

WMCA WINS ITS WAVE FIGHT AS WNYC IS MOVED

Washington.

A tentative decision was announced by the Federal Radio Commission whereby WMCA and WHAP will share the 570 kc. channel formerly occupied by WMCA and WNYC, the New York City municipal station, while the present wave of WHAP, 810 kc., will be assigned to WNYC. The WMCA-WHAP operation on the 570 kc. channel would be unlimited, while that of WNYC on 810 kc. would be all day, until sunset.

WMCA is owned by the Knickerbocker Broadcasting Company, and the license of WHAP is held by the Eastern Broadcasting Company, but the Knickerbocker concern controls the other. It was intimated at the Commission that the Knickerbocker concern intends to take WHAP off the air, and operate WMCA full time, since there is no object in having two different call letters when the same channel is used by two stations. When the stations were on separate waves the advantage lay in simultaneous operation.

Board Reversed Examiner

WMCA and WNYC have been disputing ever since they were assigned to the same wave, several years ago, and on some occasions the dispute became so acute that the two transmitters were on the air for a brief period at the same time, although both are New York City stations. WNYC's transmitter and studio are on the twenty-fifth floor of the Municipal Building, near the City Hall, while WMCA's transmitter is in Jersey City, N. J., and its studio on Manhattan Island.

The Commission rendered a tentative decision because it desires to formulate the state of facts and the findings thereunder, for release with a final decision. It is said that this situation results from the original recommendation of Chief Examiner Ellis B. Yost being just the opposite to what the Commission found.

Two protracted hearings were held before the examiner, who reported that the people of the City of New York were more in need of the educational and civic type of programs offered by WNYC than of the enlargement of the mainly entertainment type offered by WMCA, which has been a steady night-club broadcaster. He therefore favored continuing both WNYC and WMCA on the same wave, increasing the time allotment to WNYC and taking time from WMCA to enable this. The status of WHAP would not have been changed.

Types of Programs Differ

The Commission did not give any explicit reasons for its tentative findings, but it is believed that these reasons will be set forth fully in the statement that is to be issued. The Commission itself had held a hearing on the dispute, because of the strenuous objections of WMCA to the recommendations of the examiner. At this hearing counsel for the city opposed further extension to the commercial station and said 810 kc. was a graveyard channel so far as WNYC was concerned.

WMCA's strongest argument was that, although a regional station, it was spending more money than any other in this group, and has the highest type of directors, operators, announcers and artists. WNYC features educational talks by

Kirbery Extends Those 5 Minutes

After having been a nightly singer at WEAf for many months, Ralph Kirbery has been moved into a sponsored program, being heard on the Enna Jettick Melodies at 9 p. m. (EDST) Sundays over the NBC-WJZ network.

Kirberry has an excellent tenor voice, fine diction and a flair for romantic singing. He has been known as the Dream Singer. His "hour" each night has amounted to exactly five minutes, starting at midnight, and no sooner did he get started than he was finished. Now he'll be having considerable more time. Two vocal quartets will be heard on the weekly program, as well as Enna Jettick Songbird, a soprano.

SCHOOL SEEKS VISION PERMIT

Washington.

A former member of the Federal Radio Commission is a prominent stockholder in a company seeking a television license, but so far this company has met with no luck.

The former board member is Sam Pickard, stockholder in the First National Television Corporation, of Kansas City, Kan. Besides, Mr. Pickard is a vice-president of the Columbia Broadcasting System.

First National conducts a radio correspondence school and seeks a license to send vision on the 2200-2300 kc channel, using 500 watts. R. H. Hyde, examiner, has recommended that the application be denied for lack of a definite plan of operation, and also because of danger of interference with Canada.

Arthur Church, manager of KMBC, Kansas City, also is a stockholder in the First National corporation.

members of the faculty of the College of the City of New York, Commissioners and deputies of various departments, as well as singing and orchestral music by departmental organizations that put a great deal of enthusiasm in their work.

Commissioner Starbuck dissented from the Board's tentative finding.

WMCA to Build New Transmitter

WMCA's present transmitter is at Jersey City, but work will be begun on a new transmitter on a five-acre lot on Jamaica Bay in the New York City limits, as soon as a license is issued for the operation of WMCA and WHAP on full time on 570 kc., it was announced by the Knickerbocker Broadcasting Company.

Donald Flamm, president of the company and director of the station, said that the Commission's ruling will result in a more advantageous position for all three stations, and in view of his having gotten all he asked for he was quite charitably inclined toward the municipal station with which he had been at odds for so long.

The municipal station is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Plant and Structures, of which Albert Goldman is Commissioner.

"WNYC will find little difficulty in making any change that is required," said Commissioner Goldman.

He would not comment on the decision of the Commission.

SYNCHRONIZED TEST SUCCEEDS AT WBZ-WBZA

Washington.

When WBZ, Boston, Mass., and WBZA, Springfield, Mass., owned by Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, make their report to the Federal Radio Commission it is expected that it will be favorable to synchronization. These stations have had experience in matched crystal simultaneous operation, as well as in synchronization by control of the two carriers, having started on these endeavors in 1925. Not much success attended matched crystal operation, but the two stations have been on the same wave with improved synchronization since 1927.

Reports on the results of all stations using either method are to be in the hands of the Commission by Monday (May 16th).

The synchronization plans tried included piezo oscillator, tuning fork and master oscillator. Research is being conducted in an effort to reduce the amount of equipment and also to improve the synchronization results. The synchronizing frequency is sent over the land wires that formerly carried the program of one station to the transmitter of the other when the stations used different waves.

Both stations are now listed as transmitting from Willis Township, Mass., with studios in Boston.

Improved Operation in Amateur 'Phone

Washington.

Improved operating conditions in amateur radiotelephony are noticed as a result of the new rules of the Federal Radio Commission. One modification widens the principal amateur radiotelephone band, reduces two other 'phone bands, and restricts telephone operation in general to amateur operators demonstrating special technical qualifications.

The 50 kilocycle sub-band beginning at 3500 kc., which previously contained the great bulk of amateur radiotelephone operation, was doubled in width and located at the upper end of the amateur 3500-4000 kc region, or 3900-4000 kc. Operation on this band, together with that on the 14,150-14,250 long-distance 'phone territory (half the previous band), is restricted to those amateurs holding special licenses from the Department of Commerce, certifying special ability in radiotelephony.

Unrestricted amateur 'phone operation is thereby confined to two amateur bands, one being the region from 1875 to 2000 kc, or half of the "160 meter band" in which beginners' and short-distance operation is carried on, and the other comprising the entire amateur 56,000 to 60,000 kc band at "five meters," on which a great deal of purely local work is done.

The regulations comprise in detail a previous proposal made by the board of directors of the American Radio Relay League, the national amateur organization.

ADDS NEW LINE

Wholesale Radio & Equipment Co., 902 Broadway, distributors for the Bosch radio and Cunningham tubes, is now distributing the Buckeye Refrigerators.