

Sooners

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that "as far as we know we have a contract" with KOMA, and added that the party was negotiating for sponsorship rights to Oklahoma A&M games as well.

The party had negotiated for broadcast rights beginning with a contest Sept. 30 between the U. of Oklahoma and Boston College, and ending around Nov. 7. Station officials said plans provided for 25-word announcements at intervals during each game stressing the citizens' civic duty to vote. Games would be carried on a state-wide network. Controversy was sparked with huge billboards advertising the Democratic Party's sponsorship of the games.

Amid the dispute, Dr. Cross said he knew that the party originally planned to sponsor the broadcasts but thought "the Democrats agreed it would not be a good thing and decided to drop it." He also noted that the university-station contract contains a clause permitting the latter to "approve or reject" sponsors.

The clause was originally written to prohibit advertising of cigarette and beer companies, or any sponsor "repugnant to the public taste," according to Pete White, Tulsa advertising man, who reportedly conceived the plan and completed the contract with KOMA.

"They certainly can't say the Democratic Party is repugnant to the state of Oklahoma," he added. Oklahoma normally is a Democratic state and a heavy vote turnout usually favors the Democrats.

The *Tulsa Daily World*, writing of the furor, said Republicans were fearful lest they hear broadcast announcements such as these:

"Man, look at that Heath lug that ball. He's running like a Democrat."

"Wow, look at him hit that line—just like a Democrat stamping his ballot."

The affair was touched off by 24-sheet billboards promoting KOMA's broadcasts of the 1950 O. U. schedule. Newspaper writers used statements such as, "The Jayhawk forward wall crumbled like a bunch of Republicans before that thrilling Democratic plunge."

Mr. White thereupon explained that commercials had already been written, that they would have been used in non-playing parts of the games, that none were excessively long and that none mentioned candidates. Instead they were directly aimed at getting out the Democratic vote.

Mr. Bernard said there was no reason to believe that vote-getting announcements during non-playing periods "would be any worse than if they came between Arthur Godfrey and Ma Perkins."

James Arrington, Oklahoma Democratic chairman, told Mr. White he was willing to share sponsorship with the Republicans but GOP Chairman Carrier rejected the offer, condemning any party sponsoring broadcasts of the activities of a state-supported institution.

ASCAP Navy Rights

ASCAP has granted a free license for performance of members' music on Pacific Fleet Navy radio shows, Otto A. Harbach, ASCAP president, announced last Thursday. The move is in line with the society's policy of granting free licenses to the armed services for musical performances on application, provided the music is not used for commercial purposes. The Navy shows will be used by stations as a public service feature, with ASCAP licenses covering a period of one year.

ANTI-RED GROUP

To 'Spotlight' New Cases

THE RADIO subcommittee of the Joint Committee Against Communism in New York, formed a fortnight ago after the successful protest against television appearances of Jean Muir, last week announced it would "spotlight" other instances of "subversive affiliations and activities" if necessary.

After its first meeting last Thursday night the subcommittee issued a statement saying it was gratified by the "increased awareness of the subversive influence in the radio and television field" and that it saw "reason to believe that the industry will re-examine the extent of this influence and take fair and vigorous action."

The subcommittee's statement was issued under the name of Stephen C. Chess, Queens County commander of the Catholic War Veterans, chairman. Co-chairman of the subcommittee is Theodore Kirkpatrick, editor of *Counterattack*, a newsletter, and publisher of *Red Channels*, the list of 151 performers, writers and other creative talent alleged to have been associated with the Communist Party or its fronts.

In Mr. Chess' statement he said the subcommittee had decided not only to "spotlight specific instances of subversive affiliations and activities" but also to "inquire into repeated complaints of capable artists, writers and technicians who have been denied employment because of their anti-communism."

The tone of the statement indicated the subcommittee had no immediate plans for repeating the kind of protest that resulted in the dismissal of Miss Muir from the cast of *The Aldrich Family*. [BROADCASTING, Sept. 4].

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AMONG the broadcasters from Arizona, Nevada and Southern California in attendance at the NAB District 16 meeting in Hollywood Aug. 24-25 were (l to r): Front Row, Ted MacMurray, Pacific Regional Network; Charles Salik, KCBQ San Diego; Harry Engel, KVEN Ventura; John Poole, KALI Pasadena; Arthur H. Groghan, KOWL Santa Monica; Ray V. Hamilton, Blackburn-Hamilton Co. Second Row, Glenn Dolberg, BMI; Kevin Sweeney, KFI Los Angeles; Riley Gibson, KXO El Centro; Alan D. Court-

ney, NBC Hollywood; Charles Hamilton, KFI; Lawrence McDowell, KFOX Long Beach; Lee Little, KTUC Tucson. Back Row, Ned Connor, KRKD Los Angeles; Hubbard Keavey, AP Los Angeles; Roy W. Sinor, KBUC Corona; Truman Hinkle, KRAM Las Vegas; Thomas Sharp and John C. Merino, KFSD San Diego; William J. Beaton, KWKW Pasadena; Frank Burke Jr., KFVD; and Cliff Gill, KFMV Hollywood and PRN.