NEW POSTAL BILL FAVORS EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS

On July 11, the House Post Office Committee met in Executive session to consider HR-7904 (introduced by Rep. Henderson, D-Ohio) which would generally raise postal rates, but which would classify handling of educational materials and library materials as part of the "public service operation" of the Post Office Department, and would result in no increase in the rate for educational or library materials. "Public service" classification of these materials would mean that any loss incurred by the Post Office in handling these items would not be considered a part of the operating deficit of the Post Office and pressure to make these classes of mail self-supporting would thus be eased both now and in any future postal legislation. Congress each year makes a special appropriation to cover such "public service operations," and in the past has determined the amount of such appropriation. The new bill would provide for the Postmaster General to estimate each year what such services would cost, separately from the regular operating budget. The Postmaster General has endorsed HR 7904.

The NAEB (along with the NETRC and others) opposed the original bill- HR-6418 (see "Washington Report" Vol. II, No. 6) which would have raised the rates for educational and library materials 1-2¢ per pound, and this bill was at first shelved by the committee, but later re-opened for consideration. Although both bills were to be considered, it was reliably reported that primary consideration would be given in the July 11 hearing to HR-7904.

KERR BILL WOULD MAKE SURPLUS PROPERTY AVAILABLE TO ETV

On June 21, Sen. Kerr (D.Okla.), with Sen. Monroney, introduced S-2119, a bill to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 so as to permit donations of surplus property to schools for the mentally retarded, schools for the physically handicapped, educational television stations, and public libraries.

The NAEB is filing a letter, urging passage of this bill, with both the Senate and House committees on Government Operations. Little opposition to this legislation is anticipated.

FEDERAL AID TO ETV

This legislation (reported on in "Washington Report" Vol. II, No. 6) was considered by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce in Executive Session on July 11. Although previously approved by the Subcommittee on Communication and Power, the fate of this legislation is still doubtful, although Chairman Oren Harris has indicated his support of the bill. If passed by the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, the bill would still have to get through the Rules Committee before being considered by the full House. If passed as it now stands there would follow a House-Senate conference committee to iron out differences between the House bill and the Magnuson bill which passed the Senate 67-13, March 21.

FCC ACTIONS

Upon request of WHYY, Inc., and with the consent of all parties, the FCC (June 21) scheduled the following procedural dates in Wilmington, Delaware, TV Channel 12 proceeding: August 15- Notification of witnesses desired for cross-examination; September 19- Further
The Commission took actions (June 21) looking toward a comprehensive revision of FM broadcast rules, at the same time inviting comments on whether duplication of AM programs on FM stations should be curtailed, although no rules will be adopted in the latter area without further proceedings. As to many of the allocation and assignment matters, the proceeding looks toward adoption of rules without further proceedings.

Proposing three classes of commercial FM stations (now two) and two of educational stations, the proposed Rule Making would provide minimum co-channel and adjacent-channel mileage separations, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Maximum facilities (or equivalent)</th>
<th>Protected service area radius</th>
<th>Minimum co-channel spacing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class A (low power)</td>
<td>1 kw ERP, 250 ft.*</td>
<td>25 miles</td>
<td>115 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class B (intermediate power)</td>
<td>20 kw ERP, 500 ft.*</td>
<td>50 miles</td>
<td>190 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class C (high power)</td>
<td>100 kw ERP, 2,000 ft.*</td>
<td>100 miles</td>
<td>300 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class D (low power educational)</td>
<td>10 w (trans. power), 100 ft.*</td>
<td>6 miles</td>
<td>25 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class E (high power educational)</td>
<td>Same as for maximum commercial station at the same location</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Above average terrain

Comments to the proposed rule making are due September 5.

The FCC (on July 6) proposed further rule making which would amend Sec. IV of its broadcast application forms to require applicants to state what efforts they have made to ascertain the audience needs and interests of their communities, and the manner in which they are meeting them or intend to meet them. The new information would be required on applications for CPs, renewals, assignments of CPs or licenses, and consent to transfer of control. In companion action, the FCC proposed to revise logging requirements to provide the factual information needed to complete the intended revised forms. Comments in both matters may be filed before September 7 and reply comments by September 18.

The FCC (on June 28) proposed rule making which would preclude licensing VHF translators to TV broadcast stations just to extend the latter's service area. It is not proposed to place any additional restrictions insofar as UHF translators are concerned. Comments are invited by September 18.

Granted CP (on June 28) to the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, for a new noncommercial educational FM station to operate on 91.1 mc with 10 watts.

Granted CP (on June 21) to the Trustees of Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois, for a new noncommercial educational FM station to operate on 88.1 mc with 10 watts; remote control permitted.

Denied (on July 6) petitions for reargument, rehearing and oral argument on petition for rehearing of July 20, 1960 Decision which granted new Class B FM station to Riverside Church (NYC) and denied application of Huntington-Montauk B/cg. Co., Inc., for a like facility in Huntington, L.I., N.Y.
Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records at the Wisconsin Historical Society as part of “Unlocking the Airwaves: Revitalizing an Early Public and Educational Radio Collection.”

A collaboration among the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities, University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Communication Arts, and Wisconsin Historical Society.

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