

NEW & UPCOMING STATIONS: It's been a slow year for new TV stations. Only 14 U.S. outlets have begun operation thus far—of which 4 are non-commercial educational outlets. Of the 10 commercial starters, 3 were satellite operations, for the added coverage of parent stations. The 10 commercial starters included the 2 uhf outlets of KNBS (Ch. 22) Walla Walla, Wash., and WPCA-TV (Ch. 17) Philadelphia—and the latter is charging only enough to meet operating costs (Vol. 16:27). Canada has started 5 new outlets this year—3 of them unattended satellite repeaters.

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In our continuing survey of upcoming stations, these are latest reports from principals:

KERA-TV (Ch. 13, educational) Dallas, Tex. has given up plan for early start with limited programming and expects to begin with full schedule Sept. 11, according to Martin Campbell, exec. dir. It has temporary studio-office at 3000 Hines Blvd., near standby transmitter and 300-ft. tower it purchased from WFAA-TV (Ch. 8), which is completing \$3.5-million plant adjacent to building of parent *Dallas Morning News*.

CKAM-TV (Ch. 12) Campbellton, N.B. has 11-kw RCA transmitter installed and plans Sept. 12 start as satellite of parent CKCW-TV (Ch. 2) Moncton, N.B., reports Keith B. MacConnell, chief engineer of CKCW-TV. Microwave link with Moncton needs only adjustments for CKAM-TV to begin as unattended repeater unit. CKCW-TV base hour is \$400. Repts are Young Canadian and Stovin-Byles.

WFSU-TV (Ch. 11, educational) Tallahassee, Fla. has 10-kw GE transmitter installed and wired and plans Sept. 19 programming, writes Roy Flynn, dir. of Fla. State U. bestg. services. It has 777-ft. Klein tower and GE antenna ready for operation at site in Apalachicola National Forest Junction, near Holland, Fla.

FCC's denial of site move for WNHC-TV (Ch. 8) New Haven after protest by WWLP (Ch. 22) Springfield, Mass. (Vol. 16:32 p8) has been appealed to the courts by WNHC-TV. FCC had said that the primary reason for the denial was that the move would jeopardize a uhf station. WNHC-TV stated, among other things, that "the record is devoid of any probative evidence that protestant will suffer any diminution of revenues as a result of WNHC-TV's proposed move." In a separate appeal, WNHC-TV said that the FCC erred in failing to take into account WWLP's acquisition of 1/3 interest of WHNB-TV (Ch. 30) Hartford, WWOR (Ch. 14) Worcester and several translators in the area.

Purchase of KBAK-TV Bakersfield, Cal. (Ch. 29) by Reeves Bestg. & Development Corp. is first move in plans to expand TV holdings, according to vp J. Drayton Hastie. Reeves, which manufactures audio equipment and also operates WUSN-TV Charleston, S.C. (Ch. 2), acquired KBAK-TV for \$1 million (including some \$250,000 in obligations) from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, which also operates KRON-TV San Francisco (Ch. 4). Broker was Hamilton-Landis & Associates.

Sale of radio KXOK St. Louis to Storz Bestg. Co. for an amount in excess of \$1.5 million was reported by Elzey M. Roberts Jr., co-owner of KXOK with C. L. Thomas. Storz operates radio stations WDGY Minneapolis, WHB Kansas City, KOMA Oklahoma City, WTIK New Orleans & WQAM Miami, Fla.

Congress

PAYOLA LAW FINALLY VOTED: Senate-rewritten "Communications Act Amendments, 1960"—which will go down in broadcasting lawbooks as the Harris-Pastore Act—sailed through the House and on to the White House last week.

The modified Senate version of the bill (S-1898) outlawing payola and authorizing FCC to fine stations \$1,000 per day for defiance of Commission rules & orders (Vol. 16:35 p1) was accepted by the House in a voice vote Aug. 30—just 2 days before Congress adjourned.

House Commerce Committee Chmn. Harris (D-Ark.) had little trouble carrying out his agreement with Senate Commerce Communications Subcommittee Chmn. Pastore (D-R.I.) that no serious House objections to the Senate's softening changes in the original House amendments to S-1898 would be raised. As first voted by the House in July, the bill provided 10-day license suspensions as well as cash forfeitures as penalties against stations (Vol. 16:27 p1). The Senate knocked out the suspensions and wrote in procedural safeguards for broadcasters.

The only real obstacle which Harris had to overcome in completing Congressional action on S-1898 was Rep. Bennett (R-Mich.), ranking minority member of the House Committee. Frequently at policy odds with Harris on TV-radio-FCC issues, Bennett once again raised a cry that the legislation wouldn't cure broadcasting abuses unless it brought networks under FCC regulation.

House approval of the revised bill had been urged by NAB govt. relations vp Vincent T. Wasilewski, who told Harris: "The Senate-passed version, while not meeting the objectives of all concerned, is one to which the NAB can give its support, and we express to you our earnest desire that it be adopted by the House."

Further Steps by Harris

Following the House vote, NAB Policy Committee Chmn. Clair R. McCollough said:

"NAB is happy that Congress removed from the legislation a proposal to permit the FCC to suspend station licenses. This would have placed an intolerable burden on individual broadcasters. While NAB believes that fines are unnecessary, it is pleased that legislation enacted contains provision for appeal to the courts & other safeguards."

With the Harris-Pastore Act signed, sealed & delivered to the White House, and the 1960 legislative season for broadcasters closed, Harris added some footnotes to this session's sensational Oversight Subcommittee probes.

He called the Subcommittee into tag-end hearings to explore evidence of "irregularities & even possible corruption" in ICC operations—and to wrap up some loose ends & "conflicts" of testimony in the payola investigations.

Playing return engagements before the Subcommittee were gen. mgr. Paul G. O'Friel & ex-disc jockey Norman Prescott of Westinghouse Bestg. Co.'s radio WBZ Boston, who had been featured performers at public & private hearings in February (Vol. 16:7 p6).

Objecting to secret February testimony by Prescott which was later released by the Subcommittee, O'Friel protested that Prescott "tried to leave the impression that I was aware payola existed at WBZ and did nothing to stop it." O'Friel said "this is absolutely untrue."

In his rebuttal turn on the stand, Prescott (now a film PR man in N.Y.) flatly contradicted O'Friel. He said O'Friel had ordered him to offer extra air time to at least 10 N.Y. record firms in return for \$12,000 worth of albums.