

Visalia Grant Among Tv Actions of Commission

NEW uhf tv station on ch. 43 was granted by FCC last week to Sequoia Telecasting Co. at Visalia, Calif. Firm is owned by Irwin V. Willat, retired movie producer-director.

To operate with effective radiated power of 22.9 kw visual and antenna height above average terrain of 310 ft., the Visalia station will cost an estimated \$122,500, FCC said. First year operating cost is estimated at \$180,000.

In other tv actions last week, FCC extended for six months the construction deadline for WTHS-TV Miami, ch. 2 educational station, and designated for hearing Nov. 5 the extension of completion date request of ch. 7 KLYN-TV Amarillo.

FCC denied a request by ch. 8 KLAS-TV Las Vegas, Nev., for stay of an earlier grant to ch. 2 KLRJ-TV Henderson, Nev., to locate its main studio outside of Henderson. KLAS-TV filed an economic protest with FCC, charging the Henderson station's site is closer to Las Vegas, but KLRJ-TV has pointed out the cities are only eight miles apart and it always was known the ch. 2 station would serve both cities.

Comments on two vhf allocations proposals are invited by FCC on or before Nov. 12. One is the request of Elmira Television to add ch. 9 at Elmira, N. Y., and the other is the petition of WWPB Williamsport, Pa., to add ch. 9 at Blossburg, Pa.

FCC turned down a petition by ch. 74 WMGT (TV) North Adams, Mass., for special authority to operate on ch. 14 pending formal reallocation now proposed [B•T, Oct. 4]. FCC also denied request by ch. 32 KTVE (TV) Longview, Tex., to delete ch. 7 at Tyler, Tex., under permit to KLTW (TV) there.

Orange Tv Petitions FCC On Ch. 13 Grant in Tampa

SECOND attack on the FCC's grant of Tampa-St. Petersburg ch. 13 to Tampa Television Co. [B•T, Sept. 6] was made last week when Orange Television Broadcasting Co. filed a petition with the Commission for rehearing, reconsideration and stay in the proceeding.

Tampa Times Co., the third applicant, filed a similar petition two weeks ago against the Commission action [B•T, Oct. 4]. It charged that the Commission's reversal of the examiner's recommendation that the grant be made to the Tampa Times (WDAE-AM-FM Tampa) on diversification of media policy grounds was "irreconcilable" with other decisions respecting newspaper ownership.

Political 'Public Service'

DEMOCRATS of Cook County in Illinois are sponsoring a new daily local news program on WCFL Chicago, American Federation of Labor outlet, believed to be the first of its kind to be presented as a public service by a political party.

The news report is accompanied by an announcement that the program is sponsored by the Democratic Party and urges all citizens to vote Democratic Nov. 2 for senatorial reapportionment. The daily program, which debuted last Thursday, is described as a "public service program," but the station will be paid card rates, according to Marty Hogan, WCFL general manager.

Orange called the Commission's action "illogical and unsound." It said the FCC's attitude "stacks the cards" against applicants without broadcasting properties because the Commission made the grant to an applicant whose principal stockholder is affiliated with an am station which does not meet the test of good operation. Walter Tison, licensee of WALT Tampa, is vice president and general manager of the proposed Tampa Tv Co. station.

Orange said the Commission failed to apply the same standards to each of the applicants in the ch. 13 case. It held that it was superior to both Tampa Tv and Tampa Times on the grounds of local residence, participation of owners in local affairs, integration of ownership with management, etc.

Jenner Committee Sets More Hearings for Nov.

THE SENATE Rules subcommittee which has been investigating congressional committee procedures will hold additional hearings sometime after Nov. 8, according to Sen. William E. Jenner (R-Ind.), chairman.

He said he had invited Sen. Arthur V. Watkins (R-Utah), Sen. Homer E. Capehart (R-Ind.) and Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.) to testify at the sessions, which he said would be held when the Senate finishes action on that body's motion to censure Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.).

Sen. Watkins is chairman of a special Senate committee which held hearings on the McCarthy issue, and at which microphones and cameras were excluded. Sen. Capehart has been asked for testimony based on his experience as chairman of the Senate Banking & Currency Committee which is investigating charges of scandal in FHA administration. Sen. Kefauver has been asked to testify on his experience as chairman of a special Senate committee which investigated crime in 1951-52.

Among questions being studied by the Jenner group is that of radio-tv coverage of public hearings by congressional committees.

Dates of hearings will be set for convenience of witnesses and members of the subcommittee, and will be announced later, Sen. Jenner said.

Other members of the Rules group are Sen. Frank Carlson (R-Kan.), and Sen. Carl Hayden (D-Ariz.)

WGRD Asks Appeals Court To Order Hearing by FCC

DAYTIMER WGRD Grand Rapids, Mich., last week asked the U. S. Court of Appeals in Washington to order the FCC to give it a hearing on its attempt to win back the right to begin broadcasting before sunrise [B•T, Dec. 14, 1953].

The right of the Commission to summarily order WGRD to cease pre-sunrise operations was backed by FCC General Counsel Warren E. Baker and WING Dayton attorney Harrison T. Slaughter.

WGRD's license permits it to operate before sunrise, Paul Dobin, the Michigan station's attorney, told the court. His contention was that the FCC rules permit before-dawn broadcasting provided no "undue interference" is caused to other stations. Since 1947, Mr. Dobin said, WGRD has begun broadcasting at 6 a.m., and there were no complaints. Mr. Dobin also questioned whether the interference complained of came under the head of "undue" interference.

Both WGRD and WING operate on 1410 kc. The FCC ordered WGRD to stop pre-sunrise broadcasts after WING last year complained of

interference during its own pre-dawn broadcasts.

Both Mr. Baker and Mr. Slaughter emphasized that WGRD's license was for daytime operation only and that the regulation which permits pre-sunrise operation by a daytime-only station specifically provides that the station must cease such operation upon notice of undue interference to another station. No hearing is required, they said.

KMO Sale Approved

SALE of KMO Tacoma, Wash., by KMO Inc. to Tacoma Radio Corp. for \$200,000 was approved by FCC last week. Tacoma Radio includes part owner Charles D. Hunter Jr., law partner of Edgar Eisenhower, brother of the President. Tacoma Radio is headed by J. Archie Morton, executive assistant to the president of KIRO Seattle. Chief owners of KMO Inc. are Carl E. and Carl D. Haymond. Sale of KMO-TV for \$300,000 to broadcaster J. Elroy McCaw was approved earlier [B•T, Sept. 20].

— PROFESSIONAL SERVICES —

Marshall, Jackson Join Blackburn-Hamilton Co.

APPOINTMENTS of Clifford Marshall, United Press business representative in Atlanta, to the Washington staff of Blackburn-Hamilton Co., and Phil Jackson, former owner of KWCO Chickasha, Okla., to the B-H Chicago office, were announced today (Monday) by the station and newspaper brokerage firm. Increased volume of business made the expansion necessary, the company said.

A veteran of almost every department of UP, Mr. Marshall has been with that wire service since 1934, the last nine years as a sales representative in the south, except for a brief period when he left UP to manage WRGV Greenville,



MR. MARSHALL

MR. JACKSON

Tenn., returning to UP in 1947. He will handle eight southern states for Blackburn-Hamilton, succeeding William T. Stubblefield, who has been placed in charge of the firm's San Francisco office [B•T, Sept. 27].

Mr. Jackson has been active in southwestern broadcasting for 15 years. Before acquiring KWCO he had operated KTMC McAlester, Tex. During 1947 and 1948 he was associated with Blackburn-Hamilton in the southwest. He rejoins the brokerage firm in charge of the same territory, including Texas and Oklahoma.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PEOPLE

Martin Poll, formerly co-producer, *Flash Gordon* syndicated tv film series, to executive staff, Theatre Network Television Inc. (closed circuit tv), N. Y., in sales and production capacity.

Harold E. Mott, Welch, Mott & Morgan (radio-tv attorneys), Washington, elected vice president, National Exchange Club.