

# Board Shelves Protests; Stations Must Try Out

Washington.

The Federal Radio Commission decided on a new policy regarding the new wavelength and power assignments. All licenses under the new assignments are for 60 or 90 days from June 15, and complaints will be heard only on the basis of grievances arising from actual experience. The stations must work under the new conditions, which means that for the present the June 15 allocations generally stand.

Commissioner Henry A. Bellows said many more changes may be expected, and that some revocations of licenses are probable, such action being in view already in several cases either for violation of the radio law itself or of the Commission's orders and regulations.

Mr. Bellows said he expected a continued decline in the number of stations due to what he called "natural mortality." Many stations, he said, sought wavelengths for speculative purposes, expecting to sell them to high bidders when Federal control was restored. These stations, he said, for the most part have found that they have been relegated to such undesirable waves that they have nothing to sell.

## Expects General Solution

In general, Mr. Bellows said, he expected the new allocations will largely solve the radio problem. If any dissatisfied stations have any intention of taking court action to prevent the allocations from going into effect, he said, the Commission has not been definitely notified of the fact.

Commissioner Bellows said he spoke with President Coolidge relative to the plans of the Commission as set forth in its statement and order. He said the President expressed gratification with the progress made by the Commission and thoroughly approved its plans for the future.

Appropriations for the Commission having failed at the last session of Congress on account of the failure of the Deficiency Bill, Mr. Bellows said that after June 30, the end of the present fiscal year, the Commission will share the appropriation for the Radio Division of the Department of Commerce. The amount available is small, he said, but the Commission expects to meet its needs through the exercise of strict economy.

## Bellows' Statement

Commissioner Bellows in his statement said:

"The new broadcasting allocations will, in the judgment of the Federal Radio Commission, provide the satisfactory basis for the future development of broadcasting throughout the United States. At the same time, it must be recognized that the problem of interference can never be fully solved on the basis of theoretical measurements. Interference between stations depends very largely on geographical conditions, and is greatly influenced by the transmission characteristics of individual stations.

"Accordingly, the only way in which interference can be adequately tested is by actual experience. Furthermore, this experience depends a good deal on conditions prevailing at different seasons of the year. Two stations which may not interfere with one another at all in the summer may cause very serious heterodyning in the late fall or winter.

## Result of 3 Months' Work

"The Federal Radio Commission has provided the basis for all its further ac-

tivities in the new allocations of broadcasting stations. It has in three months built up an efficient organization, has collected an enormous amount of necessary information regarding the broadcasting stations, and has worked out its entire plan of operation under the Radio Act of 1927.

"During the remaining nine months during which, under the present law, the Federal Radio Commission will have full charge of radio broadcasting, its chief purpose will be to improve radio reception throughout the United States by the eliminating of such interference as may become apparent under the new allocation system. It is not the present intention of the Commission to fix conditions definitely by issuing broadcasting licenses for periods of more than 60 or 90 days. Its plan is to continue these short-time licenses until actual experience during the months of best radio transmission has demonstrated exactly what interference between stations is likely to develop."

## The General Order

In its General Order No. 15 the Commission set forth:

"For the purpose of providing an orderly method for the reduction and eventual elimination of interference between radio broadcasting stations operating on the same or on closely adjacent frequencies, the Federal Radio Commission announces the following procedure:

"At any time after July 15, 1927, any radio broadcasting station operating under license from the Federal Radio Commission may file with the Commission an affidavit certifying that unreasonable and injurious interference with its signals is being caused by the simultaneous operation of another radio broadcasting station, the name or call letters of which must be specified in the affidavit.

## Rules for the Application

"The affidavit must likewise specify not less than two occasions on which such interference was observed, with the name and address of the person making each of such observations, the type of receiving set used, and the date and hour thereof.

"On receipt of such affidavit, and if in the judgment of the Federal Radio Commission the interference complained of is actually unreasonable and injurious to the affiant, the Commission will appoint a date for a hearing, at its convenience, will notify thereof the parties interested, and on the basis of the testimony presented at such hearing will order such changes of frequency, power or hours of operation as may appear best to serve public interest, convenience or necessity."

## Coolidge in Touch With Board's Plans

Washington.

President Coolidge was informed by Federal Radio Commissioner Henry A. Bellows of plans of the Commission for getting rid of interference and conflicting wavelengths in broadcasting.

There are three ways of eliminating interference, Mr. Bellows stated after his conference with the President. One is by dividing the time; the second is by cutting the power, and the third by changing the wavelengths.

Mr. Bellows said that the elimination to be made is merely the basis for the settlement of the whole problem of interference.

# Wave Defense Is Successful

Washington.

A defense of their assignments to the frequency of 810 kilocycles (370.2 meters) under the new radio allocations was entered before the Federal Radio Commission by WMCA, Hotel McAlpin, New York City, and WEBJ, owned by the Third Avenue Railroad Company, New York City. Both stations use 500 watts and were assigned to divide time on this frequency.

Their assignment was disputed by WGCP, owned by the May Radio Broadcast Corporation, of Newark, N. J., and WLWL, owned by the Paulist Fathers, New York City. Each was dissatisfied with its assignment, WGCP having been placed on 1,070 kilocycles (280.2 meters) and WLWL on 1,020 kilocycles (293.9 meters).

The Commission announced that the hearing scheduled for WSM, owned by the National Life & Accident Co., of Nashville, Tenn., which had sought an assignment to 710 kilocycles (422.3 meters) has been cancelled by agreement.

WSM shifted on 880 kilocycles (340.7 meters), using 5,000 watts power instead of the 2,000 originally assigned it. Shifting from 880, KTHS, owned by the New Arlington Hotel, of Hot Springs, Ark., went on 940 kilocycles (319 meters).

By this settlement, WOR, owned by Bamberger & Co., Newark, which at a previous hearing successfully defended its assignment to 710 kilocycles (422.3 meters), will not be required again to defend itself, WSM having designated that frequency as the channel it preferred.

## Delegates to Parley Named by Coolidge

Washington.

President Coolidge announced the appointment of the American delegation to the International Radio Conference which will be held in Washington October 4, as follows:

Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce; Senator James E. Watson, of Indiana; Senator Ellison D. Smith, of South Carolina; Representative Wallace H. White, Jr., of Lewiston, Me.; William R. Castle, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State; Alternate, William R. Vallance, Assistant Solicitor of the Department of State; Maj. Gen. Charles M. Saltzman, Chief Signal Officer, U. S. A.; Capt. Thomas T. Craven, Director of Naval Communications, U. S. N.; W. D. Terrell, Chief of Radio Division, Department of Commerce; Owen D. Young, Chairman of the Board of Directors, General Electric Company; Alternate, Samuel Reber, Colonel, U. S. A., retired; John J. Carty, Chief Engineer, American Telephone and Telegraph Company; Stephen Davis, former Solicitor, Department of Commerce; John Beaver White, Electrical Engineer, and John Hays Hammond, Jr.

## Weather Reports Sent by Greenland Station

A mailed report from the Vice Council at Copenhagen, Ellis A. Johnson, states that the new wireless station at Julianehaab, Greenland, has commenced broadcasting weather bulletins, a service instituted in accordance with the desires of the Icelandic Government and expected to be of special value in sending out storm warnings to the fishing industry.