

Washington Report

The National Association of Educational Broadcasters

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HEARINGS ON FEDERAL AID TO ETV

March 20 - 23 hearings were held before the House Subcommittee on Communications and Power on a half-dozen bills designed to provide Federal support to educational television. As with the hearings earlier in the month on the Magnuson bill, the NAEB arranged for witnesses from various sections of the country where definite progress has been made in planning for ETV. These witnesses testified as to the vital need for Federal funds for capital expenditures in order that plans might proceed without delay for the establishment of ETV stations in areas not now served.

Witnesses scheduled to testify on behalf of the legislation included:

Raymond Hurlbert, General Manager, Alabama ETV Commission
Mrs. Maxine Scoville, President, Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers
T. E. Tyler, Chairman, Arkansas State Committee to Study Educational Possibilities of Television
Edgar Fuller, representing the JCEB
John W. Leston, Supt. of Schools, Atlanta, Ga.
Logan Wilson, Chancellor, University of Texas
Hilton C. Buley, representing the American Council on Education
Robert Anderson, Executive Vice President, Auburn University
Armand Hunter, Director of Broadcasting, Michigan State University
John C. Crabbe, General Manager, KVIE, Sacramento, Calif.
Clifford Erickson, Dean of TV Instruction, Chicago City Junior College
Lloyd Elliot, President, University of Maine, representing the American Assoc. of Land Grant Colleges and State Universities
Mrs. Elizabeth Campbell, President, GWETA
William Schmidt, Supt., Prince Georges County (Md.) Public Schools
Miss Martha Gable, representing the AAUW

During the Senate hearings favorable testimony was given by, among others, new FCC Chairman Newton N. Minow, FCC Commissioner Rosel Hyde, RCA President John Burns, and CBS-TV President James T. Aubrey. Said Chairman Minow: "I believe . . . that a widely available and adequately financed non-commercial educational television service is vitally necessary to improve our educational and communications system. . . . In view of the present lack of funds in many areas to meet station construction costs, I believe that Federal aid is needed, particularly to advance the date of construction and to permit extensive rather than minimal operation. . . . I do wholeheartedly endorse the use of Federal funds to aid in establishing or improving educational broadcasting facilities."

Commissioner Hyde said that ETV has impact, is economical, and is flexible, and that he has no doubt "as to the importance of television techniques to education." Further, he said he was "optimistic enough to believe that it can even educate the people to demand of commercial television something better than a surfeit of cowboys, private eyes and give-aways." And speaking of a "world competition of cultures," Commissioner Hyde said, "If we had an educational TV service available in every good-sized city of the United States, this would certainly enhance our image in the world and assist in the fight against the communist system."

NAEB President William Harley presented not only a strong statement in support of the legislation, but also inserted into the record the letters from President Kennedy and former Vice President Nixon, reflecting their favorable attitude toward Federal support for ETV, which were originally presented at the NAEB convention last fall.

GET YOUR FM STATION WHILE YOU CAN!

FM frequencies, both commercial and non-commercial, are becoming scarcer, as the interest in FM mounts across the country. Latest FCC action in the educational FM band:

License granted - Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, 10w, 88.lmc; Walla Walla College, College Place, Wash., 160w, 88.lmc.

Applications filed - Duluth Branch, Univ. of Minnesota, 10w, 89.lmc; Wheaton (Ill.) College, 10w, 88.lmc; Marshall Univ., Huntington, W. Va., 10w, 88.lmc.

FCC ITEMS

The FCC has refused the University of Illinois' request that UHF Ch. 37 be allocated for the exclusive use of radio astronomy, pointing out that many services are requesting spectrum space and that the needs of radio astronomy do not transcend other needs. The decision also indicated it would be premature to make such allocations pending outcome of the long-range allocations study.

The FCC has issued a looseleaf volume including the Communications Act of 1934 (with amendments), the Administrative Procedure Act, sections of the Criminal code pertinent to broadcasting, and the Judicial Review Code, which may be obtained from the U. S. Printing Office for 50¢.

The FCC denied petition of 1st Presbyterian Church of Seattle (KTW) to dismiss application of KWSC (Washington State Univ.) for exclusive nighttime use of frequency shared with KTW. KWSC's application is included in hearing on renewals for both KWSC and KTW.

The FCC denied petition of National TV Assoc., Inc., to dismiss application of WHYI, Inc. (Philadelphia), for Ch.12, Wilmington, Del.

LATEST ETV APPLICATIONS

Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Williamsville, N.Y., UHF Ch. 29; ERP: V-1kw, A-300w.

Mohawk-Hudson Council on ETV, Inc., Schenectady, N.Y., UHF Ch. 17; ERP: V-23.99kw, A-10.47kw.

AT DEADLINE - The Senate passed the Magnuson bill 67 - 13 on March 21.

Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records
at the Wisconsin Historical Society as part of
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