

50-CYCLE RULE SOON IN FORCE; WARNING GIVEN

Washington.

On Wednesday, June 22d, the new rule of the Federal Radio Commission, requiring broadcasting stations to stay within 50 cycles of their assigned frequencies, of which rule the stations will have had a full year's notice, goes into effect, and compliance is absolutely imperative. For failure to comply the station will be refused permission to operate, and there will be no exceptions; neither will any excuse of whatsoever nature be accepted. It is the most stringent rule, and the only absolutely unexceptional one.

The position in regard to the rule was given in a statement issued by the Commission. In this statement pleasure was expressed over the fact that more than two-thirds of the stations have installed frequency control equipment that will enable them to comply with the regulation.

Will Reduce Interference

Conformity is not difficult, but costs the stations some money, as a specially accurate monitor is required.

The new 50-cycle rule will confine beat notes between stations assigned to the same wave to a maximum of 100 cycles, a tone inaudible in most receivers, as the audio amplifier and speaker give virtually no response at this frequency. Stations on adjoining channels should not interfere at all, as to carriers mixing, because 9,900 kc. apart, but the modulation envelope might cause a beat when the modulation of both stations happens to be an exceptionally high audio frequency. At least, all forms of interference, due to wave-sharing and adjacent channel occupation, should be greatly reduced.

The present allowable deviation is 500 cycles, permitting a 1,000-cycle note and resulting in considerable waxing and waning groans and moans, particularly at the higher frequencies of the broadcast spectrum.

Gratification Expressed

The statement follows in full:

"The Federal Radio Commission is much gratified to report that approximately two-thirds of the broadcast stations now have installed frequency control equipment that has the capability of maintaining the operating frequency within 50 cycles of the assigned frequency, as required by rule 144 which becomes effective June 22, 1932. In conjunction with this equipment, an approved frequency monitor must be employed.

"Three frequency monitors have been approved to date and others are now being tested at the Bureau of Standards. All stations must have in operation by June 22, 1932, an approved monitor to be operated in conjunction with the transmitter so as to determine that the station is operating within the rigid frequency deviation tolerance specified. The monitors are considered necessary to maintain the close frequency requirements and are required by Rule 145.

Increased Service Area Expected

"Under the present rules, broadcast stations are required to maintain their operating frequency within only 500 cycles of the assigned frequency. Such operation subjects duplicated channel stations to severe mutual interference in the form of whistles and heterodynes. The new rule entirely eliminates these whistles and

Lookers Asked to State Results

Lafayette, Ind.

W9XG, using 60-hole scanning, is asking lookers to report reception results. Particular evidence of double image reception is sought. The station operates on the 2,800 kc. band.

It is believed that the double images are caused by the prior arrival of the ground wave, which traverses the ether near the earth, as compared to the sky wave that takes the longer route to the Kennelly-Heaviside layer and is reflected back to earth. This same phenomenon is associated with fading in sound reception.

NEW BUILDING NAMED FOR RCA

Rockefeller Center's largest building, rising seventy stories from the center of Radio City and dominating the entire project, will be known as the RCA building.

The tower and twelve-story extension in the rear will contain the executive offices of the Radio Corporation of America. RCA executive offices will occupy the fifty-third and fifty-fifth floors of the tower. Executive offices of NBC will occupy the seventh floor of the tower, with the NBC studios immediately in the rear covering nearly 380,000 feet of floor space on nine floors of the extension.

The CA Building, which will have more floor area than any other office building in the world, will extend from Sixth Avenue eastward 535 feet toward Fifth Avenue, in the block between Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Streets.

heterodynes, thereby increasing the service area of all stations that are now thus so limited in service.

"It is the hope and expectation of the Commission that when the new rule goes into effect all stations will be equipped with frequency control and frequency monitors so as to observe the new rigid frequency deviation tolerance.

Why Rule Is Inflexible

"It is the intention of the Commission to enforce rigidly the new rule and no stations will be allowed to operate which can not meet the requirements. No exceptions will be granted in this regard for any causes whatsoever.

"The value of the improvement, both to the broadcasters and the listeners, depends upon strict compliance. The failure of one station on a channel to maintain the tolerance limits may destroy the advantages to several other stations which maintain the required accuracy.

Chief Beneficiaries

"The chief beneficiaries of the new rule will be those listeners located fairly close to a station, but now unable to receive it satisfactorily due to interference from other stations on the channel. By the new rule this interference will be materially reduced and thereby the stations will serve larger areas. All stations that are now suffering from heterodyne interference will have their service areas increased. It is estimated that this increase in service area will be from 25 to 100 per cent for all duplicated channel stations now suffering heterodyne interference."

SCHUETTE TOPS BROADCASTERS' COPYRIGHT WAR

Washington.

That the broadcasters mean to put up a stiff fight against what they consider any "impositions" by music interests was indicated in the retainer of Oswald F. Schuette as director of copyright activities on behalf of the National Association of Broadcasters.

While prose and poetry are also subjects of interest in regard to copyrights, music furnishes the principal worry, as the music fees paid under copyrights now amount to about \$1,000,000 a year, and the American Society of Authors, Composers and Publishers is asking an increase of \$3,000,000 a year.

Schuette will operate out of Washington and he is expected to be the official representative of the association in arguing before legislative and other bodies on behalf of the broadcasters.

Schuette Led Fight on RCA

For several years efforts have been made to amend the copyright law so that it will be more favorable to the broadcasters, as the largest users of copyright music, while also some concessions to authors and composers are under consideration, although not of a nature to make large fee collections easier.

Schuette was the leader of the fight when independent set and tube manufacturers tried to have the Radio Corporation of America prosecuted as a trust. He was particularly active in the fight the tube manufacturers waged successfully against an RCA contract clause that foreclosed independents from the sale of tubes to licensed set manufacturers for initial equipment of sets. The anti-trust suit is now under way.

While Schuette is fighting on behalf of his new clients for a better break for the broadcasters he will be fighting for his old enemy, the Radio Corporation of America, which wholly owns the National Broadcasting Company. With subsidiaries RCA owns or controls seventeen stations, while RCA itself actually owns eight stations and leases four.

Association Gives Wide Authority

"Mr. Schuette has been given wide authority to represent the broadcasting industry as such and will give immediate attention to the study of the field of music," the association announced. "He will also supervise personally the legislative fight in Congress to secure just protection for the broadcaster as a major user of music."

While he will be concerned also with the situation between the broadcasters and the society, the actual negotiations on the subject of music fees, now going on, are in others' hands. The negotiations are being conducted in New York City. The music men agreed to postpone the effective date of new rates from June 1st to September 1st. The broadcasters have said they simply can not afford to pay the increases demanded, and negotiations are being conducted in an effort to reach an agreement.

ASSIGNMENTS

Apco Electric Corp., selling electrical merchandise, 1164 Sixth Ave., New York City, to Joseph A. Caprio, 154 Nassau St., New York City.

PETITION IN BANKRUPTCY

Pyramid Electric Contracting Co., Inc., 228 East 41st St., New York City—By Williamsburg Electric Supply Corp., for \$729; Atlantic Electrical Distributors, Inc., \$275; The Okonite Co., \$3,169. The petition states the liabilities are \$44,753.