GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF THE RAILROADS

December 28, 1917—March, 1920

One of the major labor-management steps taken in World War I era was Government control of the nation's railroads. On December 28, 1917 President Woodrow Wilson, under congressional authority, took over all operation of railroads and water transport. As Director-General of the Railroad Administration under the Federal Control Act, the Secretary of the Treasurer, William G. McAdoo was appointed.

The Director-General showed friendliness and a realism toward labor and its problems in a series of orders and directives. He ordered all supervisors to cease discriminating against workers for forming unions and to recognize unions for purposes of collective bargaining.

Organized labor and particularly the railroad unions when the time came to return the rails to private ownership advocated the "Plumb Plan" for Government ownership and operation. While this plan failed, the impact of Government ownership on the forward march of unionization in the industry was significant and rates as a landmark of labor, particularly of railway labor.
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The Department for the Wage Earners
Cultural Centers Offer Public Service Time
Plans for a National Cultural Center
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Reading Time
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Station Breaks

the cover
Edgewood Recording Studios is a small but busy establishment in the nation's capital which is handling an increasing amount of recording work for national organizations and public agencies. Its three technicians are members of IBEW Local Union 1200. One of the three—John Dildine—is shown at right on our March cover, adjusting a U47 Neumann condenser mike for Congressman Donald M. Fraser of Minnesota's 5th District and Announcer Harry Flannery, as they prepare to record a brief interview for the Railway Labor Executives Association series, "Working on the Railroads."

index
For the benefit of local unions needing such information in negotiations and planning, here are the latest figures for the cost-of-living index, compared with 1961 figures: January, 1963—106.0; January, 1962—104.6.

commentary
A major feature in this issue of Technician-Engineer concerns the nation's interest in culture. We think it appropriate, therefore, to present here an excerpt from a broadcast by ABC Commentator Edward P. Morgan in June 1960, entitled "Where Does Culture Come Off Here?"

The excerpt is from a book by Mr. Morgan reviewed on Page 14:

The show must, in fact, go on if an important, intangible something in American life is not to perish. Tangible, material things, like pensions and the production of chrome-coated car bumpers, are involved in most labor-management disputes, as well as the hard realities of economics. There is something else at stake in the deadlocked dialogue between New York theater owners and members of Equity, the actors' union. It is the perishable commodity of creativity. Call it, at its best, art. The more comfortable-conscious and materialistic we become, the more we seem to neglect the shriveling stockpile of artistic values. Broadway is one of the country's last repositories of this shrinking treasure, and Heaven help us if the disputants and the public don't keep that fact firmly in mind.

Costs of producing a musical or a play on the legitimate stage have soared in recent years; pressures from labor unions explain a large part of the rise. Does it follow then that unions are clobbering culture with greedy demands for fatter contracts? Without doubt, the bargainers for organized theatrical folk, from artists to stagehands, usually have been less concerned about art than arithmetic.

Still, you cannot eat art. Life in the theater is a very hazardous profession; people in it are entitled to be as concerned about security, fringe benefits and the tangibility of the weekly pay envelope as the next group, if not more so.

Published monthly by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO, 1200 Fifteenth St., N.W., Washington, D. C., for the employees of the broadcasting, recording, and related industries. Second class postage paid at Washington, D. C. Subscription, $2 per year.
"During its first half-century of service to the United States, the concern of the Department of Labor can be expressed in one word: people. Human welfare remains its interest in the face of continuing change and all that it represents in the 1960s.

"The Department of Labor... carries much of the responsibility for a major decision we must face as a people: Can we make our economy a human as well as a technical success?"

—W. Willard Wirtz, Secretary of Labor

The Nation Observes
The 50th Birthday of
The Department

PRESIDENT William Howard Taft signed Public Law 426 on his last day in office March 3, 1913, and sent the approved document back to the Senate with a message attached:

"I signed this bill with considerable hesitation," he said, "not because I dissent from the purpose of Congress to create a Department of Labor, but because I think that nine departments are enough for the proper administration of the government, and because I think that no new department ought to be created without a reorganization of all departments in the government and a redistribution of the bureaus between them..."

"I forebear, however, to veto this bill, because my motive in doing so would be misunderstood."

Anyway, he indicated, there'd have to be some reshuffling of bureaus and agencies to form the new department, and all might turn out well after all.

So, after signing the adoption papers of the new department, the portly Chief Executive picked up his top hat and gloves and drove down Pennsylvania Avenue in an open carriage with President-elect Woodrow Wilson for the inaugural ceremonies.

In the inaugural entourage was Congressman William B. Wilson of Pennsylvania, a former coal miner and labor leader who was destined to become in short order the first Secretary of Labor. Samuel Gompers and other labor leaders were in the crowd, too. For them the day was a momentous one, for now there was a spokesman for the wage earner in the President's Cabinet. This was success after three decades of effort, and they looked to the future with new hope.

But for others in the crowd at the Capitol the big excitement of the Presidential Inauguration was the near-riotous parade of 5,000 suffragettes on the preceding day. Led by "General" Rosalie Jones, the suffragettes were hooted and hissed by thousands of bystanders who paralleled their line of march. Occasionally their ranks were broken by overenthusiastic males who thought woman's place was in the home. More than 100 persons were injured in the ensuing melee.

Except for the question of women's suffrage and several economic issues, however, the nation was in a
for the Wage Earners

period of relative quiet, and actions taken in Washington commanded little attention in the predominantly rural population. Few noted the establishment of a new Federal Department of Labor.

But the quiet of 1913 was the quiet before the storm in Europe. In a few months, the nation began to concern itself with the actions of Kaiser Bill, and in 1917 the United States was gearing for war.

It was fortunate that there was a U. S. Department of Labor in 1917 for the youngest cabinet agency found more and more work thrust upon it—problems of manpower, problems of displaced workers, training programs for war industries, and much more.

Though Labor is still the smallest agency of the President's Cabinet, it has maintained a steady program of service since World War I and has grown in stature and size. It began with the amalgamation of four bureaus and a small staff in 1913. Today it has nearly 8,000 full-time employees in Washington and in field offices across the nation, and these are some of its major activities:

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports to the nation on employment, unemployment, wage rates, prices, industrial relations, productivity, work injuries, etc. It is, perhaps, best known for its Consumer Price Index, basis for adjusting wages of 2 million union members to living costs.

Bureau of Employment Security coordinates activities of nearly 4,000 U. S. Employment Service offices which help find jobs for more than 6 million workers a year. Helps administer Federal-State unemployment insurance system, paying more than $3 billion in jobless benefits per year.

Wage & Hour and Public Contracts Divisions Last year, helped employees collect more than $16 million in wages illegally withheld by employers.

Office of the Solicitor goes to court on behalf of workers to enforce minimum wage, overtime, and other laws.

Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training works with unions, management, state and local agencies to promote and expand apprenticeship training.


Bureau of International Labor Affairs keeps U. S. Government informed on activities of unions throughout the world. Helps tell story of U. S. labor to the world.

Office of Manpower, Automation and Training seeks ways to retrain workers displaced by automation.

Women's Bureau provides special services to 24 million women in the labor force.

Bureau of Veterans' Reemployment Rights helps ex-servicemen get back to their former jobs.

Bureau of Employees' Compensation provides services to injured Federal employees. Paid out more than $64 million in benefits last year.

Present Labor Secretary Willard Wirtz, second from left, with Al Zack, AFL-CIO director of Public Relations, and Ken Feister and Barney Mullady, secretary and president, respectively, of the International Labor Press Assn.

March, 1963
Moose, he preme Organizer and Davis to union the following year. Elected to Congress in 1906, he served for six years.

JAMES J. DAVIS
Served 1921-1930
Davis once worked as a puddler in steel, was a union member. As Supreme Organizer and later as Director-General of the Loyal Order of Moose, he boosted Moose membership by 600,000. He was Labor Secretary under Harding, Coolidge, Hoover.

WILLIAM N. DOAK
Served 1930-1933
The third Secretary was a Republican railroad labor lobbyist and editor-manager of The Railroad Trainman, official publication of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. Born in Rural Retreat, Virginia, he gained a reputation as a mediator in labor disputes during World War I, was 5-day week advocate.

FRANCES PERKINS
Served 1933-1945
First woman Cabinet member in American history, she wrestled with problems of America's greatest depression and world's worst war during her 12-year, record-breaking tenure. A social worker by profession, she told a reporter that her sex was a handicap "only in climbing trees."

LEWIS B. SCHWELLENBACH
Served 1945-1948
Schwellenbach was born in Superior, Wisconsin, practiced law in Washington State, was a U. S. Senator from 1934 to 1940. He left the Senate in 1940, later was appointed a U. S. District judge in Washington State. Appointed Secretary of Labor by his Senate friend, Harry Truman, he died in office in 1948.

Bureau of Labor-Management Reports collects and analyzes 250,000 reports filed so far by unions, employers and labor relations consultants. Enforces anti-labor Landrum-Griffin Law.

Office of Welfare and Pension Plans protects the interests of 85 million workers covered by welfare and pension plans.

During World War I, the Department became involved in the vital problem of supplying manpower to aid the war effort and in insuring the production of essential goods. During the peace that followed, the Secretaries of Labor worked for increased security for individual workers involved in the technological change to mass production.

With the Depression of 1929, new activities of the Department came into being—the national employment service, wages and hours law enforcement, apprenticeship and training, and the development of labor standards to improve working conditions and thus increase the well-being and efficiency of workers.

At the same time, some of the older agencies were removed with these changes: Immigration and Naturalization, the Children's Bureau and the Mediation and Conciliation Service are no longer under the wing of the Department of Labor, having been established as separate agencies or transferred to other departments of the Government. In the Department of Labor, new bureaus were created to meet the changing needs—Employment Security, Labor Standards, Apprenticeship and Training, and Wage and Hour Division.

The history of the Department is thus a record of response to change, always with the welfare of the American worker and his family dominating the aims, thoughts, efforts and actions of the Department.

Looking into the future, the new Secretary of Labor, Willard Wirtz says:

"We do not face today a world war, as we have done twice in the past. We do not face the collapse of an entire economic system, as we once did. We face, rather, the product of success—an economy so forward and aggressive in its technical ability that it has outstripped the skills of millions of persons, deprived itself of that many consumers, and come to an impasse of demand. Change today is measured in megatons of technological, demographic, political, social and economic explosions.

"But labor must not be regarded as only a supply factor in the equation of a necessarily expanding economy. We know that the only true wealth of any nation lies in the capacity of its people to produce both ideas and things. There is the demand upon us that we keep it ever in mind that our task is essentially to 'carry the feeling of brotherhood to the modes and practical institutions of man's life,' to assure that human fulfillment keeps pace with material gain.

"As framer of the manpower policies of this Nation, the Department of Labor must keep pace with the
scientific advancements that offer promise of man's fulfillment. We have the responsibility of developing those programs which will safeguard the person who may, as an individual, be adversely affected by a technological development which greatly benefits the community as a whole.

"We can and must do better in approaching these problems of technology. Further attention must be given by the Department of Labor to the problems created by automation. We are going to have to review our seniority, our job-right systems, our employment security programs and our retirement programs in order to find ways of insuring man's rights despite his displacement by a machine.

"Retraining is being devised to fill new job opportunities. We are going to need in this decade alone 5 million more skilled workers than we have presently available. We must expand the economy to the point where there are another 4 million jobs.

"The presiding fact in our time and in any other times is the fact of change, and the common denominator of all of our difficulties is dealing with change honestly, wisely and constructively. We must take the offensive with change and make it the instrument for man's deliverance, instead of permitting it to become the instrument of his destruction.

"The vantage point of a 50th anniversary is an excellent perch from which to consider this central challenge of continuing change. The Department of Labor can look back on a record of commitment to the welfare of the individual. The demand today upon the leaders of American labor and industry and those in public government is a hard, challenging, tough demand that can be met squarely on its own terms. It is an exciting prospect for those who believe that growth is the distinguishing characteristic of life and that the future is a good idea.

"As in earlier periods, the Department of Labor will be able to make a contribution because of its concern with man and the power he represents."

Behind this vital branch of government are five decades of labor-management assistance highlighted by all manner of eventual history—World War I mobilization, the depression of the 30's, the NRA and the Blue Eagle, the Wagner Act, and much more. At the milestones ahead are pressing problems involving labor laws, defense planning, continued high employment, and aid to the handicapped, to name a few.

During the ensuing 50 years, ten outstanding Americans, shown to left and right, have served as Secretary of Labor and helped to establish a commendable record for this, the world's largest, free government institution for the working man. Our working caps are off to the almost 8,000 employees of the U. S. Department of Labor, in Washington, in the Field offices, and overseas. Congratulations! May life be just beginning at 50.

March, 1963

MAURICE J. TOBIN
Served 1948-1953
A handsome, likable Irishman from Roxbury, Massachusetts, Tobin concerned himself with restoring the Labor Department's role, which had been diminishing in the Federal government. Personnel and funds for the Department were increased during his tenure. He was Director of Defense Manpower during the Korean conflict.

MARTIN DURKIN
Served nine months, 1953
"The plumber in the millionaires' Cabinet," Durkin was President of the Plumbers and Pipe Fitters, AFL, when picked by President Eisenhower. It was said that Ike hoped to break labor leaders of the habit of bringing their troubles to the White House by picking one of their own as Labor Secretary. Durkin resigned after a policy dispute.

JAMES P. MITCHELL
Served 1953-1961
Mitchell was handling labor and manpower problems as Assistant Secretary of the Army when President Eisenhower picked him to succeed Durkin. "Besides his other qualifications, he has a thick hide and a good heart," said the President. Mitchell was respected by labor and management and built a smooth-functioning department.

ARTHUR GOLDBERG
Served 1961-1962
Goldberg was special counsel for the AFL-CIO and general counsel for several unions before becoming Secretary of Labor with the inauguration of John Kennedy in 1961. He engaged more actively in labor-management relations than any previous secretary, and, after 20 months heading the department, he was named to the U. S. Supreme Court.

W. WILLARD WIRTZ
Present Secretary
A wryly humorous, diligent law professor, labor arbitrator, public servant (War Labor Board, National Wage Stabilization Board) and former Adlai Stevenson law partner, has now succeeded to the Secretary's third-floor office. Wirtz served as Under Secretary during Goldberg's tenure.
JOURNEYMAN in the "wasteland" of television who'd like to work occasionally outside the realm of canned shows and network feeds can take heart from the tremendous, recent growth of public interest in CULTURE, per se. The time may not be too far away when technicians will be handling remotes from local cultural centers on a regular and routine basis.

Such publications in-the-know as Business Week, Variety, and Back Stage, report a great increase in the number of little theaters, symphony orchestras, concerts, museums, and art galleries across the land, almost all of which are happy to participate in public-service programming. The Long Range Planning Service of Stanford Research Institute in California has made a stab at assessing the total amount of money spent each year by Americans pursuing various forms of culture, and it estimates that $2.5 billion was spent in 1960 (the latest year for which figures are available). And this was primarily a total for the performing arts alone, not including books and education.

Many business firms (and erstwhile sponsors) are bringing culture to the people, and the people are responding in turn. Standard Oil Company of New Jersey was amazed, we are told, by the public reception for its "Play of the Week" and "The Age of Kings." Such sponsors as Hallmark and Dupont have found audiences for their dramatic specials. The Dallas, Tex., Symphony Orchestra puts on special pops concerts in the Dallas Market Center, where footsore buyers can relax between shopping jaunts and listen to Tchaikovsky.

Many of the so-called "good music stations" of broadcasting have moved out of their red-ink orphanages into the resounding black. The census takers tell us that more people attend concerts in the United States than go to baseball games, and this statement takes in both major and minor league games and the World Series. America has 1,200 of the world's 2,000 symphony orchestras. We have 700 opera companies and more than 10,000 theatrical groups of all types and sizes.

What this all adds up to is a growing availability of local facilities which can supply public service time for the station log... which will, in turn, please Federal Communications Commission Chairman Newton Minow and countless others in and out of broadcasting.
A survey recently made for the City of Richmond, Va., by a special consultant indicates that at least 150 local cultural centers are either now operating or are in the planning stage. Such diverse cities as Little Rock, Ark., San Leandro, Calif., and Columbus, Ga., are erecting culture centers.

The facilities these centers will contain are not those of a People's Palace of Culture in a Soviet socialist republic. Instead, we'll see the works of some of America's best contemporary artists, musicians, and stage performers. With the new Lincoln Center in New York City and a planned National Cultural Center in Washington setting the pace, there may well be a tremendous upsurge in the arts in the years ahead. Festivals and competitions on a state and national scale could add much to the program balance of broadcasting.

For decades the entertainment and performance unions have worked for the preservation and expansion of the performing arts. The American Federation of Musicians has not only donated much time to works of public benefit but it has pressed for Federal legislation to support civic music aggregations. Other unions are backing plans for cultural centers in several cities.

In the field of broadcasting, it may be that cultural centers will be the connecting links between educational and commercial broadcasting. Some centers are planning recording facilities which will preserve outstanding performances of various types of artists for posterity.

Culture trends sometimes bloom and quickly die, of course. The market for harpsichords, which had a great popularity in the nation's capital a few years ago, fell off almost as quickly as did the market for hula hoops. Folk singers with their well-timed crescendos, may become a glut on the rosters of the American Guild of Variety Artists and other unions.

Americans often beat an idea to death in a hurry, via status seeking and what the economists call "conspicuous consumption." Nevertheless, the higher levels of education reached by most Americans in recent decades have created cultural needs which the re-runs of old movies do not satisfy. Though oil paintings by numbers and parlor organs without music scores have made "artists" of people who once relaxed with backgammon and Flinch cards, other Americans with true artistic skills and appreciations are moving to higher plateaus. They're accomplishing this via cultural centers, stereo broadcasting, and more refined media.
An artist’s conception of the completed National Cultural Center, to be erected on the east bank of the Potomac River in the nation’s capital, near the Lincoln Memorial and other landmarks.

PLANS FOR A NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTER

The United States is one of the few leading countries in the world with no national cultural center.

Government support for the arts has not been general Federal policy. It was attempted briefly during the Depression days, when starving artists and writers were kept off breadlines, with commissions to paint murals in post offices and write state touring guides and histories.

Today some artists and writers go abroad under State Department auspices through the cultural exchange programs. But, generally speaking, palette artists and serious performing artists of the United States must trust to luck and sometimes even go abroad to achieve fame and audiences. Pianists Van Cliburn and Byron Janis gained a wide audience through the international piano competitions in Moscow. Many American opera stars found acclaim for their voices at La Scala in Milan.

To remedy all this and crystallize public appreciation of the arts in America, several groups have successfully pushed through Congress a bill to establish a National Cultural Center, and 13 acres of Federal land along the Potomac River in Washington has been set aside for a site.

Money to build the center is to come from a public fund raising campaign. A total of $30 million is needed, and by December, 1962, only about $2 million had been raised.

Organized Labor is lending its support to the cause. Shortly after President Kennedy appointed him to the Center’s Board of Trustees, AFL-CIO President George Meany said:

“This is a project that should arouse the enthusiasm of all of us in the labor movement. We have done much to win for American workers the leisure time to which they are entitled. Surely it is highly appropriate for us to join in an undertaking that will help to make those leisure hours more rewarding. In this instance there is the further consideration that an overwhelming majority of the performing artists, to whom this enterprise is so important, are also members of AFL-CIO unions.”

To design a building for the center, the Board of Trustees selected the well-known architect, Edward Durrell Stone. Last September, Stone formally presented his model to the Center’s Honorary Co-Chairmen, the present and former First Ladies, Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs.
Eisenhower. Both they and, subsequently, the Commission on Fine Arts and the Board itself expressed delight with his design.

The site selected on the east bank of the Potomac River has been described by Stone as “one of the most exciting and glorious settings for a public building in the world.” Situated opposite Theodore Roosevelt Island, a bird sanctuary in the middle of the river and decreed by law to remain in its natural state, the Center will be set in a permanently park-like atmosphere. Its rooftop will command a magnificent view of the city.

The building will include a 1,200-seat theatre, a 2,750-seat symphony hall and a 2,500-seat hall for opera, musical comedy and ballet. A garden-like roof area, with retractable roof to ensure use in all weather, has been designed for band concerts, art exhibits, festivals, theatre-in-the-round, balls and restaurants. The Center itself will rise 100 feet from a terraced plaza and will be 300 feet wide and 630 feet long.

Numerous delicate steel columns encased in bronze with a gold finish will surround the building. A concrete substructure will be topped by a steel superstructure and the entire building will be sheathed with white marble facing. The entrance plaza will include fountains and indigenous flowering trees, including the traditional Washington cherry and magnolia trees. A spectacular night-time effect will be created by exterior floodlighting and jet fountains rising from the Potomac River on gala occasions.

The architect has designed well. He has drawn up plans for a building in absolute conformity with the ideals and standards of the finished Center.

Plans for broadcasting and recording facilities at the Center are still unsettled. Center leaders are conferring with network and broadcasting association representatives this month to settle many problems regarding broadcast policy. In any case, the day may not be too far off when the networks will “switch us to Washington” for special cultural programs of national and even international interest.

**Open-air concerts could be held on the roof terrace of the proposed center. The roof itself would be mobile and could be rolled overhead for protection in bad weather.**

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**OUR COVER STORY**

**A PLANNING SESSION—Ed Greene, manager and part-owner of Edgewood Studios, David Greene, and John Dildine review a script for the Railway Labor Executives’ series.**

**AT THE CONTROLS—David Greene, a member of Local 1200, records a segment of the “Working on the Railroads” series, as Marion Sanders, RLEA’s radio coordinator, checks the script.**

**‘Working on the Railroads’ Is an All-Union Production**

In an effort to present the story of the nation’s declining rail service and discuss the problems of railroad workers, the Railway Labor Executives Association, with headquarters in the nation’s capital, is now recording a 5-minute, 13-week transcribed radio series called “Working on the Railroads.” Going out as a public service feature to stations in many states, the series is being recorded by members of Washington-Baltimore Local 1200 at Edgewood Recording Studios in Washington, D. C.

Edgewood is a relatively new and young operation. It began with a partnership in 1953 and was incorporated and moved to its present location last year.

Edgewood is one of six recording companies in the nation’s capital with contractual relations with members of Local Union 1200.

March, 1963
KCMO is growing with Kansas City

MEMBERS of Local Union 1259 operate transmitters, projectors, cameras, video tape recorders, splice film, and perform the many other jobs which keep KCMO-AM-FM-TV on the air. They have performed these functions for many years and have generally enjoyed good contractual relations with the various managements who have operated the stations.

Walter L. (Wally) Reed is the able, fulltime business manager of Local Union 1259. Wally worked for many years in the broadcasting industry and has been an active member of the IBEW since 1937.

The story of KCMO broadcasting is a story of expansion and growth from a small 100-watter in 1936 to the most powerful radio station in the area, a story which continued with the introduction of FM broadcasting in February, 1948, and a television operation on Channel 5, which went on the air in September, 1953. KCMO is the only Kansas City station offering these three combined facilities, plus Muzak.

Incorporated in June, 1936, with only 15 employes, the organization has expanded to 140.

On November 1, 1953, the Meredith Publishing Company (publishers of Better Homes and Gardens and Successful Farming magazines) purchased the controlling interests of the KCMO Broadcasting Company.

KCMO RADIO

KCMO Radio is on the air 24 hours a day. The station is an affiliate of the CBS Radio Network and operates on 810 kilocycles with 50,000 watts daytime and 10,000 watts (directional) nighttime. Business offices and studios are located at Broadcasting House, 125 East 31st St. in Kansas City and the KCMO transmitter is at Nashua, Mo., in Clay County.

The KCMO Radio program schedule is especially designed for the mid-American audience—listeners who have both rural and urban interests. As a member of
CBS, KCMO carries the full complement of the network's entertainment and service features. KCMO's station-produced, locally-originated programs run the gamut from service shows through the full scale of music, news, sports and variety.

**KCMO-TELEVISION**

Channel 5 in Kansas City, KCMO-TV, has been telecasting since September 27, 1953. So that Channel 5 could get on the air as soon as possible, KCMO-TV utilized the existing KCMO-FM tower. Upon the completion of its permanent, self-supporting tower (one of the tallest structures of its kind in America) in March, 1956, KCMO-TV increased its power to the maximum 100,000 watts. Studios, transmitter and tower are all located at Broadcasting House.

Locally produced shows supplement the network programming and round out the entertainment schedule with 19 hours of live programming each week. KCMO-TV is presently transmitting network color television programs and also broadcasts local shows in color.

**KCMO-FM**

KCMO-FM serves the musical community seven days a week from 6:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. on 94.9 megacycles, offering listeners a well-rounded musical fare ranging from the classics to semiclassical, to jazz. News is presented on the hour.

**KCMO Business Music Services—MUZAK**

In February, 1958, KCMO Broadcasting purchased the Muzak physical assets as well as the franchises in Greater Kansas City, St. Joseph and Topeka.

This acquisition facilitated KCMO-FM's early entry into the multiplexing field...a relatively new electronic technique which permits an FM station to use sub-channels to broadcast up to three separate programs over one transmitter.

This multiplexing operation has filled a definite need by supplying music to business organizations for the benefit of their employees and customers.

Music by Muzak as furnished by KCMO Business Music Service is a custom engineered, carefully programmed, functional background music service. More than 500 business leaders in the Kansas City area are subscribers of Muzak.

The 1960 census showed Kansas City with a population of 475,539, ranking 27th in the nation. Its metropolitan population is much greater.

Kansas City has grown steadily since the pioneer days when it was a railroad station for shipment of livestock. Today it's next to Detroit in automobile assembly and next to the Twin Cities in feed manufacturing. It's 16th in the nation in population and 15th in manufacturing employment. The Meredith Stations are good evidence "that everything's up to date in Kansas City."

March, 1963
Clearing the Air by Edward P. Morgan, Robert B. Luce, Inc., Washington, D. C., 267 pp., $4.95.

The continuity writers, the newscasters, and the various and sundry scripters who work in broadcasting must appreciate the satisfaction of having one's best works printed, bound and placed before a wide-ranging, reading public. Much good writing and many profound thoughts go "on the air" every day to be lost forever—untaped, unduplicated, and often uncredited.

It is gratifying to find a publisher who finds lasting value in the commentaries of a news commentator like Edward P. Morgan and presents them in a package for an appreciative audience.

"Clearing the Air" is a collection of 120 of Morgan's weekday comments on current events. He covers everything from the actions of Congress to the Peace Corps, to women's fashions, to segregation, etc.

Morgan has enjoyed a peculiar kind of freedom of the air. For many years his sponsor has given him liberty to say exactly what he thinks on nationwide newscasts. He has handled that freedom with a remarkable sense of responsibility.

Morgan has been sponsored by the Labor Federation for almost a decade. He replaced Frank Edwards when the latter became too fascinated by flying saucers and too involved in a policy dispute with AFL leaders. When the AFL and CIO merged, the CIO's commentator, John W. Vandercook, merged too, and, until Vandercook retired, the AFL-CIO employed both men.

A native of Walla Walla, Washington, Morgan graduated from Whitman College in 1932, Phi Beta Kappa. He began his journalistic career as a sports reporter for the Seattle Star. He has since worked for the United Press, the Chicago Daily News, Collier's Weekly, CBS Radio, and most recently the ABC Radio Network, reporting from Washington. He has won many awards, among them the Peabody Award, 1956, for "the outstanding radio news program."

AFL-CIO sponsored newscaster and commentator Edward P. Morgan presents a copy of his book, "Clearing the Air," to Federation President George Meany. In the foreword, Morgan urges other networks and sponsors to give their newscasters the freedom to report and comment granted him by ABC and the AFL-CIO.


Here's a little volume you can probably pick up on a local newsstand paperback rack which should more than pay for its low price. It's a collection of brief articles which tells you how to make the most of your income. If the cost of living has you about licked, Sidney Margolius might help to explain why.

He tells you how to get a good buy in a discount house and warns you about the duds and schemes which can cause you to be "taken in." He lists 12 tested shopping principles. He tells how to shop the supermarkets and how to save money through cooperative buying. The little book lists five ways to cut the cost of housing and tells you how to select home appliances.

We recommend the book over many others of the type because the author has been writing consumer-help material for labor publications for years and writes strictly for John Consumer. Ten years ago he was struggling to make ends meet himself as a writer for a labor press service. Today his work is recognized and printed in many "slick" publications. The book is indexed and easy to read.

READING IS RECOMMENDED

A boost for National Library Week, April 21-27 and for union cooperation with local libraries has been given by AFL-CIO President George Meany. In a letter to more than 700 AFL-CIO local central bodies, Meany said that workers need to read more books to keep pace with technological changes and to be better citizens.

Technician-Engineer
VICTORY OVER THE SNIVET

Three new novar type beam power tubes for use in high-efficiency horizontal-deflection amplifier circuits for both VHF and UHF television receivers have signed the death warrant for the “snivet.” The “snivet”—one of television’s worst villains—is actually the engineers’ term for “tearing” of a TV picture.

The new tubes, developed by the RCA Electron Tube Division, have a separate base-pin connection to grid No. 3 to which positive voltage can be applied to minimize interference from “snivets.”

In addition, the novar construction of the new tubes assures exceptionally strong mount support and relatively cool operation.

All this plus the featuring of the RCA-developed “Dark Heater” in the three tubes is more than enough to handle any television “snivet,” the manufacturer claims.

BRITISH AWARD FOR LASER

A British scientific honor—the Thomas Young Medal and prize of 50 guineas from London’s Institute of Physics and the Physical Society—has been awarded to Stanford University Physics Professor Arthur L. Schawlow and Provost Charles H. Townes of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

It is the second award within a year for the two physicists who originated the laser, science’s amazing new source of “coherent light.” Last October the two physicists received the Stuart Ballantine Medal of the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia.

The official presentation of the British awards will be made at the institute’s annual dinner on May 7.

The laser, or optical maser, was first suggested in 1958 by Prof. Schawlow in a paper co-authored by Dr. Townes, who invented the original microwave maser used in high-frequency radio. Based on their theory, lasers were made of gases, rubies, and other solid materials.

Laser light waves are all of a single frequency and wavelength. Ordinary light has many wavelengths and frequencies, all interfering with each other. One scientist has likened the laser’s coherent light to the pure tone of a violin, and ordinary light to the noise din of Times Square.

With its light waves all “in step” the laser’s beam does not spread out like the beam of ordinary light. And it is thousands of times more intense than sunlight.

A focused laser beam can burn through any material, even diamonds. It could also be used as a single carrier beam capable of handling all the radio, television and telephone communications in the U. S. Other potential uses include power transmission to satellites, mapping the moon’s surface, and spot welding of tissues in surgery. (For more on the laser, see “What Is a Laser?” on Page 14 of the December, 1962, Technician-Engineer.)

LASER DEMODULATOR

A major step-forward in developing uses for the laser was announced last month by National Engineering Science Co. and Douglas Aircraft Co. The two firms have developed a laser demodulator. The demodulator is the element of a receiver that strips off the intelligence impressed on the carrier frequency.

In this case, the optical carrier demodulation is more complicated and critical. This basic development has been likened to the introduction of the crystal set in the early days of radio with the complications attendant upon sub-carriers.

WORLD GUESSTIMATE

TVI’s survey of the world market turns up the interesting information that there are 3,026 TV transmitters in the world; 1,857 in Europe, 885 in America, 227 in Asia, 33 in Oceania and 24 in Africa. The number of receivers is stated to be 118 million, with a total estimated audience of 400 million people.
LABOR RELATIONS

Nassau County, N. Y., has found necessary the services of a labor relations director—one of the first counties to create such a post—and the job is filled by a trade unionist.

Named to the office is Robert W. MacGregor, for the last 15 years business manager of Local 1049, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Charles A. Price succeeds MacGregor in his union office. (PAI)

N.L.R.B. ELECTION PAMPHLET

A pamphlet, entitled "Information to Voters in Elections Conducted by the National Labor Relations Board" explaining NLRB election procedures in simple terms, is available in all Board field offices. The booklet stresses the secrecy of the individual's ballot, where and how voting is done and how ballots are counted and results determined. (PAI)

JINGLE-AND-SPOT PACT

A three-year labor agreement covering musicians who make jingle and spot commercials for radio and television has been announced by President Herman Kenin of the American Federation of Musicians. It includes a 12½ per cent wage increase over three years plus re-use payments after 13 weeks. (PAI)

UNION CLOTHING

In recent years Local 1048, Indianapolis, Ind., has provided clothing for more than 8,000 needy children in the Central Indiana area.

It's all part of a continuing Clothe-a-Child campaign carried on by IBEW members who work for Radio Corporation of America. While the highlight of the campaign is at Christmas time, it is continued throughout the year.

INSURANCE RATE DENIED

The State of Utah Insurance Department has just denied Blue Cross and Blue Shield a 40 per cent rate increase, requested more information on its basis of filing and has suggested a public hearing on the requested boost might be desirable. The information requested would include fee schedules and related information. Comprehensive medical and hospital coverage for a family currently costs about $13.50 a month—under the proposal submitted to the Insurance Department this rate would be increased to $19.10 per month.

The comptroller of the insurance organizations said that the rate increase applied for resulted from underwriting losses in 1961 and 1962, as well as the increases in average fees for doctor's services. He also pointed out that the new fee schedule would carry with it increased benefits, including longer hospitalization limits, full payment for drugs, radiation therapy payments and the inclusion of new surgical techniques. He added that Blue Cross and Blue Shield covers about 300,000 people in the state and that only about 170,000 would be subject to the proposed new rate schedules.