light of the Dec. 19 Allocation Plan, only the New York and Los Angeles metropolitan areas would have as many as 4 channels held in reserve. Three channels would be held back from Chicago and San Francisco; 2, from Boston, Washington, Detroit, Denver, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Albany-Schenectady-Troy, Buffalo, Cleveland-Akron, Portland, Philadelphia, Salt Lake City, Seattle, Milwaukee.

Areas from which one channel would be held back are: Phoenix, Little Rock, Fresno, Sacramento, San Diego, Hartford, New Haven, Jacksonville, Miami, Atlanta, Evansville, Indianapolis, Des Moines, Wichita, Louisville, New Orleans, Shreveport, Baltimore, Springfield, Mass., Grand Rapids, Jackson, Miss., Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield, Mo., Omaha, Rochester, N.Y., Syracuse, Cincinnati, Columbus, O., Dayton-Springfield, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Scanton-Wilkes Barre, Youngstown-Sharon, York, Pa., Providence, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville, Brownsville (Tex.) area, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio, Richmond, Spokane, Tacoma, Charleston, W. Va., Clarksburg, W. Va.

FILM BAN IMPACT ON TV: There's profound conviction in high places, both official and industry, that musicians union-movie studio pact against making films available to TV is a combination in restraint of trade and thus amenable to Sherman anti-trust act. But movie lawyers, though first admitting apprehensions on that score, won't admit yet that part of pact has been formalized; at least, the radio lawyers can't get their hands on a copy. Meanwhile, TV broadcasters, when they try to rent a film, are quoted such outlandish prices that musical film telecasts are out of question. Subject may be aired as part of FCC inquiry into Paramount-DuMont relationship (Vol. 2, No. 20), tentatively timed for June 20 in Washington.

Telecasters now can't depend too much on musical films as source of program supply, just as necessary to them as recordings are to audio broadcasting. So they're playing up news events, which they can film themselves when they can't cover them live. Thus NBC's own film crew on June 1 shot Detroit's automotive jubilee parade, telecasting it next day on WNBT; did same thing with President Truman's recent address to Congress. And ABC got rights to films of BBC's postwar television reopening in London June 7, planned to fly them back for immediate editing and telecasting from DuMont's WABD. ABC also is arranging with its local affiliates to film local events for the TV programs it is producing on WABD and on Schenectady's WRGB against the day when it can operate its own stations.

Meanwhile, TV program schedules emphasize non-musical shows such as dramas, quizzes, spelling bees, cartoons, sports events. There are films, of course, but these are largely industrial (like Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe's show carried on WNBT last Wednesday) and Government's release on inflation which, with an Alaskan travelog and a tennis training film, were featured this week on Don Lee's W6XA0. Latter station, incidentally, also showed several musicals, "Jazz and Jitters" and "Cow Country Kid," and Frederick Faer conducting the National Philharmonic, which presumably it filmed itself or bought or rented from independent producers. And Balaban & Katz's (Paramount) experimental W9XBK, Chicago, recently tried out a slide-film show with a DePaul professor lecturing on biology.

Despite artificial restraints on TV, big sponsors seem to be jockeying for best time segments on existing stations. J. Walter Thompson, for Standard Brands,

last week signed second video period on WNBT (Sundays, 8 p.m.) for a cartoon quiz, in addition to its one-hour Thursday variety show "Hour Glass." Young & Rubicam, for Bristol-Myers Co., starts June 9 on WNBT (Sundays, 8:30 p.m.) with travelog film with live commentary by Mrs. Carvath Wells; and same agency, for Gulf Oil Corp., starts June 20 (Thursdays, 8:15 p.m.) with animated newscasts and newsreels on CBS's WCBW. Latter sponsorship would seem to set at rest rumors CBS may close down its low-band TV station for summer.

And DuMont, promising TV sets this fall, as does GE (Vol. 2, No. 20), reports it will deliver to dealers more than \$7,000,000 worth of receivers before end of year (at least 20,000 sets), stated it could sell 5 times that many except for production obstacles. DuMont added that 90% of the 5,000 owners of prewar TV sets in New York area said they planned to turn them in for new sets.

THE TERRIBLE TEMPERED JIMMY: You've doubtless read plenty in the public prints about Jimmy Petrillo's outbursts, threats and dire warnings at his AFM convention in St. Petersburg this week, so it's not necessary to go into details. Politically, his strategy now seems to be to make common cause with Labor (with a capital L) in its grievances against the Truman administration. Legally, he intends to stand arrest to test constitutionality of the Lea Bill in his "featherbed" case against Chicago's WAAF (Vol. 2, No. 22). Editorially, he doesn't seem to have a friend, even though many newspapers question both the efficacy and constitutionality of the Lea Bill as an antidote to either his rampages or those of other labor leaders.

Petrillo's unanimous reelection as AFM's president was a foregone conclusion. One poll revealed 6 delegates opposed to his policies, but they hardly raised a voice and a resolution endorsed his "each and every action." But when he started calling names, referring to Congressman Dondero as "that bum...he's a gimme-gimme politician," it didn't sound as though he felt he was on secure grounds in threatening a network and recording strike in case the U.S. Supreme Court sustains the Lea Bill. That sort of threat was in line with his usual indiscreet public relations. (Hiring a public relations man actually was on the convention agenda and was referred to the AFM board.)

As for that bete noir of the musicians union, Rep. Clarence Lea, he was renominated last Tuesday by both his Democratic and the Republican parties of his California district! So political threats on that score don't seem any more disturbing than his threat against Congress if it should pass the Lea Bill, or against the Supreme Court if it should uphold the legislation.

Notwithstanding Jimmy's tantrums, NAB insists it plans to proceed in its negotiations with AFM (Jimmy willing, of course). Still placatory, still evidently believing that a soft answer turneth away wrath, NAB took the position in a statement issued Friday "that neither legislation nor judicial determination can obviate or diminish the necessity for the industry and labor to sit down together and reach fair agreements by proper discussion, adjustment and negotiation. Resort to any other procedure is wasteful, inconclusive and can only breed bitterness and resentment." NAB's position is that no matter what happens, the broadcasting industry must continue to deal with Petrillo and his musicians.

Meanwhile, in Chicago, U.S. District Attorney J. Albert Woll was reported ready to institute action against Petrillo and the AFM in the WAAF case. He was reported as saying he was awaiting "particulars" from the FBI, which was asked to investigate the case, and that "a draft of the charges has been prepared."

TV COST CALCULATIONS: Los Angeles and New York TV hearings of last few weeks served to disclose that the real enthusiasts for TV, their enthusiasm apparently undimmed by the campaign against low-band monochrome, are ready to go all the way financially. Fully cognizant of the large costs involved, some applicants, particularly in New York, actually figure on substantial revenues from the start to reduce intitial losses. General attitude, as gauged at hearings, which ended for N.Y. applicants

Thursday, for Los Angeles applicants the week before, seemed to be, "We want to get into television now and are prepared to give it whatever financial injection is necessary to make it pay -- and we're convinced it will pay."

ABC's Mark Woods said his network, seeking stations in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, as well as New York, plans to spend \$10,000,000 on TV-FM facilities the next few years; will spend \$1,500,000 for first year's TV operations in Los Angeles, \$1,071,000 in New York. He guessed annual income might run \$600,000 in L.A., \$900,000 in N.Y. Amplifying ABC's quest for \$14,000,000 of open market financing (Vol. 2, No. 21), Woods told hearing that Chairman Ed Noble last January turned down a \$25,000,000 offer for the network.

Bamberger (WOR) figures on N.Y. plant costs of \$643,000; first year operations, \$1,175,604; net sales first year, \$335,930. It forecasts 200,000 TV sets in N.Y. by July, 1948. New York Daily News figured \$574,971 installation cost, \$562,198 cost of first year operations. WLIB Inc. (New York Post) figures \$299,415 installation, \$416,730 first year. Bremer's WAAT, Newark (owned by Serutan interests), stressing northern New Jersey service, calculated \$211,679 installation, \$200,300 first year, \$150,000 income first year. Debs Memorial's WEVD, testifying it would devote two-thirds of time to foreign-language programs, one-third to English (reversing its present audio schedule), figures on \$284,015 for initial outlay, and up to \$994,740 investment; its financing would include \$500,000 from the Jewish Daily Forward.

Los Angeles cost calculations went even higher. Earle Anthony (KFI) said he is ready to put up \$1,800,000 for TV. Los Angeles Times has budgeted \$4,340,000 for TV and FM, including \$3,000,000 for construction (Vol. 2, No. 13). Hughes Productions would spend \$1,850,000 on installation, \$109,000 on operations for starting month of January, 1948. Dorothy Thackrey (New York Post) estimated, for her proposed L.A. and San Francisco TV, \$500,000 installation cost each, \$300,000 operations cost for each first year. Several L.A. applicants figured on links with San Francisco, Hughes stating he will use radio relay if coaxial is not available.

MORE FM HEARINGS AND GRANTS: Chicago FM hearing drones into its second week there next Monday, its first week's routine enlivened by excitement occasioned by Washington attorney Frank Fletcher's (he represents Chicago Drivers Journal-WAAF) narrow escape in LaSalle Hotel fire by clambering down 15 flights of fire escape ladder. After hearing started Monday, 4 more applicants withdrew -- Raytheon, Dual Engineering, Telair, Nathan Schwartz. This left only 12 applicants for the 12 available channels (Vol. 2, Nos. 21 and 22). Under the allocations (Supplement No. 21) Chicago got 17 channels but already has 5 occupied by prewar licensees (Supplement No. 32). Next FM hearing is next Monday in Providence, where 6 applicants have filed for 6 channels (see Special Report, March 16). Examiner Guest will probe particularly into possible overlap of Yankee's proposed Boston, Providence outlets. The Commission issued 20 CPs for FM this week (Supplement No. 36F herewith), bringing total CPs to date to 93.

SIGHT AND SOUND: Appointment of Ben Cottone as FCC general counsel this week was accompanied by other staff reassignments, including move of Ralph J. Renton to NARBA engineering committee; Edward W. Allen Jr. to head technical information division, with Raymond Asserson his assistant; LeRoy Schaaff to head broadcast accounting....Even though defendants are still in dispute among themselves, settlement of Dept. of Justice TV anti-trust suit (Vol. 2, No. 17) is still in prospect; General Precision Equipment Co. (20th Century-Fox), Paramount and Television Productions have been granted extension until July 8 to answer cross-complaints of American Scophony and Arthur Levey, according to stipulation and order filed by both sides in N.Y. Federal District Court....Dropping out of forthcoming New York hearing (July 1) was New York Sun, leaving 20 now applying for 9 remaining channels....With the acquisition of 22,000 acres of standing timber in North and South Carolina, Philco believes it has licked the lumber shortage for radio and phonograph cabinets....Successful voice communication on shf amateur band was reported this week by GE, which utilized 21,900 mc for two-way phone over 800 ft of wave-guides.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1513 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 24

June 15, 1946

BOUT BOOMS TV, BUT FEW SETS: There isn't the slightest doubt, judging from eager inquiries to dealers and stations in the New York, Philadelphia and Washington areas, that TV would enjoy a boom right now -- if sets were available. But they just aren't, and only station guests, prewar set owners and their guests will be able to look in on telecasts of the Louis-Conn fight in those cities next Wednesday night. Here in Washington, VIPs have been invited to special NBC showing off coaxial in the Statler, 20-odd receivers to accommodate some 600-700 spectators. Network executives have had to exercise almost god-like tact in turning down requests for tickets. About 90% of the White House, Congressional and Supreme Court entourages have accepted invitations. DuMont will telecast bout over its experimental W3XWT to the dozen or so sets in Washington, will accommodate about 50 guests in its studios, will serve some 200 more in city's Touchdown Club.

QUESTION FM 'RESERVE' PLAN: It's too soon to say just how the industry feels about the FCC's proposed plan to put some FM channels "on ice" for a year (Vol. 2, No. 23). Some attorneys are questioning legality of the move, claim Commission has no authority to withhold a facility if a qualified applicant applies for it. Walter Damm, chairman of the FMBI executive committee, is considering meeting of his group (now part of NAB) to consider matter. But most broadcasters are not commenting until they study proposal at greater length pending July 12 hearing.

As authority for the plan, FCC legalites point to one of the main purposes of the proposal -- to enable small cities near large metropolitan cities to have their own stations rather than rely on signals from big city neighbors. This, FCC staffers say, brings plan within purview of Sec. 307(b) of the Communications Act, which refers to "equitable distribution of broadcast facilities." Examples of this possibility for small towns are the Pittsburgh area, where McKeesport, for example, could use one of the steel town's channels; or the Boston area, which has a host of small and large but important periphery communities.

Back of the FCC's thinking is that the reservation plan offers veterans and small businessmen later chance to get into FM, gives them time to make arrangements and gather capital. Naturally, this point of view has enthusiastic support of Senate Small Business Committee and veterans' organizations. Senator Murray, chairman of the Senate Small Business Committee, wrote to Acting FCC Chairman Denny that it was "a step in the right direction." He added, "I hope that the Commission will adopt other and further rulings designed to encourage small business in the field of radio broadcasting and to prevent the development of monopolistic tendencies." Veterans' groups have not made up their minds yet as to appearances, but indications are that several will testify in favor of the proposal.

A major legal point is whether plan should apply to channels on which hearings have already been held. Point is made that applicants went into such contests in good faith for certain number of channels and might now find they had contested for smaller number than was allocated at time. FCC attorneys counter this by referring to one of issues made part of all FM hearings, "to determine on a comparative basis which, if any, of the applications...should be granted."

NEW YORK FM HEARING JULY 8: New York metropolitan area's FM hearing was postponed from July 1 to July 8 by FCC Commissioner Jett's order Friday after joint counsel request. Reason was that July 4 holiday would intervene, and counsel want hearing to continue uninterrupted during several weeks period seen needed to cover big docket. Instead of usual staff examiner, a commissioner may preside.

One more applicant withdrew from New York this week -- Greater New York Broadcasting Co. (WNEW). As previously reported, earlier dropouts from New York contest were Supreme Broadcasting System, New York Sun, Book-of-the-Month Club, Elias I. Godofsky (who changed to Community and secured CP for Huntington, Long Island). This leaves 19 contestants to date, as listed in our Special Report of March 16. Of New York area's 20 allocated channels (Supplement No. 21), 11 are already occupied (Supplement No. 32), leaving 9 channels available unless Commission goes through with its "reserve plan" and holds back 4 (Vol. 2, No. 23).

Chicago and Providence FM hearings ended this week, and recommendations of examiners should be forthcoming soon. Meanwhile, Commission this week issued 13 more CPs for FM in noncompetitive areas (Supplement No. 38 herewith), bringing total to date to 106. Also granted during week were a dozen more new AMS. Ordered to hearing, but dates not yet designated, were all Philadelphia and remaining Toledo FM applicants.

Meanwhile, new applications for FM stations are now coming in dribbles, only a handful having been filed since we published Supplement No. 14K. Among new applications are one for a Community in Pasadena, Cal., in which Washington Attorney Andrew Haley is 60% partner with several others, including Tom Olson, owner of KGY, Olympia, Wash.; one by Variety Broadcasting Co., for Dallas, headed by Lee Seegal, producer of Vox Pop, Dr. I.Q. and other programs, who already holds a conditional for Houston; one by the Nunns for Mobile, where they recently acquired WMOB; one for a new Community station in Brooklyn, N.Y., filed by Brooklyn Broadcasting Service Inc., 1110 E. 23rd St., headed by Edgar Sanford, a radio director.

Another interesting development in FM is possibility that Jimmy Petrillo's AFM may file for stations of its own, following the example of United Automobile Workers, International Ladies Garment Workers Union and Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, multiple applicants (Supplement No. 26). AFM's St. Petersburg convention last week voted resolution to probe FM field with view to encouraging locals to operate own stations, stating "FM will foster better music, and the answer to better music lies in the musicians themselves."

MORE DROP, TV HEARINGS OFF: Unexpected withdrawals of Westinghouse and Gimbels from Philadelphia TV hearing docket, plus predicted dropout of WIBG, leaves only 3 applicants for that city's remaining 3 channels -- Inquirer (WFIL); Bulletin (WPEN); Daily News, new to radio. Accordingly, the FCC Thursday cancelled hearing scheduled in Washington next Monday. Same thing is now almost sure to be done with San Francisco hearing scheduled there July 15, with 6 remaining applicants for 6 available channels (Vol. 2, No. 25).

Commission by reason of past hearings has full dossiers on Inquirer and Bulletin, as it has on 4 of the 6 San Francisco applicants, so that all they need do now is file additional records pertaining to their TV plans. It seems a foregone conclusion that most if not all of the applicants will get their CPs in a matter of a few weeks. If San Francisco hearing is also called off, that will complete the Commission's docket of hearings on TV cases unless it schedules more.

Report that Inquirer or Bulletin might effect tieup with Philco's WPTZ, Quaker City's sole existing TV station, is denied by both. As for Westinghouse, which previously had dropped its Pittsburgh application, it still has one on file for Boston where its present plans are to conduct its only low-band TV project.

Gimbels' withdrawal was a complete surprise, for up to this week its officials had stated their firm intention of going ahead. WIBG counsel asked for postponement of hearing; when denied, they withdrew to "wait for color."

There were no other TV dropouts this week, though it was indicated that Raytheon, recently granted a CP for its home city of Waltham, Mass., will probably withdraw its Chicago application shortly. Raytheon has already dropped New York application. And Lancaster (Pa.) Television Corp. is seen practically certain to drop its application for a station there.

PETRILLO CASE IN COURT: The fat's in the fire, so far as James Caesar Petrillo's test of the constitutionality of the Lea Bill is concerned. Attorney General Clark in Washington, and Federal District Attorney J. Albert Woll in Chicago, announced simultaneously Thursday that a criminal information had been filed in Chicago against the AFM president for violating the act when he called a strike on Chicago's WAAF to compel it to employ 3 unneeded additional union members (Vol. 2, Nos. 22 and 23). The act calls such featherbedding a misdemeanor, subject to \$1,000 fine and a year in jail. Jimmy told his recent St. Petersburg convention he'll go all the way in the courts, threatened also to call a network strike if law is upheld.

Meanwhile, there were reported rumblings of discontent with Petrillo regime in AFM's big New York Local 802, where 19 members are questioning recent election of local's officers in State Supreme Court. Jimmy is one of defendants. But his iron-clad hold on national membership is such that this case is hardly expected to affect the larger issues of AFM's relations with radio.

Legalistic language of case against Jimmy, boiled down, says WAAF already employed enough personnel to perform actual services needed, yet Mr. Petrillo "wilfully and by the use of force, intimidation, duress and by other means did attempt to coerce, compel and constrain said licensee to employ additional persons as librarians....said 3 additional persons not being needed by said licensee to perform actual services." Petrillo appeared in Judge Walter LaBuy's court Friday morning, flanked by Counsel Joe Padway; judge gave Padway until July 15 to file motions, Aug. 5 briefs, gave government until Sept. 9 to file reply briefs.

FM RULES CHANGES SEEN FINAL: Since no objections have been received by the FCC to its proposed FM Rules changes (Supplement No. 37) up to date (deadline for comments is June 15), we are reissuing our cumulative log of FM grants as Supplement No. 38 herewith, consolidating and revising our previous listings as published in Supplements No. 36 and 36A-F which can now be discarded.

Although the FCC order formalizing the change in station classifications and power-antenna height equations is not expected until next week, our new cumulative log indicates the new station nomenclatures -- old Community now Class A, all others now Class B. Where power was designated in excess of the 20 kw-500 ft ratio established for Class B stations, no change will be necessary since such stations will be considered exceptions to the formula. Grants made with classifications undetermined automatically become Class B. FM grantees and applicants need make no move until or unless the Commission says otherwise. We are told there will be few such requests.

TBA REQUESTS SHORTER HOURS: Indications are that the FCC will look with favor on the TBA request to defer, until Dec. 31, 1946, the 28-hour-a-week rule for TV stations, scheduled to go into effect June 30. TBA's petition cited obstacles in path of full-fledged TV operations -- labor problems, construction ban, transmitter and receiver production delays, Petrillo's film edict, the slow pace of CPs. TBA also asked that the rule be modified so that new TV operators could reach minimum through a graduated scheme that would permit them to start with 4 hours weekly and reach the 28-hour level in one year.

HERE COME THE SETS: Slowly but steadily, FM sets are reaching the dealers. Sparked by Zenith and Philco, sets have gone into such major FM markets as Kansas City, where KOZY and KMBC-FM are on the air; Washington, which has Everett Dillard's W3XL and the Washington Post's W3XO; Columbus, where WELD is operating; Schenectady, where Leonard Asch's WBCA and GE's WGFM are putting out signals. Also showing up with FM are Stromberg-Carlson, Stewart-Warner, Scott, Magnavox.

Coincidentally, promotion by FM licensees and recent grantees has taken a spurt. In Schenectady, FM broadcasters began plugging FM in newspaper ads; Zenith in full-page displays. In Washington, demonstrations for members of the FCC have taken place as well as meetings for dealers. Early public response is reported more than gratifying, auguring well for set distribution once they are available.

Meanwhile, CPA this week took over control of all sawmill output and increased mandatory set-asides for the housing program to 50% of all production. This hits particularly at radio manufacturers who have been working out means of assuring lumber supply for cabinets (Vol. 2, Nos. 22 and 23). And controls on steel were reimposed for the third quarter for the same purpose, housing, making it more difficult for radio manufacturers to count on supply for radio chassis.

IN DEFENSE OF MONOCHROME: Monochrome applicant Philadelphia Inquirer (WFIL) carries a long article by Merrill Panitt this Sunday (June 16), titled "Scientific Double Talk Hampers Progress of Visual Broadcasting" and castigating many broadcasters for their complacency and eagerness to seize upon CBS color campaign as excuse for not breaking up TV "chicken-egg" routine. Writer likens situation to that in FM, says some broadcasters have applied without enthusiasm but "just to be on the inside in the event television ever amounted to anything." Another defense of low-band TV appears in June "Popular Science," in which Author William P. Vogel Jr. appraises TV today as "simply a half-way house for the art...that promises a good deal of occupancy." Regardless of speeches and fighting (about color vs. monochrome) he concludes commercial TV is here now, will not be "obsolete any more than standard broadcasting was made obsolete by FM."

SIGHT AND SOUND: Reason for FCC Commissioner Durr's recent votes in favor of holding hearings where AM stations request changes in facilities was stated by him this week; he believes investigation would show that FM would better serve to improve a broadcaster's service rather than improvement of existing AM and that money spent on improving AM service means that much less for FM....Philip Bergson, FCC litigation chief, has resigned, becomes partner in Washington law firm of Keane, Wilner & Bergson, Barr Bldg.....New name of ex-FCC Chairman James Lawrence Fly's New York law firm is Fly, Fitts & Shuebruk, RCA Bldg., other partners being William Fitts and Peter Shuebruk....Harold Mott has resigned from FCC law staff to open offices at 1411 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, soon will be joined as partner by Vincent Welch, who is also resigning....DuMont this week finally received formal notification from FCC that it has been granted CP for 5 kw Washington commercial TV station, which will replace its present experimental W3XWT; call letters will be WTTG, honoring its engineering director, Dr. Thomas T. Goldsmith....NBC has developed microwave TV transmitter for field pickup relays that operates on 9300 mc with .05-watt power; because antenna puts out an shf signal only 3 degrees wide, the transmitter's effective radiated power amounts to 450 watts, gain of 9,000....Paramount isn't going to reveal its movie-screen TV projection system in New York's Paramount Theater on occasion of Louis-Conn fight, as first planned, but may unveil it later this year....CBS has yet to extend its uhf TV operations to other cities, but meanwhile it has site for station atop Mt. Wilson, near Los Angeles, which has been graded in preparation for construction....Farnsworth president E. A. Nicholas, announcing near completion of company's new Fort Wayne TV-FM-AM Center, says Farnsworth will file for commercial TV soon and will show "definite feasibility of practical and economical television broadcasting in cities of middle metropolitan size."....Bendix announced plan to set up experimental color TV station at Baltimore plant, coincident with signing (as did Federal and Westinghouse previously) 5-year patent license with CBS to manufacture color receivers and transmitters.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE NICHESAN 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 25

June 22, 1946

FM RULES, STANDARDS CHANGED: No objections having been raised from any source, it's now Class A (for former Community) and Class B (for former Metropolitan and Rural) stations in the FM nomenclature -- all as explained fully in Vol. 2, No. 22. In formalizing the Rules and Engineering Standards amendments in a June 20 order, FCC made a few additional slight changes from the proposed amendments published by us as Supplement No. 37. Accordingly, for your convenience, we are sending you the new amendments herewith in full text -- Rules amendments as Supplement No. 39, Standards amendments as Supplement No. 40. Discard Supplement No. 37 and file these new Supplements with your texts of Rules and Standards, as directed.

FIGHT TELECAST BIG SUCCESS: First big league demonstration of today's television, RCA-NBC's special showings of the Louis-Conn fight Wednesday night, was a tremendous success, should give TV the same popular impetus that Graham McNamee's 1921 broadcast of the Dempsey-Carpentier fight gave AM. When some 800 persons in Washington, mostly VIPs (Very Important Persons Indeed), manifest such intense pre-occupation with the event itself, take the excellence of the images for granted, evince an eagerness to procure sets of their own, you can be sure that TV has arrived. Now all we need are more telecasters (and the event may bring recalctrants back into the fold) and more receiving sets which, with labor problems about solved and the end of materials shortages in sight, should be coming to market reasonably soon in cities having stations.

It may have been a poor fight, but it was a great telecast -- its success epitomized by a Washington Post writer's ecstatic reaction, "Wonderful stuff, this television....good for a thousand year run." And by such oft-heard comments from viewers as: "Why pay \$100 for a ringside seat, when we can see this?" "Where can I get a receiver of my own?" "What's all this talk about holding television back?"

The event itself, of course, was a natural for TV. Five cameras, 2 of them Image Orthicons using the new supersensitive tube that is virtually capable of seeing in the dark, all focused on the ring and the crowd for remarkably clear closeups and panoramas. Never was Announcer Bob Stanton obtrusive, leaving plenty of silence for the viewers' own voluble comments -- always part of the fun of going to a prizefight. Even the Gillette commercials were well done, though the use of still shots, as contrasted with Waltham Watch's animated time signal, was not as effective as might be. More than 2 hours of main event and preliminaries held interest throughout.

Washington's audience in the Statler, which saw the telecast off the coaxial (with very little loss of definition and about as well as they would have seen it off the air in New York) was divided into groups of up to 50 in small rooms in which 21 receivers had been installed. Most had the 11x8 inch direct viewing tubes, some were 22x11 inch projection models. There was little to choose between them; for intimate gatherings in the home, the smaller set will be entirely acceptable, should sell well if kept within the \$200 range.

Pleased as punch was Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff, whose faith in TV has been

undiminished through the years that his company has spent \$15,000,000 on its development. He was at the Statler show, obviously enjoying the congratulations heaped upon him by cabinet members, lawmakers, jurists and scores of other big brass. Understandably, he couldn't resist a crack at the anti-monochrome campaign: "Sure, we'll have color eventually, but not as now on an experimental basis. I gave color 5 years a year ago. I still say 4 more at least. Those who promise it within 6 months, as they did a year ago, will eventually be right. But shall we stop this kind of service to the American people in the meantime?"

There were plenty of headaches for the stagers up to the last minute -- not technical but labor union, but the fight went on. New Yorkers saw it via NBC's WNBC; Philadelphians from Philco's WPTZ, linked via coaxial; in Schenectady, GE's WRGB got it via relay. DuMont's experimental W3XWT, by gracious arrangement with NBC, telecast it to the few sets in Washington, played host to 125 enthusiastic viewers in its studios, while 350 more watched at Capital's Touchdown Club, 110 in Times-Herald's offices, 290 at Navy's Bureau of Ships.

Indicating the popular appeal was the showing by George's, big Washington dealer, who invited the public in big newspaper ads to come to its main store and see the fight on the two \$130 Viewtone sets it was able to get. Store packed 500 in, said it could sell hundreds of sets immediately if they were available.

Very little publicity was given event, but at Princeton Laboratories Wednesday night RCA projected Louis-Conn fight on its 22x16 ft outdoor theater screen for employes and townfolk as picked up on rhombic antenna direct from WNBC, New York, using special 60,000-volt Kinescope receiving tube. Images were reported bright with good definition.

* * * *

Flushed with success of Louis-Conn telecast, RCA indicated its new line of TV receivers will be ready very soon, its officials confident they will sell all they can produce. No price list or delivery schedules were disclosed, but they should be announced any day now. Meanwhile, DuMont broke prices of its new deluxe telesets in big Wanamaker ads Friday, illustrating Westminster model (18-inch screen) with FM-AM-shortwave-phonograph at \$2,400; Revere model (13-inch screen), with same, at \$1,500; Hollywood model at \$600. Emerson Thursday held New York preview of its TV table model (7-inch screen) at \$150, its "chairside" console (10-inch screen) at \$250, prices still approximate; said production starts next week, estimated 8,000-10,000 sets before end of year.

TELEVISIONARIES? Zenith's ebullient Gene McDonald still can't see advertisers footing the bill for adequate TV, insists the public will gladly pay for TV programs, calls those who think in terms of sponsorship "televisionaries." That's his thesis in an article in June 29 Collier's, in which he suggests TV be wired to home or theatre, or a picture scrambler device be employed, so public can pay for programs. Zenith holds recently granted CP for low-band TV station but makes no low-band receivers, McDonald insisting they'd be obsolete in year or two. In article, he discloses his company is about to go on air with experimental color, is making color receivers for its own use.

END OF FM HEARINGS IN SIGHT: Cleanup of FCC's hearing docket on FM cases is in sight with prospects now that none will be scheduled during August; more may be set later. This week Chicago Tribune's subsidiary, Midwest FM Network, dropped its FM applications for Fort Wayne, Peoria and Grand Rapids, keeping only Milwaukee. Left on FM hearing docket are Fort Wayne hearing there, postponed to June 29; Peoria hearing there July 5; New York hearing there July 8. As against 10 more CPs for new AM stations granted this week (including 3 in Gadsden, Ala., pop. 37,014, and already having one station!), the Commission this week issued only 4 more CPs for FM, 7 Conditionals (Supplement No. 38A herewith).

FT. WORTH GETS TV, MORE TO UHF: Enthusiastic Harold Hough, director of Amon Carter (Fort Worth Star-Telegram) radio interests, informed Friday that his company was granted CP for new TV station, wired: "We expect to build this station as quickly as we can. We will start operating it even if there isn't a single television set in the State of Texas. We realize the transmitter must come before the receiver." Fort Worth low-band grant (Channel No. 5, 34.4 kw visual and aural power) was first in some weeks, though others pend. Friday, also, FCC granted Milwaukee Journal, which had dropped its prewar CP for low-band, an experimental CP for uhf TV; also granted Cowles' WOL, Washington, which already holds developmental CP for uhf color and plans CBS system, another CP for uhf facsimile.

Second major broadcaster to specify plan to use CBS color equipment in applying for experimental uhf TV was Providence's Cherry & Webb (WPRO) which this week asked FCC for assignment in 480-920 mc band, preferably 700 mc, with 1 kw power; said it will order Westinghouse transmitter, with receivers from GE or others, using Westinghouse and CBS engineers as consultants and McNary & Wrathall as supervisors. It proposes to spend \$185,000 on plant. Aside from Cowles and CBS itself, applicant for uhf stations in Boston, St. Louis, Chicago, Pasadena, these are the only broadcasters as yet actually carrying out avowed purpose of going to uhf color, though many low-band dropouts have given that as their reason.

Four more low-band TV applicants withdrawing are WGAL Inc. and the Lancaster Television Corp., both of Lancaster, Pa.; Comerford Publix Theatres, Scranton, Pa. (part-owned by Paramount); and Michael Alfend, et al. (Alfco Co.), St. Louis (Supplement No. 18). This leaves only Pulitzer Publishing Co. (Post-Dispatch) for St. Louis, all other applicants there having withdrawn.

FM PROPONENTS' DANDER UP: Jim Shouse, who directs the powerful WLW for Crosley, went through some stiff quizzing from FCC members last Wednesday about his attitude toward FM. He had delivered a distinctly bearish speech about FM the week earlier before Colorado convention of National Editorial Assn.; had described FM as just another way of doing same thing as AM; had suggested AMs might be available to small town publishers, cautioning that FM sets were still few and not many in early prospect. Commissioners Denny, Jett, Durr, sitting en banc in hearing on Crosley's proposed \$1,700,000 purchase of Hearst's WINS, New York, seized upon the occasion to question Shouse closely, indicated their strong disagreement. Shouse said they were his personal views, admitted to Jett he had never heard FM under storm static conditions. Several commissioners wanted to know why Crosley wants an FM in Cincinnati (where it has a conditional grant) and in Columbus; why does it contemplate seeking FM in New York, too? Shouse stuck by his guns, forecast adverse impact on FM when TV gets going, disagreed with view of FM enthusiasts (oft-expressed by commissioners themselves) that FM will eventually spell doom of present-band local and regional AMs. Few will question good sense of his admonition to editors to "look before leaping" into any business, but it is apparent Shouse has provoked a debate between the big and little fellow in radio, the ins and outs, that will continue to flare.

PARAMOUNT TV INQUIRY: Here's how Paramount will present its case to the FCC Monday in answer to the Commission's request for full information on its extensive holdings in TV stations and applicants: Outright subsidiaries -- Television Productions Inc. (licensee of experimental W6XYZ, Los Angeles, and applicant for commercial license there); Balaban & Katz (licensee of TV station WBKB, Chicago); New England Theatres Inc. (Boston applicant); United Detroit Theatres Corp. (Detroit applicant). Minority interests -- DuMont (owns all 560,000 Class B shares and beneficially 4.1% of the Class A stock; elects 3 out of 8 directors plus secretary, treasurer, asst. treasurer); Interstate Circuit Inc. (Dallas applicant); Comerford Publix Theatres Corp. (Scranton applicant, which withdrew this weekend). Paramount will also show that it owns 50% of Paramount-Richards Publix Co., New Orleans, which is 50% owner of WSMB Inc.; other half owner of WSMB is Maison Blanche Co., New Orleans dept. store, applicant for TV.

CHARGES FM SETS HELD BACK: Idaho Senator Taylor has asked Attorney General Clark to investigate radio manufacturing industry under antitrust act to find out whether it has banded together to withhold FM sets from public -- another instance of sentiment building up for FM that will be hard to ignore. Though manufacturers will doubtless plead materials shortages (with good case), pressures on Capitol Hill are being exerted by consumer, labor, liberal groups. Taylor's letter says FM superiority is "universally conceded," calls AM sets "outdated models," asks Justice Dept. to probe whether (1) manufacturers have "conspired" to withhold FM during 1946, (2) trade associations have been "active in influencing the failure to incorporate FM in 1946 receivers," (3) manufacturer-ownership of AM stations is influencing delay, (4) manufacturers want to sell 20 million outdated AM sets, then resell same consumers modern receivers in year or two.

The Senator, who sparked recent Small Business Committee report on FM (Vol. 2, No. 15), uses April FCC set survey (Vol. 2, No. 14), now pretty well discredited because some big producers failed to report anticipated production, to show less than 10% of 1946 sets will incorporate FM. RMA President Cosgrove estimated at industry convention last week that about 13 million sets would be produced this year, whereas FCC report estimated 22 million. The 13 million will be largely AM table models, which is bothering FM proponents, though set makers are known to be having great difficulty getting lumber for console models.

First charge that manufacturers were deliberately withholding FM was made at recent Chicago FM hearing when UAW-CIO, one of applicants, wanted to subpoena RCA's Sarnoff to explain why there weren't FM sets. Union withdrew request when assured RCA would be represented at Chicago FM engineering conference in Washington June 27, and would explain. Automotive union advocated consumer campaign to educate members to wait for AM-FM combinations, said it plans to probe possibility of AM adjuncts to FM stations it seeks. It already holds conditional grant for Detroit, seeks outlets also in Los Angeles, Chicago, Flint, Cleveland, Newark.

CABINET BOTTLENECK: OPA's 3% boost for radio cabinet makers, effective last Thursday, brings prices up 21% over October 1941 levels. Whether this will make much dent in future volume of cabinet production, necessary for FM-AM consoles and TV sets, remains to be seen. Industry leaders are not too sanguine, especially in view of still critical shortages of lumber (Vol. 2, Nos. 22, 23, 24).

FM and TV played relatively small part in RMA convention in Chicago last week, concerned mainly with shortages and OPA pricing policies. Aside from Ben Abrams' (Emerson) recommendation that manufacturers promote FM and TV as means of diversifying their line of home receivers, only other accomplishment of interest was setting up of an RMA Service Committee, headed by Stromberg-Carlson's F. L. Granger, to investigate and formulate policy on TV installation and maintenance.

SIGHT AND SOUND: It was fate's irony that Dr. John L. Baird, Britain's father of TV, should have died last week, at 58, just a few days after his company had demonstrated telecasts of London's big victory parade, using his new 23x21 inch direct viewing tube; telecast marked resumption of London's TV, shut down since war's outbreak, which started in 1926 with BBC using Baird system....Reporters were mighty impressed with FM demonstration during press jaunt to FCC monitoring station at Laurel, Md.; static made 20-mile distant AM station WITH, Baltimore, unintelligible but signal from its developmental FM, W3XMB, was faultless even though AM field intensity is 520 uv/m there and FM's is only 98 uv/m....Specializing in radio communications and industrial electronics, newly formed Engineering Research Associates Inc., St. Paul, Minn., has opened broadcast consulting division in Washington, with offices at 827 14th St. NW; John E. Parker, of Auchinloss, Parker & Redpath, investment bankers, is president of company, comprised of some 50 associates, most of whom were in Navy communications research....Potential market for 9,603,000 TV sets in urban areas where there is telecasting is forecast for next 5-6 years by Sylvania's research chief, Frank Mansfield.

MARTIN CODEL'S

AUTHORITATIVE NEWS SERVICE
OF THE
VISUAL BROADCASTING AND
FREQUENCY MODULATION
ARTS AND INDUSTRY

Television Digest

and FM Reports

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY RADIO NEWS BUREAU, 1519 CONNECTICUT AVE. N.W., WASHINGTON 6, D.C. TELEPHONE MICHIGAN 2329 • VOL. 2, NO. 26

June 29, 1946

FM ON THE AIR: FCC recapitulation of FM stations now on air or ready to go on immediately, issued this week, shows 56 commercial and 3 developmental stations giving program service now in 36 cities: number includes 10 post-war newcomers. Thirty are on new band only, 4 on old only, 22 on both. The new stations, temporarily on minimum power, are: KRCC (Contra Costa Broadcasting Co.), Richmond, Cal.; WRCM (Supreme Broadcasting System Inc.) and WTSP (Times Picayune), New Orleans; KSTP-FM (KSTP Inc.), St. Paul; WIL-FM (Missouri Broadcasting Corp.), St. Louis; KOAD (World Publishing Co.), Omaha; WCOY (Capitol Broadcasting Co.), Raleigh; KGW-FM (Oregonian Publishing Co.), Portland; WHP-FM (WHP Inc.), Harrisburg, Pa.; KAMT (Texas A & M), College Station. See Supplement No. 32 for full data on pre-war licensee and CP holders.

PARAMOUNT'S 'DIM VIEW' OF SCOPHONY: Paramount is so disappointed with Scophony patents for large-screen TV, it is ready to "clear out" of the British company at once. So said Paul Raibourn, the motion picture company's TV executive, at the FCC hearing in Washington this week. In fact, Raibourn was reported as saying after the hearing that he would "soon" submit a severance plan to Justice.

Raibourn intimated at the hearing, which was a continuance of the Los Angeles TV meeting, that the Scophony patents were "worthless." He declared that the picture company was ready to abandon its interest in the Levey organization.

The hearing, held to determine Paramount's holdings in other TV applicants, brought out pretty much what we reported it would last week (Vol. 2, No. 25). Only other point of interest was the denial by both Raibourn and Allen B. DuMont that there was any agreement between the two companies whereby DuMont was to use Paramount films for its TV stations, or Paramount, DuMont equipment for its outlets.

Neither Howard Hughes nor Thomas Lee (Don Lee) appeared. Hughes pleaded that Army contracts necessitated his presence at his plant; Lee reported illness. FCC announced that both would be interrogated in Los Angeles July 24 by FCC Commissioner Wakefield.

RCA'S PLANS FOR FM SETS: There's no doubt that if enough fuss is raised about the slim number of FM sets being produced these days, the ensuing publicity will bring to the attention of the public the fact that a radio without FM is, as one FM proponent advertises, a "Model T radio." Therefore, the charges that have been hurled these last few weeks by labor-liberal-consumer groups that set makers are trying to retard FM by not producing FM sets (Vol. 2, No. 25) and which culminated Friday in the appearance of Joseph B. Elliott, RCA-Victor v.p. in charge of the Home Instrument Dept., may be considered all to the good.

But Elliott made it clear that RCA is not conspiring to hold back FM by not producing a sufficient number of sets soon enough, and certainly isn't to be pilloried any more than half-a-hundred other radio manufacturers for its marketing policies. RMA, shortly after the FCC released the results of its survey on set

production early in April (Vol. 2, No. 14) gave the best answer: Radio manufacturers are in business to sell sets; if the public wants to buy an AM set, well -- caveat emptor. That's still a marketplace slogan.

Astute questioning by UAW-CIO counsel -- for it was that Chicago FM applicant that called for an RCA representative to explain the company's FM production plans -- brought out the following points: That RCA started postwar production with "tried and tested" AM table models because that was the quickest way to get sets onto the postwar market; that engineering for an FM circuit was approved only in March; that AM-FM sets will begin going to distributors in September.

Of RCA-Victor's line, eliminating portable, battery-operated and automobile receivers, about 60% will be AM-FM combinations, Elliott stated. These will be consoles, he said, selling from \$69.95 up to \$400, although there may be 2 or 3 table models at the lower price. All RCA consoles will contain AM-FM bands, Elliott revealed, except one model which is essentially a record player. No model selling for less than \$69.95 will contain FM, he declared, since the company "doesn't consider it commercially feasible," and doesn't want to compromise the quality of FM by incorporating it in the less expensive sets. RCA will not manufacture sets with FM alone, he announced.

Above all, that this was still part of the Chicago FM hearing and that part of UAW's strategy was to weaken the case of NBC, one of the applicants, must not be forgotten. The linking of RCA's plan for FM production with NBC's application for an FM station in the windy city, to the detriment of the latter, was implied, but not proven, since Elliott disclaimed that his FM production plans were based in any way on NBC's attitude toward FM, or vice-versa.

On other fronts of the FM production battlefield, Attorney General Clark has acknowledged Senator Taylor's letter asking for an antitrust investigation of radio manufacturers, said he would advise the Idaho solon further after the charges had been studied. RMA officials had no comment to make on the Senator's allegations, but one spokesman referred questioners to RMA President Cosgrove's remarks at a press conference in Chicago during the recent industry convention there. Cosgrove, who is also the manufacturing v.p. of Crosley Corp., had told reporters then that FM sets were not being made primarily because of component shortages, OPA, lack of wood for cabinets. FCC had no comments, but an official recalled that in its survey on set production it had commented thusly: "In the light of the rapid progress being made for the development of FM on the station side, the Commission hopes that manufacturers may revise their production schedules to include a greater proportion of FM receivers."

CONTROLS BEING LIFTED ON TV SETS: Removal of all price controls from TV sets is being readied by OPA this weekend. The order, expected early next week, in effect completes decontrol on all TV products. Earlier this year, price ceilings were lifted on TV transmitters and tubes. Since the industry is still plagued with shortages however, RMA officials do not see much change in the video receiver picture.

Some relief is expected if the OPA renewal bill is passed over President Truman's veto (up for Congressional action as we go to press). The revised bill directs OPA to take into account production factors not previously allowed in radio set pricing. It also provides for a readjustment of price increase absorption policies. If the OPA bill is not repassed by Congress and if no temporary renewal is voted all price controls will be off.

CPA Administrator John D. Small in his most recent monthly report on production said that 1,075,000 domestic radios had been shipped during May, an increase of 75,000 over April. Although gains were reported in such typical items as radios washing machines, and other consumer durable goods, the CPA chief painted a general picture of production considerably under capacity in the face of continuing heavy demands for all types of goods and materials.

WANTS MORE, NOT LESS, FM CHANNELS: If the FCC wants to reserve some FM channels, let it assign more frequencies to FM. That's the sentiment of the industry, expressed in an NAB-FM Executive Committee (FMBI) resolution adopted this week. Not only does the FM Committee object to the Commission's proposal to "cold storage" some present FM channels, but it urges that the Commission "indicate at this time a specified portion of the spectrum for future allocation to FM broadcasting for the further development of this service."

Surprising support for the reservation plan has come from several farm organizations, notably the National Council of Farm Cooperatives and the Farmers Union. Both have indicated they will be represented at the hearing July 12, and will base their advocacy of the proposal on farm groups' need for more time to carry out FM plans. Other support for the plan is expected to come from veterans organizations, most of which report that they are studying the question. The legislative representative of one such organization reported that he was "inclined to favor the plan," but wanted more time to study its details before deciding whether his group will appear officially or not.

Meanwhile, following the FM Executive Committee meeting, Wayne Coy, one of its members and director of the Washington Post's WINX and W3X0, not only reiterated his belief that TV Channel No. 6 (82-88 mc) should be added to the FM band but went a step further and recommended that TV Channel No. 5 (76-82 mc) also be brought into the FM fold. In this he was backed by C. M. Jansky Jr., Washington consulting engineer, who added, "That will be only a starting point. This shows that the Commission erred in not assigning sufficient channels to take care of all comers."

The FM Committee felt that "reservation of channels at this time will obstruct the speedy development of FM broadcasting." If the Commission follows its recommendations and provides additional channels for FM, "such action would assure equitable distribution of service to the listening public...and would provide facilities for both present and future applicants and would contribute to the sound development of FM broadcasting," the Committee concluded.

FEDERAL'S 8-BAY ANTENNA: A power gain of 9 is Federal Telephone & Radio Corp.'s boast for its new 8-bay, square-loop FM antenna, unveiled to the Washington consulting engineering fraternity last Tuesday. Features claimed include lower cost for transmitter, since 20-kw can do the work normally required of 50-kw; savings in operating costs, since the smaller powered transmitter uses less power to operate; feasibility of a power gain of 20 with 16 loops. Prices range from \$2,200 for a 2-element antenna to \$12,400 for a 12-element radiator. The 8-bay antenna is priced at \$8,400. Booklet on new antenna, released this week, is available from the company's headquarters, Newark 1, N. J.

TV FRONT THIS WEEK: Exactly two days after the Louis-Conn fracas, Wanamaker's, big New York department store, advertised its DuMont TV sets in a full page in the New York Times. At the close of business next day, more than 50 sets had been ordered, amounting in dollar volume to more than \$100,000. As of the middle of this week, orders have amounted to more than \$2,000,000. That's how much demand there is for TV, DuMont officials explain.

CBS's recent discreet silence was broken this week by Adrian Murphy, TV chief, reported as saying: "The basic interest that color gives to television is still required, just as much now as before. Color is an extremely important factor in television's future progress and there's no change in our thinking on the subject." He was also reported as revealing that CBS was purchasing an image orthicon camera for its low-band, black-and-white WCBW, New York, and was experimenting with a similar camera for its experimental color operations.

FCC Friday granted TBA request for deferment of 28-hour-a-week TV rule until October 31, but denied additional request that a graduated compulsory mini-

mum for new TV stations be permitted; said however, individual TV stations could ask for such exemptions.

New calls assigned TV stations recently authorized are: WNBW (NBC), Washington; WTVW (Evening Star), Washington; WWBR (Bamberger), Washington; KKOB (KOB), Albuquerque, N. M.; WAAM (Radio-Television of Baltimore), Baltimore; WTVR (WMBG), Richmond. FCC also announced that San Francisco hearing, scheduled for July 15, had been cancelled.

DATA NEEDED FOR CPs: No FM grants at all were made this week by FCC, except educational CPs to College of the Pacific, Stockton, Cal., and Santa Monica School Board, also in California. But 10 CPs were handed out this week for new AM stations. Reason for lack of FM grants, FCC tells us, is (1) conditional grantees are still laggard in filing program plans and additional engineering data requested by Commission, and (2) new applicants aren't submitting complete information.

In fact, Commission staffers indicate that if conditional FM grantees don't come through with needed additional data soon, applications will be thrown out. Also, FCCers want to do away with circumlocutory conditionals and EAs entirely, process new applications directly into CPS. But to do this, applicants must submit complete data. It would even help if applicants got CAA approval for antenna sites and tower heights as soon as they heard that all their other material has been found acceptable, it was stated.

Applications filed since issuance of our Supplement No. 14K total 14 (Supplement No. 14L herewith). Among them is one by Board of Missions and Church Extension of The Methodist Church, for New York City, which has as one of its vice presidents Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, noted writer and lecturer. Church plans network with ecclesiastical groups in other key cities. Also among new applicants is Beloit (Wis.) Daily News, joining large group of non-AM newspapers applying for FM.

STRUGGLE FOR FM CHANNELS: New York City's 19 FM applicants are bore-sighting their big guns for the July 8 hearing there. Though 9 channels are open, competition is sharpened by possibility that only 5 will be immediately available, should FCC make final its intention to reserve channels (Vol. 2, No. 23). UAW-CIO has dropped out but will file for Class A in Newark; inclusion of Methodist group (see story above) keeps number at 19.

In Washington, only city so far where FCC has rendered proposed decision after hearing, CBS (WTOP), a recent applicant, asks to be considered in race, emphasizing importance of city to network and vice-versa. WWDC, which FCC proposes to leave out because of past AM programming (Denny and Jett dissenting), filed opposition, saying CBS was too late, has too many FM applications (5 including Washington) already has 2 FM stations, also said affiliate could take care of net locally. WWDC further objected that some of the 8 applicants favored by the FCC had proposed program structures in no way superior to WWDC's.

SIGHT AND SOUND: Attorney General Tom Clark is quite busy on radio matters this week; hard on the heels of Senator Taylor's letter about FM production (Vol 2, No. 25), Rep. Clarence F. Lea (Dem., Calif.), author of the Petrillo Act, wrote to the Dept. of Justice asking that an attorney other than J. Albert Woll, Chicago Federal D.A., be designated to try the WAAF case (Vol. 2, No. 24) because Woll is son of AFL vice president Matthew Woll....James L. Middlebrooks, engineering director of the Marshall Field stations, has been named NAB director of engineering; he reports July 1....Bendix announces that it will show its new FM line to radio dealers for the first time at the American Furniture Mart, Chicago, July 8-10; line consists of a table model and a radio-phonograph console....Announcement of a \$60,000,000 "Telecity" in the New York metropolitan area was made Friday by Lawrence B. Elliman, Manhattan realtor; although he refused to divulge the backers or the location, Elliman said the TV center would occupy 1,000 acres and would include 24 motion picture studios, plus service, maintenance and laboratory facilities.