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The Association
of
College and University
Broadcasting Stations
December 12, 1932

SPECIAL BULLETIN

TO MEMBERS
of

THE ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY BROADCASTING STATIONS
(and educational officials cooperating with the Association)

Attached you will find comments supplied the office of the Executive Secretary of your Association by Mr. Joe F. Wright, Director of Radio Station WILL of the University of Illinois, and President of the Association of College and University Broadcasting Stations. The comments attached deal with the recent meeting of the National Committee on Education by Radio in Washington. Mr. Wright, as president of our Association, represents our group in these conferences. I feel that the entire membership will be glad to read of the developments in the conference held some ten days ago, and in order to stimulate further reports of this type I will sincerely appreciate your dropping a note to Mr. Wright acknowledging receipt of this bulletin and supplying this office with a carbon copy of your letter so that we may complete our records.

May I again at this time ask for reports of radio interest from any of our station managers or directors as your Association is quite anxious to stimulate the exchange of ideas among the various groups throughout the United States.

Sincerely yours,

T. M. Beard
T. M. Beard,
Executive Secretary

A very comprehensive radio survey made among educational institutions for the National Committee on Education by Radio, under the direction of the Committee's research director, Dr. Tracy Tyler, has been put into manuscript form. The manuscript was gone over by a committee of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities which met in Washington on November 16, and a similar group representing the National Association of State Universities, which likewise met in Washington on November 18. These committees have approved the manuscript and have expressed a desire to see the survey printed.

At a meeting of the National Committee held in Washington on November 18, unanimous approval of the survey was made and the chairman was authorized to proceed with the printing. Dr. William John Cooper, Commissioner of Education, has been asked to prepare the preface to the report.

Almost any question one would care to ask about educational broadcasting can be answered as a result of the survey and it will go down as a very important historical document in this field. It is evident from a perusal of the report that out of it will grow the need of further studies along several lines. This will be brought up at a future meeting of the National Committee.

The National Committee on Education by Radio adopted the following resolution at its November meeting, which facts were given to the press the following days:

- (1) In view of the reports recently submitted to Congress in response to Senate Resolution 129, calling for information regarding certain aspects of the radio question,
- (2) In view of the facts just presented in the report of the survey of radio in land-grant colleges and state universities,
- (3) In view of the discussions attending the re-organization of radio broadcasting effected in Canada, in 1932, and
- (4) In view of questions raised at the International Radio-telegraph Conference at Madrid,

RESOLVED, that the National Committee on Education by Radio urge upon Congress the need of a general investigation at this time of the whole subject of radio broadcasting by a committee of Congress created for that purpose.

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Armstrong Perry, Manager of the Service Bureau of the National Committee, has been at the Madrid Conference since it opened and is sailing for the United States, together with Judge Sykes of the Radio Commission, and others of the delegation, on November 30. Much of the information gathered during the conference is not for public consumption, but undoubtedly a comprehensive report will be forthcoming in the near future and will be placed in the hands of our Association.

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The National Association of College Broadcasters has been asked to do a very important piece of work by the NCER, the matter of which is confidential at the present time. The President of the Association has taken the matter up with the other officers and the whole work will, of course, be made public after it has been completed.

Undoubtedly two or three addresses on the program of the 1933 Radio Institution at Ohio State University will be based on the findings embodied in the Survey of Radio Education which was made by Tracy Tyler of NCER. Although a date for this meeting has not been set, it will undoubtedly be much earlier than has been the case heretofore - probably in May - and now is a good time for all of us to start formulating plans to attend this meeting. Remember that if you can take home only one or two good points your time, energy and money have been well spent.

Carl Menzer of WSUI is considering the possibility of constructing a recording unit which he has successfully developed after five or six years of experimental work. Those of us who have heard some of his records feel that they are far better than anything available on the market. Levering Tyson, of the National Advisory Council on Radio in Education, has said that he will attempt to finance the construction of this unit if the cost is not too great. A committee of the Educational Broadcasters Association has been considering for three years the obtaining of a successful recording unit to be used in a sort of round robin fashion. It would be sent to one institution where eight or ten hours of programs - outstanding music and faculty talks - would be recorded, and then the machine would be dismantled and sent on to the second institution. In this fashion quite an extensive library of recorded programs would be available for those stations who cared to use them. Such a plan might prove extremely helpful, especially during the summer months for those stations who find it necessary to stay on the air during that period.

Carl Menzer has also sent copies of blue prints of such a unit to some of us with the thought that perhaps each individual station might care to build its own outfit so that it would always be available for recording purposes. The whole matter is still hanging fire but rapidly coming to a head, and we hope to report some very definite action within the next few weeks.

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Commissioner Lafount is said to have expressed the opinion recently that he favors the increase of power of regional and local stations five fold. Such a move would be a big help to a lot of us.

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Professor Jansky, well known radio engineering authority of Washington, D. C., made a very interesting talk at the St. Louis meeting of the National Association of Broadcasters in which he upset the argument which has always been prevalent in certain circles since the meeting of this organization a year ago. At the previous meeting the report of the engineering committee said, in short, that all frequencies were about on the same level when it came to broadcast efficiency. Professor Jansky pointed out very clearly that there is a great difference in frequencies and that the lower frequencies are far better than the higher ones. Most any college radio engineer has known for a long long time that this was the true picture.

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The NAB people discussed at some length the advisability and the possibilities of appointing a paid president who would act as a czar or dictator of the broadcasting industry. No agreement was reached but it is a safe bet that this move will be made as soon as the industry can see its way clear to finance it.