

NAB NEWS LETTER

Office of Executive Secretary
Urbana, Illinois
August 1, 1940

PLAN ON ATTENDING FALL CONVENTION

Remember, the annual fall convention was set for Chicago, on September 6 and 7. A special News Letter will be sent you on August 15, giving place and program. Be sure to watch for the special announcements. Make your plans now to be present for the meeting.

WORLD IS YOURS ENTERS FIFTH YEAR

Announcement has been made by John W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education, of the WORLD IS YOURS radio programs that will be broadcast over the NBC network during the next 6 months. These programs mark the fifth year of Nationwide educational radio service for this series of programs sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution, the U. S. Office of Education, and the National Broadcasting Company.

Following the fourth anniversary of the WORLD IS YOURS in June the Smithsonian Institution and the U. S. Office of Education reported some interesting facts concerning this educational radio series dramatizing man's advance on the frontiers of science and art.

Originally on only 27 stations, this series of documented programs is now broadcast on a coast-to-coast NBC network of 82 stations -- one of the largest voluntary networks for educational programs. Each week it opens a new door of knowledge to more than five million listeners, nearly a half million of whom have written to the U. S. Office of Education and the Smithsonian Institution concerning the programs broadcast.

Scripts of the WORLD IS YOURS programs preserved and made available through the Educational Radio Script Exchange of the U. S. Office of Education have been rebroadcast by more than a thousand school, college, and civic radio production groups.

Original articles by Smithsonian Institution curators on subjects dramatized by radio each week are published in the WORLD IS YOURS illustrated magazine, the hundred-thousandth copy of which was purchased during the past week. This supplementary educational service, launched October 1, 1939, by the Columbia University Press to help WORLD IS YOURS listeners "catch it by radio -- fix it through print," contains in addition to original articles by Smithsonian scientists dramatic excerpts from radio scripts, selected bibliographies, news of scientific developments and photographs.

COURT UPHOLDS USE OF RECORDS BY STATIONS

In New York, the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in a far-reaching decision, has ruled that radio stations are entitled to use phonograph records without the permission of the manufacturer or author of the record.

The National Association of Broadcasters took a silent part in the test case initiated after the R.C.A. Manufacturing Company, Inc., and Paul Whiteman; obtained an injunction against the W.B.O. Broadcasting Corporation, operators of station W N E W. The corporation was enjoined from using Whiteman recordings because the use allegedly violated a ban on broadcasting which appeared on the face of the record.

R.C.A. and Whiteman contended that broadcast of the recordings provided competition which was likely to reduce the demand for the original playing by the person or group whose work was recorded and that they should be paid for the privilege of broadcasting the recordings.

Col. Joseph M. Hartfield argued for the broadcasters that the radio stations were bound to pay only the regular copyright fees to the composer and publisher of recorded music.

The Appellate Court agreed and vacated the injunction holding that the ban on broadcasting which appeared on the face of recordings had no legal effect.

Col. Hartfield explained that the effect of the decision "is to say that when a radio station buys a record it has the right to play it..."

When a radio station or network plays a phonograph record, the regular copyright fee is covered by the blanket license broadcasters obtain from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, which makes no distinction between recorded and live performances.

WCBD PETITIONS DENIED

There is no statutory or other requirement that the Federal Communications Commission withhold action on a broadcast application, which it deems in the public interest, in order to consider such application on a comparable basis with some pending applications. So the Commission stated in denying a petition filed by station WCBD, Chicago, for rehearing of the grant, on May 8, of application by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod for modification of license for its station KFUC, Clayton, Mo., to change frequency from 550 kilocycles to 830 kilocycles, with 1 kilowatt power to local sunset at Denver, and a petition for return of KUFO's subsequent application to increase power to 5 KW as a Class II station.

CITIZENSHIP PROOF REQUIRED OF ALL RADIO OPERATORS

Proof of citizenship of about 100,000 radio operators licensed by the Federal Communications Commission is required under a Commission order recently announced.

This new requirement applies to amateur as well as commercial operators, and calls upon them to file such proof in the form of affidavits, fingerprints, and photographs before August 15 next.

The Commission, which licenses citizens only for all classes of radio authorizations, has heretofore depended upon the applicant's own statement as to that fact. It will henceforth require evidence of citizenship on standard forms which the Commission is now sending out as a questionnaire.

FGC ACTIONS

WNAD, University of Oklahoma, was granted permission to remain silent during August periods in order to observe vacation.

WLBL, State of Wisconsin, was granted permission to operate specified hours, 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., pending completion of plans being made for additional station personnel.

WESG, Cornell University, has been given permission to move studio from Mark Twain Hotel, Elmira, N. Y., to Cornell campus.

KWSC, State College of Washington, has been granted permission to install automatic frequency control apparatus.

WKAR, Michigan State College, has applied for license to cover construction permit to install new equipment, changes in antenna system, increase in power, and to move transmitter.

KFUO, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, has applied for construction permission to install new transmitter and new vertical radiator and to increase power to 5 KW, day and night.

WBAA, Purdue University, was given permission to operate extra hours on July 13th in order to broadcast the Purdue University Music Festival.

KUSD, University of South Dakota, was given permission to remain silent from August 1 to September 15 in order to observe summer vacation.

WSUI, University of Iowa, was given special permission to reduce hours of operation in order to observe vacation period, August 3 to September 25.

WLBL, State of Wisconsin, was given permission to remain silent on July 4th.

KFDY, South Dakota State College, was granted temporary authority to remain silent on July 4th.

WRUL, World Wide Broadcasting Corp., has applied for construction permit to make changes in equipment and to increase power from 20 KW to 50 KW.

Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records
at the Wisconsin Historical Society as part of
"Unlocking the Airwaves: Revitalizing an Early Public and Educational Radio Collection."



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