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Radio.

Considering that approximately \$750,000,000 of frozen capital is locked up in the 6,500,000 radio receiving sets turned out by 255 radio manufacturers and supplied by 700 broadcasting stations, the new Federal Radio Commission has a man's job to make rules that will satisfy radio listeners, radio manufacturers, radio broadcasters.

So far as broadcasting is concerned the new Federal Commission has laid down these general rules which strike us as based upon common sense and good judgment:

It will not decide, for instance, that jazz music is bad and ought to be cut down or that religion is best for us and so give us increased doses.

On the other hand, it isn't going to consider any station as rendering public service when it serves either jazz or religion all day and all night to the exclusion of everything else. Nor is there any reason, the commission feels, for a dozen to broadcast jazz simultaneously in the same section.

In allocating the best wavelengths and the greatest power, the commission will regard as most valuable those broadcasting stations which combine elements of entertainment and education. Education is regarded in a rather broad sense to include such features as news and market reports.

Four Rules Set Down. Discussion with the commissioners reveals that the amount of public service rendered by a broadcaster will be determined as follows:

1—Mechanical efficiency of stations. This is a purely technical problem and the commission relies principally on reports of government radio inspectors.

Determination of this factor involves ability to deliver programs over a suitable area. Whether stations can be depended upon to deliver satisfactorily is not a question of power in the eyes of the commission, but of the station's physical equipment.

2—The purely legal question of priority of right. The courts have held that the element of priority does enter into the use of a given frequency. If a man is delivering a satisfactory program on 760 kilocycles, for instance, and another comes along and demands that frequency, the commission won't take it from the first fellow unless that fellow is putting out a poor program.

Station's Past Important. 3—The past record of the station as indicating its sense of responsibility to the public. If a persistent wave-jumper who doesn't maintain his schedules says he can't fix his broadcast whenever he likes, the commission is likely to come down on him like a ton of brick in favor of the station responsible to the public who delivers on scheduled time.

4—The general character of service already rendered. This is to be determined as to scope and seriousness of purpose.

Some stations, such as the religious or educational broadcasters, have great seriousness of purpose, but they lack scope. Other stations broadcast a continual vaudeville show and lack seriousness of purpose.

Thus the commission thinks the most valuable stations are those which vary their programs between good entertainment and valuable information. Certain educational stations are regarded as giving limited, but very valuable service and these will be given plenty of power but limited time on the air.

James G. Cutler believed in Rochester with all his heart. Probably that belief inspired the legacy of all he had to the University of Rochester—that the money might be employed at home.

Court stenographers are glad the Gordon trial is over at last.

Wrong, Any Way.

Wayne B. Wheeler is a big man in his own estimation and otherwise if there is any such personage as an unofficial czar or dictator, Wayne B. comes pretty near being it. Congressmen, United States senators, Governors, Cabinet ministers and even Presidents listen to Wayne B. who owns the Anti-Saloon League. All except Governor Alfred E. Smith, of New York, which explains this "special dispatch" by a special Washington writer.

"Any number of dry Democrats normally counted as Anti-Saloon League pawns, have been saying recently that if Smith would only promise publicly to enforce prohibition, they would support him. They have been doing everything possible to make it easy for Al to welcome them into his wigwam.

This drift of affairs has finally alarmed Wheeler and best matters get out of hand, he has stepped in with a sharp warning that conscientious drys should have nothing to do with Smith.

"Al Smith is ringing, sousing wet," Wheeler said. "He is too wet to hang out on the line to dry."

In that declaration, Wheeler burned all bridges and made it clear that the Anti-Saloon League will tolerate no support of Smith by those whose allegiance it claims. The effect of this will be to force a number of dry politicians who have been advancing cautiously toward Smith back into line.

This opposition of the Anti-Saloon League brings into play one of the most powerful and closely-knit groups in American politics. Branches of its national organization reach out into thousands of Protestant churches where ministers and women's auxiliaries furnish more ardent corps of volunteer workers than any political group commands.

The Anti-Saloon League has a complete record of Smith's attitude on prohibition questions, going back to 1904, and coming down to his message to the Legislature in 1924 in which he asked for a resolution calling on Congress to permit the sale of beer and wine. To the Anti-Saloon League, Smith is a wet of long standing and they will not be inclined to accept any recent assurances otherwise in the face of his record as they construe it.

Smith, in approving repeal of the New York State enforcement act in 1923, said:

"Let it be understood that this repeal does not in the slightest degree lessen the obligation of peace officers of the state to enforce in its strictest letter the Volstead act, and warning to that effect is herein contained as coming from the chief executive of the State of New York."

Servant Problem.

Probably, no problem is fraught with more possibilities to the human race, past, present or future, or causes greater discussion than the question of how to secure and retain domestic employees. The domestic who works, is clean and neat who is polite is so scarce that fabulous sums are bid to secure and retain her and only the very rich can afford the par excellence domestic.

The Rochester "Democrat & Chronicle" gives this possible solution of the problem along modern industrial lines:

"There seems promise of a solution of the domestic servant problem in the plan just proposed by a group of New York women. Having been confronted with numerous difficulties in their efforts to obtain competent and reliable servants, they have devoted considerable thought apparently to the causes of their failure. The result is a scheme to train young women for the duties of household service, but instead of making them servants, with all that that word implies in the way of bondage, they are to be employees, with regular hours of work, fixed rates of pay, an organization to protect their interests, and an independent status as regards their time after their hours of work.

"Investigations made from time to time regarding the servant problem have revealed serious causes of discontent with that form of service. In the days of George Washington house servants were trained by the mistress of the manor in much the same way as they had been educated and cared for in feudal days. The servants lived the lives of retainers subject to the will of the lady who ruled the household. The idea of social inferiority of feudal times was carried over to the present period of popular liberty, notwithstanding the fact that modern household servants are paid employees. Servants who live in the house of the employer naturally feel that their personal liberty is restricted; not a little dissatisfaction is caused by the attitude of the employer in treating the servant as a social inferior.

"To bring household service into line with other forms of employment and make it attractive by giving it a professional dignity is the aim of the New York society women who have undertaken to start a school of domestic service, organize an employment system, safeguard their graduates in the matter of pay and personal liberty, and obtain satisfactory results in household work. Their experiment will be watched with interest, for it may be a way out of tribulations which now seem to multiply about the path of every housewife who seeks to obtain an efficient and dependable servant."

"Impossible"

Under the heading "Believed Because Impossible", the New York "Times" on May 12 published this editorial corroborating and supporting the opinions editorially expressed in the columns of the Catholic Journal on the topic under discussion:

"Why the Apostolic Delegate to the United States issued his formal statement yesterday about the attitude of the Holy See toward American politics is clear to all who have followed the news. A few days ago the too enterprising Rome correspondent of a press agency in this country sent a characteristic dispatch. He could not, of course, pretend to quote the Holy Father. He had not even seen the Papal Secretary of State. But from a carefully guarded source, fairly reeking with authority, he had obtained the information that the Pope was deeply interested in the Presidential candidacy of that good Catholic Governor Smith. No sooner had this been published here than categorical denials came from Rome. As if fearing that these were not sufficient, Cardinal Gasparri has now directed the Apostolic Delegate in Washington that the Holy See is "not interested or concerned in any way in the coming Presidential campaign."

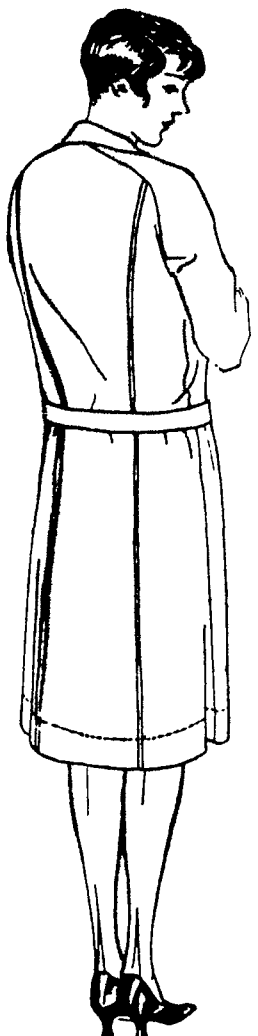
"This is conclusive so far as it relates to any alleged interview or message coming from the Vatican. It ought to be conclusive on the main question with sober-minded people. Yet any one who knows the intensity and bitterness of anti-Catholic feeling in some parts of this country cannot hope that the controversy will be ended by no matter what evidence. The stronger it is the more will some people suspect it in the official statement of the Holy See they will detect nothing but added wiles and falsehoods of the Scarlet Woman. No doubt there will be less open talk of this sort. But it is equally undoubted that the subterranean whisperings will go on. Few American politicians will have the hardihood to declare publicly that no man who is a Catholic should be elected President of the United States, but we may be sure that artful use will be made in every private and gossiping way possible of this intolerant argument against Governor Smith. By his record in office, by the many directness of his answers to the questions put to him in the Atlantic by Mr. Marshall, he has made attacks upon him on account of his religious faith appear as inadmissible as they are intolerant. But the pity of it is that many persons afflicted by an inherited and inveterate prejudice will go on repeating in holes and corners what they are ashamed to say from the house-tops.

Radio Rights.

It is quite evident that Chicago, New York or even Rochester is not alone in its complaint that certain broadcasting stations do not appear to respect any rule or regulation but hold to the contention that the air is free and we can do as we like on the air at any hour or minute of the day "appears their stand." This situation has inspired this editorial by the Buffalo "Union and Times":

The radio commission recently appointed by the President has a man's size job before it if the members succeed in overcoming the chaotic condition due to the attempt of three hundred and fifty stations to present programs without conflicting one with the other. It is their first duty to respect the rights of the public. Radio broadcasting is not for the personal and profitable benefit of the individual stations, but for the pleasure and information of the listening public, taken individually and collectively. John Smith with his one tube, home-manufactured set has as much right to tune in and get whatever station is within his reach at any hour, as a large station with a powerful apparatus has of using the air for a particular advertising venture. Just as God gave the air to every man to breathe, so God has given the air to broadcast and to receive that which pleases the individual fancy. These are rights which can not be changed, altered or rearranged by the radio commission. We gather from the necessity of the appointment of such a commission that this is its purpose and function.

The citizens of this city are greatly perturbed by a local station which broadcasts on a power which makes the reception from other stations impossible. In the arguments that have ensued, it must not be construed that the effort is being made to close off this station from its licensed air-right. Any man has a right to broadcast his particular brand of religion provided he does not usurp the rights of others. But if he broadcasts in such a manner as to hinder or usurp these rights whether he is in the act of preaching religion or advertising the value of a pair of shoestrings, the radio commission armed with final authority must respect the interests of the general public and take the necessary measures to promptly penalize the station encroaching upon public rights. This is perfectly simple and perfectly clear. Unless we miss the point, within a short period the radio commission will readjust matters to the satisfaction of all. In the meantime it is well for parties to both sides



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