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SCHENECTADY 4, NEW YORK

August 29, 1947

Dear Frank:

After leaving you this morning I spent considerable time consulting with engineers of the New York Telephone Company on the matter of hi-fidelity programming wireline service between the mountain and your proposed Troy Hotel studios.

It seems that Mr. Maynard, the engineer with whom I made the rounds of the Heldebergs area some time ago, was not qualified to give me any engineering data other than the placement of the line and the poles into our property. He had told me that the New York Telephone Company would construct a new line to serve all FM broadcasters on Pinnacle Mountain and that as far as he knew that the construction costs would be borne by them.

This is not exactly correct. There will be an installation charge of several hundred dollars - the exact amount of which will be quoted later. Moreover, that the three booster amplifiers previously mentioned by him will have to be installed for each pair of circuits serving any one customer; not a total of three amplifiers to serve the entire line. Each customer taking service from this new line must have his individual circuit maintained at full fidelity of flat to fifteen thousand cycle frequency response by the use of these intermediate booster amplifiers. I was told that these amplifiers cost the telephone company about \$3000. each installed. Thus, to serve the Troy Record with one circuit, the telephone company must make a capital investment of roughly nine thousand dollars.

I am afraid that the monthly rental charge of such a line will be relatively stiff by comparison with similar lines where booster service is not required. I had previously requested quotation on two circuits - one for service and the other as an emergency line. Now that I finally developed that there will be but one cable serving the area, there is no point in paying for an emergency circuit in that same cable.

Attached is copy of my letter today to Mr. Vernooy in confirmation of our discussion this afternoon.

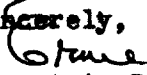
Hence, in a sense, we are back again where we started on this matter of ST radio relay link since, of course, we will have to provide emergency service in case of line failure. However, the thing in our favor is that we can at least start broadcasting without going into expensive ST link installation which at best would only be temporary owing to the 940-960 megacycle situation of the equipment manufacturers. I have previously explained this ST situation - that whatever we install now will have to be by special permission of FCC (by special application) for borrowing one of the television frequencies as a temporary emergency measure pending development by manufacturers of the standard 940-960 mc frequency allocation for ST service.

Any such equipment we might purchase of a temporary service nature might have to be scrapped in event we were using a frequency borrowed from FCC and later be asked to vacate it. I'll discuss this phase with you more thoroughly on your return from Chicago.

During your absence I will follow through the best I can on the various moves we now have under way. Frankly, however, I cannot see where much can be accomplished until we get the green light from Barron and the land is actually purchased. Of course we can start planning the studio construction without having to wait on these other developments. In this connection I will be in contact with Walter Watson, the young architect of RPI and will sound him out on his qualifications to handle the work.

Lots of luck on your Chicago trip.

Mr F L York
General Manager
Troy Record Co
Troy
New York

Sincerely,

Ernest A. Barbeau
Radio Consultant

EAB/MW

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