

Radio and Television

By Lawrence Laurent



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RADIO DISC JOCKEYS for several years have been winning public attention by locking themselves in a studio and repeatedly playing one recording for several hours. Broadcasting magazine has reported such stories from places in Texas, California and Arkansas.

Yesterday, about 10 a. m., disc jockey Larry Justice locked himself in the control room of radio station WPGC, Morningside, Md., and began urging the public to back his demand for a pay raise. Over and over, he played a novelty record called "The Presidential News Conference."

During the two-hour seizure of the control room, the station got lots of telephone calls and Justice got his pay raise from General Manager Robert Howard.

Disc jockey Justice may get still more for his "unauthorized operation of a Federally licensed broadcasting station." One listener who didn't roll over with laughter was Federal Communications Commissioner Robert E. Lee. During August, he is in charge of the FCC with the other six commissioners on vacation.

Lee noted that during the "seige" all commercials and newscasts were delivered; that the station could have cut off its transmitter at any time; that it was able to call police and stop the broadcast, if it wished.

Lee said: "I have ordered an FCC staff investigation. If this is a promotional stunt, I won't be happy."