

# N-A-E-B NEWS LETTER

National Association of Educational Broadcasters  
Madison, Wisconsin -- May 19, 1937

## NAEB BUSINESS MEETING HELD AT COLUMBUS

Representatives of nine member stations met in a "work session" on May 4, during the Annual Institute on Education by Radio, and discussed numerous questions which can most effectively be handled by such a group. Members represented were WOSU, WSUI, WHA, WNAD, WCAL, KFKU, WLXAL, WILL, and WBAA. President H. B. McCarty presided and directed discussion on these points:

**Definition of Objectives of Association:** Members expressed the desire to maintain the objective of improving facilities controlled by institutions, and to encourage wider radio activities in institutions having access to private stations.

**Recording Equipment:** The Association's transcription equipment has been circulating among members. It is available to any who wish to use it. The hope is to have this machine demonstrate what can be done, and to encourage stations to secure their own equipment. Several member stations already own their recorders. Difficulties of operation were discussed, and Mr. Menzer explained the need for intelligent handling to get uniformly good results.

**Radio Dramatic Guild:** The plan and proposal for a national organization of student radio dramatics activities devised by the University of Florida, and submitted by Major Garland Powell was considered. Sponsorship by the NAEB was suggested.

While representatives agreed upon the desirability of local radio dramatics groups, there was no general enthusiasm for a national linking because of the formal organization entailed. Several opposed it on the basis of a loss of control over the activities by the stations. Most had worked out local plans which are functioning satisfactorily and hesitated to disturb them.

The majority opinion was that, as an organization, the Association should not foster such a national organization but that members wishing to have their players groups enter such a venture should be free to do so. It was believed that with such definite plans and details as Major Powell had ready, it would be possible to find a nucleus of groups to affiliate themselves in a larger body.

**1937 Convention Plans:** Three member stations invited the Association to hold its 1937 national convention with them. They were WESG, Cornell, represented by Mr. Chas. A. Taylor; WBAA, Purdue, by Mr. Clarence Dammon; and WILL, Illinois, by Mr. Jos. F. Wright. It was decided to select a meeting place and a date by letter survey. The reply sheet is being sent to all members. The President will appoint a committee on arrangements.

## MCCARTY ADDRESSES INSTITUTE

H. B. McCarty, president of the NAEB, spoke in behalf of the Association on the subject "Why the Educational Station". It was a concise, vivid picture of the place of the institutional station in the radio field. In analyzing the situation he dug to the roots of a sore-spot which socially minded people declare needs attention. A copy of the complete talk will be included with the June News-Letter.

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Treasurer Brackett reports one renewal of membership, that of Station WOI, Iowa State College, Ames, and one new membership -- the University of Kentucky.

The University of Kentucky broadcasts from its own campus studios by wire to Station WHAS, in Louisville. Members are familiar with the activities through the exchange packet bulletins. Mr. Elmer G. Sulzer is director of the broadcasting. He organized the listening center plan which makes radio available in the remote mountain areas and so takes the university to a group formerly out of reach.

### SHORT FLASHES FROM THE FIELD

KOAC - Corvallis, Oregon. Luke L. Roberts, Manager of KOAC, has recently compiled the data and released a report on "How Educators Support Radio". Based on a questionnaire survey of educational broadcasting agencies the report makes a comparison of financing, hours of service, and institutional backing.

WBAA - Purdue University. The station is cooperating in the presentation of a special course in radio broadcasting to be given during the 1937 summer session. Miss Blanche Young, of Indianapolis, will teach the course. Rehearsal and study will be in WBAA studios and workshop.

University of Kentucky. To extend the services of the University broadcasts over WHAS to the listening groups in the eastern mountains, Elmer G. Sulzer tells of the appointment of a special supervisor through the NYA to visit these remote listening posts. Discussion and correlated activities will be encouraged.

WOI, Iowa State College, Ames. Director Griffith reports that programs from his station are being fed by wire to KMA, commercial station at Shenandoah. Markets, vocational guidance, music, and other educational features are being carried.

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN RADIO COUNCIL PLANNED

Through the assistance of the National Committee on Education by Radio a survey of the talent and facilities resources of the Colorado-Wyoming area was made late in April for a group of local educators and civic leaders. President A.G. Crane of the University of Wyoming, was chairman of the committee appointed to conduct the study. Harold A. Engel, WHA promotion manager, went to the region and drafted a preliminary plan. S. Howard Evans, of the N.C.E.R. joined him in the field work. The study followed the general plan for state organizations outlined a year ago by Dr. Crane. Educators, local leaders, and broadcasters are enthusiastic over the plan, which would establish a central staff of experts to assist agencies in the preparation and presentation of their radio programs. Means of financing the venture are now being considered.

### THE 1937 ANNUAL NAEB CONVENTION - WHEN - WHERE?

Three invitations from member stations have been received by the Association for the annual convention. Mr. C. A. Taylor, WESG, Cornell University, invites the meeting to Ithaca, New York. Mr. Clarence Dammann, WBAA, Purdue University, opens the gates of Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Jos. F. Wright, WILL, University of Illinois, says, "Come to Urbana". There we have it -- we can't go to all places at once -- so we must choose. On the enclosed sheet make your choice of place and date, and return it promptly, please.

COMMISSIONER CHAMPIONS EDUCATIONAL CAUSE

Dr. John W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education, dispelled doubts as to where he stands on the matter of educational broadcasting when he addressed the Institute for Education by Radio, at Columbus, Ohio on May 4.

The complete talk will appear in the next issue of the bulletin of the National Committee on Education by Radio. Excerpts of particular interest to our members follow:

"The responsibility of the Federal Government for educational broadcasting, as I see the situation, falls within at least three areas, as follows:

"1. The responsibility of the Government to safeguard the use of radio frequencies to insure the maximum of public service.

"The FCC in its report to the President of the Senate of the United States on Jan. 22, 1935, Stated:

'The Commission feels, in particular, that broadcasting has a much more important part in the educational program of the country than has yet been found for it. We expect actively to assist in the determination of the rightful place of broadcasting in education and to see that it is used in that place.'

"It is my opinion that, when broadcasting plays a "much more important part in the educational program" than at present, that result will have been brought about not only by increased cooperation between educators and broadcasters, but also through a larger number of public agencies operating stations on the public channels, exclusively in the public interest, performing public services over and above those which these agencies can perform by the use of commercial radio stations alone.

"2. The responsibility of the Federal Government to use radio to acquaint the public with the work of the government and thus to contribute to national well-being.

"At the end of his first year in office, in an address delivered at Constitution Hall, Washington, D. C., President Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke of the outstanding feature of his first year in office. In part he said:

".....the amazing and universal increase in the intelligent interest which people of the United States are taking in the whole subject of Government. In cities, in hamlets and on farms, men and women in their daily contacts are discussing, as never before except in time of war, the methods by which community and national problems are ordered. ....We need very definitely practical contacts between the collegiate and educational world and the operation of Government. The development of our economic life requires the intelligent understanding of the hundreds of complicated elements of our society."

"3. The responsibility of the Government to educate the public concerning the services it should expect of radio and to persuade and assist broadcasters to improve the use of the air in the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

"I am firmly convinced that the returns on substantial investments in radio research and practical experimentation in educational broadcasting, conducted by the ablest minds in the radio and educational fields, will yield valuable dividends in terms of improved educational broadcasting service.

"The Federal Government in assuming the responsibility of establishing a radio system to be operated in the public interest, convenience, and necessity will need to work out the basic problems in the system that are interfering with the maximum benefits to the public, the legal responsibility being vested in the Federal Communications Commission, and the educational responsibility in the Office of Education."

Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records  
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