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# Fax to Train in Motion Demonstrated

## Transmission Is Made From Capitol Tuesday

OPENING new vistas for transmission of written material by radio, the first facsimile message ever flashed to a moving train was received perfectly aboard a B. & O. train between Baltimore and Washington last Tuesday.

Postmaster General Robert E. Hannegan flipped a switch on a transmitting set in the Capitol law library at 2:50 p. m., starting transmission of a message penned by Margaret Truman, daughter of the President. It was the same message that Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, pounded out to Baltimore from the same room 102 years ago—"What hath God wrought?"

### Witness Show

Originally the ceremony was scheduled for May 24, 102d anniversary of the first Morse message, but the nationwide rail strike interfered. Press Wireless Mfg. Corp. used its facsimile equipment, transmitting on 156.525 mc. Radio Division of Bendix Aviation Corp., whose very-high frequency radio communications equipment has been installed by the B. & O. for train communications, cooperated.

The complete ceremony, witnessed by officials of Government, the B. & O., Press Wireless, Bendix and news men and women, was broadcast exclusively by WCBM Baltimore and the Maryland Coverage Network, including WJEJ Hagerstown and WBOC Salisbury. Transcriptions of the broadcast will be presented by WCBM to Postmaster General Hannegan, Miss Truman and the Library of Congress.

Michael Murray of WCBM, who handled the narration and described the ceremony, introduced Mr. Hannegan and Samuel P. Morse, supervisor of sound effects, WOR-Mutual New York, great-grand-nephew of the inventor of the telegraph. Mr. Hannegan termed facsimile a "symbol of a future in which we shall know many great scientific advances which will lead us to a prosperous and peaceful world."

### 'Triple A' Reception

C. W. Van Horn, operating vice president of the B. & O., contacted by radiotelephone A. S. Hunt, chief engineer, Communications & Signals, B. & O., aboard the moving train, which then was passing Relay, Md., about seven miles outside of Baltimore. Mr. Hannegan threw the switch that started rotating the cylinder to which Miss Truman's message was attached.

During the transmission Mr. Van Horn remained in telephonic contact with the train and was informed the reception was "triple A" (very good). When the train arrived in Washington at 3:35 p.m., the special car bearing fac-



AS FIRST FACSIMILE message was transmitted from Capitol in Washington to moving B. & O. train outside Baltimore, these spectators watched (l to r): A. Warren Norton, president, Press Wireless; Rep. A. L. Bulwinkle (D.-N. C.), ranking member, House Interstate & Foreign Commerce Committee; Sen. Burton K. Wheeler (D.-Mont.), chairman, Interstate Commerce Committee; Samuel P. Morse, supervisor of sound effects, WOR New York, great grand nephew of Samuel F. B. Morse, telegraph inventor; Postmaster General Robert E. Hannegan, who flipped switch starting historic transmission.

simile receiver was opened to the public.

Mr. Morse congratulated those who developed facsimile and said "improvements in radio such as the one we are witnessing today are no longer regarded as curious experiments or mere playthings, but as real and valuable contributions to human welfare." Except for Louis E. Corbin, public relations director of WCBM, and Bill Rock, station production manager, Mr. Morse would not have taken part in the ceremony.

### Called Descendent

Mr. Rock met the WOR-Mutual sound effects supervisor in New York some weeks ago and laughingly inquired: "Your name is Morse—like the telegraph code?" The engineer explained he was a descendant of the telegraph inventor.

When Press Wireless and the B. & O. announced plans for the facsimile demonstration had been set for June 4, Messrs. Rock and Corbin suggested to Paul Paddock, Press Wireless director of public relations, that the WOR-Mutual sound effects supervisor take part. Mr. Paddock called Mr. Morse on long distance June 1 and the descendant of the telegraph inventor went to Washington. He took part in the 100th anniversary of the first telegraph message, celebrated in 1944, but had made no plans to attend last week's ceremony until he received the telephonic invitation at the suggestion of the WCBM men.

Press Wireless gave public demonstrations of facsimile in the Willard Hotel, Washington, last Thursday and Friday. A. Warren Norton, PW president, predicted that within a relatively short time railroads and airlines will utilize facsimile for dispatching trains and planes and message traffic. Press

Wireless plans a demonstration between an airliner and a ground station in the near future, he added.

### Salee Gene Plans

SALEE GENE COSMETICS, Los Angeles (Hand Sweet deodorant lotion), has appointed Arthur W. Stowe Adv., Los Angeles, as national advertising agency. Radio campaign totaling \$50,000 is being projected to introduce new product. Firm has purchased three weekly quarter-hour periods on KLAC Hollywood *Make Believe Ballroom* effective June 10.

### Chesterfield Signs

LIGGETT AND MYERS Tobacco Co. (Chesterfield cigarettes), has signed Maurice Mart, former Martin Block understudy at WNEW New York, to do a six-weekly half-hour recorded *Chesterfield ABC Roundup* on KFVB Hollywood starting June 17. Agency is Newell Emmett Co., New York.

### Old Gold Is Set

P. LORILLARD Co., New York (Old Gold cigarettes), June 16 for 13 weeks replaces *Meet Me at Parley's* with musical variety series featuring Skitch Henderson and Golden Gate Quartet with Jan Savitt's Orchestra on 134 NBC stations, Sun. 10:30-11 p.m. (EST). Agency is Lennen and Mitchell, New York.

### Cancels Spots

FOR FIRST time in 12 years use of radio, the Lutheran Layman's League has cancelled 90% of its spot advertising campaign on 100 radio stations for the summer season. Organization sponsors the *English Lutheran Hour* which solicits funds for the league.

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