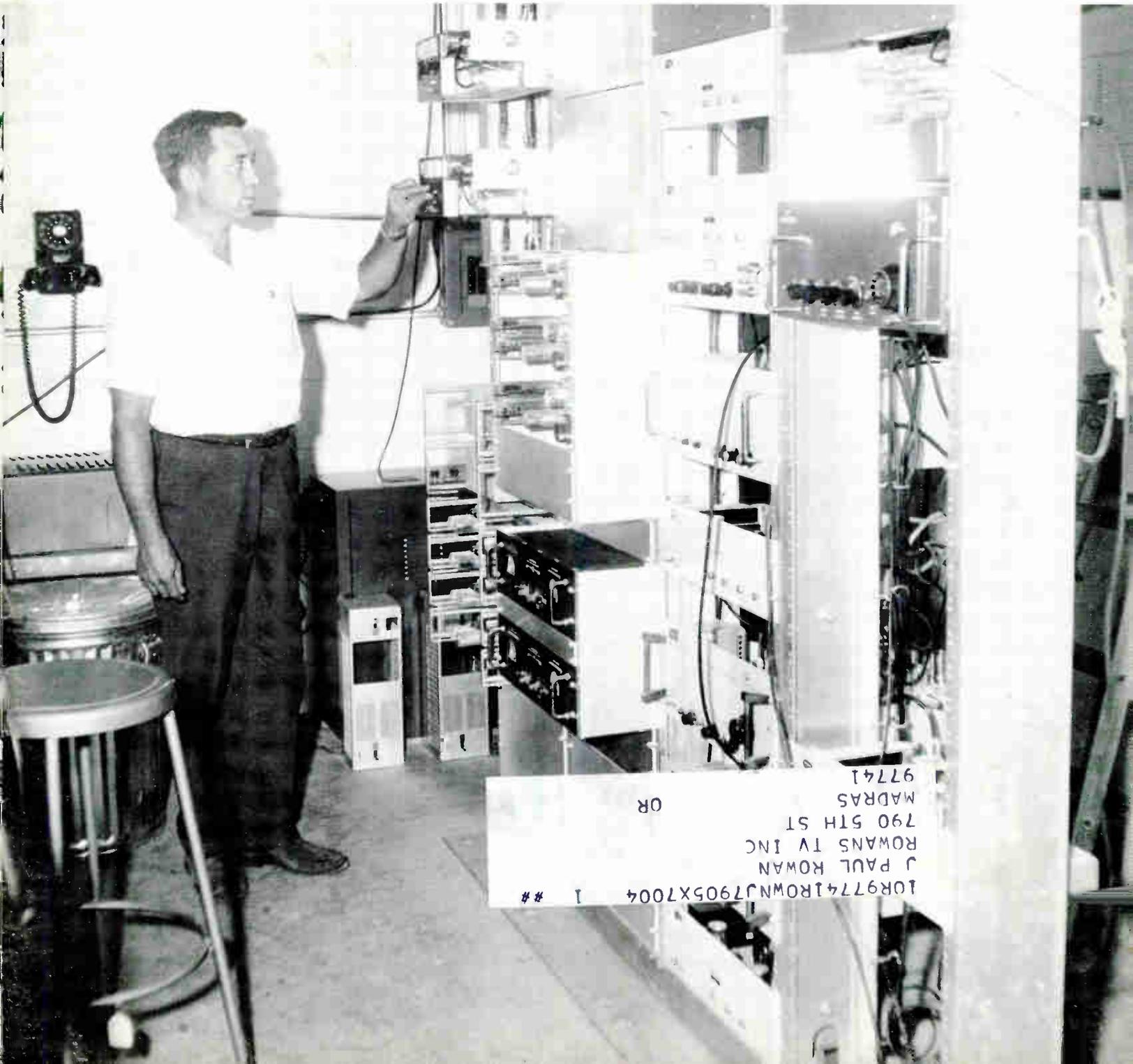


RKO Loses in Hearingp7
 TPT, H&B Approve Mergerp7
 Schildhause, Anello At ABAp8
 CCTV For Housep9

CATV

August 18, 1969

Authoritative Newsweekly of Cable Television



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OUR COVER

Malcom Davis, chief engineer for the San Angelo and Ballinger, Tex., CATV systems, adjusts head-end gear at the system's tower site near San Angelo. The system was recently rebuilt to 12-channel capacity from a previous five-channel limit. (Photo courtesy San Angelo Morning Standard-Times.)

CATV

Authoritative Newsweekly of Cable Television

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Conspectus

page 7

FCC hearing examiner rules that RKO General TV station license in Los Angeles should be revoked. Move is subject to full Commission approval.

page 7

TelePrompTer, H&B boards approve merger; vote now up to stockholders.

page 8

CATV Task Force Chief Sol Schildhouse, NAB General Counsel Henry Geller differ on CATV; Schildhouse coins new industry phrase: CATV is "Texas Leaguer," too far for some, not far enough for others.

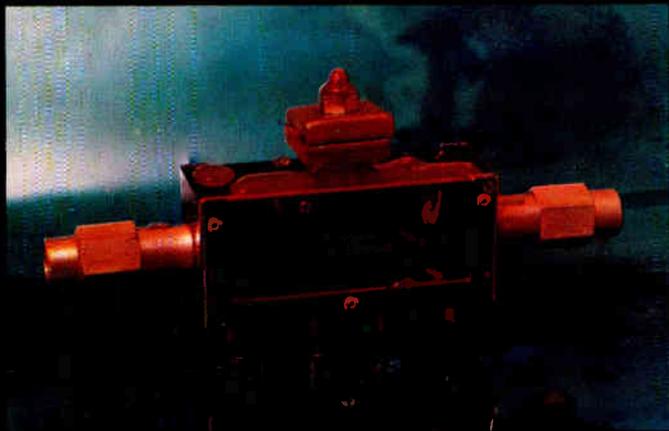
page 11

Broadcasters report record earnings despite claim that CATV systems harmful.

Contents

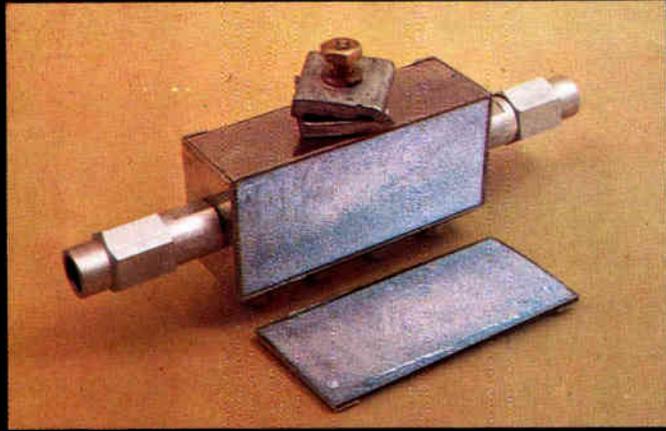
Viewpoint	5	Digest of Earnings . .	17
Moving Up	14	Industry Stocks . . .	17
Construction	13	Classifieds	16
Franchises	13	Profile	18

CATV, August 18, 1969, Vol. 3 No. 33. Published every Monday by CATV Publications, Inc., 207 N.E. 38 St., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73105, (405) JA8-3523. Subscription Rate: \$33 for 52 weekly issues, plus CATV Systems Directory and CATV Equipment Directory. Single copy price: \$2.00 CATV (title registered at U.S. Post Office) Second Class postage paid at Oklahoma City, Okla. For subscription orders, renewals, and address changes contact the CATV Circulation Department: Please allow six weeks for processing. An address label will expedite address changes.



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Robert A. Searle
Editor

Viewpoint

Drawing Some Curious Comparisons

The many news items that come to one's attention in the course of a week range all the way from mildly interesting to downright exciting. Particularly in the communications area where the cast of characters changes frequently and the action moves swiftly, assumptions and evaluations have to be constantly reappraised. What was true last week may well be modified by what happens this week, and any particular event must be viewed in relation to what is happening elsewhere on the scene. For anyone with the inclination to do so, this evaluation of one event in relation to others yields some intriguing comparisons.

For example: Last week, Douglas Anello, general counsel to NAB, addressed the American Bar Association in Dallas on the subject of CATV. Not surprisingly he had quite a bit to say about the "competition" between cable television and broadcasting—including considerable emphasis on the damage which CATV could do to UHF development and the danger which CATV-originated advertising presents to the VHF stations.

Among Mr. Anello's audience, one can assume, were more than a few attorneys with little or no background in CATV-broadcast history. And Mr. Anello is a convincing, articulate spokesman for the NAB. At the same time, one wonders what would have been the impact on the Bar Association members if they could have been presented with an FCC release called "TV Broadcast Financial Data 1968" and given the opportunity to weigh Mr. Anello's statements against it.

Mr. Anello said, for example, "The result (of the All-Channel Receiver Law) has been a steady increase in the number of new commercial television stations with the consequent growth in services available to the public. Statistically, the figures are 464 VHF and 84 UHF on the air on July 1, 1962; 506 Vs and 174 Us as of July 1, 1969; a clear indication of where the growth has been—in UHF—and vindication, if such is needed, of the wisdom of Congressional and Commission policies in this area."

The American Bar had reason to be impressed . . . but perhaps ought to have had some additional statistics available in the broadcasting revenues report. Of the UHF stations reporting financial data, *less than half showed a profit*. And of those, the overwhelming percentage of profitably stations were the network affiliates. *Only 2 out of 37 UHF independent stations showed a profit for 1968*. Considering the UHF allocations going begging and the poor profit picture of those in operation, the wisdom of the UHF commitment might be somewhat less than vindicated in many minds.

Later on, turning to the VHF stations, Mr. Anello draws a bogey-man picture of CATV. "To the extent that it succeeds in siphoning off viewers (by distribution of distant signals or by cable-originated advertising), it destroys the advertising base that sustains the local station," he says.

It is interesting to note that the television industry—cowering before the threat of CATV—*increased its 1968 revenues by 10.8 percent over 1967*. Revenues reached \$2.5 billion. The profit picture is even more startling with an increase in profit before Federal income tax of *19.3 percent*—or \$595 million.

As Mr. Anello himself told the attorneys on another subject in the same speech, "There appears to be a bit of naivete in the rationale."

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Commission Broadcast Hearing May Determine CATV System Future

RKO Los Angeles station license hearing by FCC Examiner places multiple station owners in jeopardy; CATV MSO and cross-ownership may be affected with FCC broadcast decision.

CATV operators with an eye to their future place in the national communications scheme will be interested in the landmark decision last week by an FCC hearing examiner that would take away the license of RKO General's KHJ-TV in Los Angeles and award it to a rival applicant, Fidelity Television, Inc.

A major reason for the preference for Fidelity, examiner Thomas H. Donohue said, is RKO's multiple ownership of stations and system ownership. Part of the FCC's proposed new CATV rules deals with the problem of CATV multiple ownership and whether cross-ownership of broadcast-CATV or other media should be forbidden. Until such rules emerge and become clear, FCC decisions based on media ownership are potentially crucial to the CATV industry.

Earlier Decision Cited

Donohue even cited the earlier decision by the Commission to prefer Boston Broadcasters Inc, over the Boston Herald-Traveler, the current owner, for control of WHDH-TV, Channel Five in Boston. The Commission at that time cited the fact that the station was owned by a newspaper as a major reason for preferring another applicant.

Donohue's proposed decision, which of course could be reversed by the Commission in its entirety and then doubtless will go the route of the court appeal, electrified broadcasters already worried about the phenomenon of "strike" applications being filed on top of license renewal applications.

The hearing examiner said he made his ruling "without much enthusiasm," as he wasn't excited about Fidelity but simply preferred it over RKO General because of the rival's "marked superiority" in local ownership, diversification, and community contacts. He said that "on the basis of the record, neither applicant is any bargain as a broadcast licensee. Both have serious short-

comings, General Tire's perhaps the more serious." General Tire and Rubber Co. is the RKO General parent company.

Donohue said KHJ-TV carried offensive programming, was unresponsive to the public, and entered into reciprocal trade practices with the parent company, that were questionable at best.

Refuses Reconsideration

The same day the KHJ-TV decision was released, the Commission itself refused to reconsider a decision on another strike application, this one by Forum Communications against WPIX television in New York City. WPIX had asked the Commission to reconsider its deferral of license renewal, which the FCC refused to do.

Broadcasters hope to short-circuit the strike application by legislation now pending in Congress. It would specify that no rival application could be filed for a channel until the FCC had already

revoked the license. Broadcasters appear to have good chances of winning the legislation.

It seems clear, however, that within the next few years, new Commission rules are going to evolve governing the ownership of CATV systems. Chances are good, for instance, that one owner will be forbidden from owning systems serving more than a certain number of subscribers, and TV stations just might be forbidden to own CATV systems in their own markets. Whatever decision does come, KHJ-TV is sure to be cited as a precedent.

Gamble's Resignation Lofts Karnes To NTV Head

William Karnes has been selected to succeed G.R. Gamble at the head of National Trans-Video Inc., Dallas, Tex.

After the resignation of Gamble to become financial vice president of National Educational Systems Inc., also of Dallas, Karnes has been promoted to executive vice president, the company's highest position at present with no president being named.

Gamble's resignation also left open a post on the NCTA Board of Directors to which he was elected in June. The board will meet this week to fill the position.

TelePrompTer, H&B Approve Merger

TelePrompTer Corporation and H&B American Corporation officials last week jointly announced that the board of directors of both firms have approved a merger of H&B into TelePrompTer. The only remaining obstacle—aside from possible intervention from the Justice Department—is a shareholder approval from both companies, which is largely conceded to be a formality.

TelePrompTer also announced that it has terminated merger discussions with Filmways Inc., a major producer of television programming and movie features.

TelePrompTer spokesmen disclosed record operating earnings of \$365,574, or 32 cents a share, for the first half of 1969, approximately

doubling the previous year's first six-months results of \$182,978 and 16 cents a share.

Revenues for the 1969 period also set a first-half high of \$4,290,324, a gain of 17% over sales of \$3,655,618 for the corresponding six months in 1968.

In addition, the company reported extraordinary gains of \$99,250 during the just-completed six months ending June 30. In 1968, extraordinary income for the first half year was \$645,500.

The 1969 results did not include any revenues or income of Filimation Associates, producer of animated cartoon series and commercials, which became a wholly owned TelePrompTer subsidiary in July.

CATV, Broadcasting Roles Viewed By ABA; Annual Meeting Hosts Schildhouse, Anello

Bar Association members hear two viewpoints on CATV-broadcaster situation. Schildhouse says state regulation "not indicated." Anello says unregulated CATV growth has a "dangerously destructive potential."

"CATV has been a kind of 'Texas leaguer' in the communications business—a 'Texas leaguer' being one of those hits in baseball that lands between the infield and outfield where nobody can reach it," said Sol Schildhouse, chief of the FCC's CATV Task Force. Schildhouse addressed the American Bar Association's Annual Meeting last week at the Marriott Motor Hotel in Dallas, Texas.

His statement referred to the hassle over exactly who has authority over CATV—state or federal government. He was joined in comments about CATV by another speaker Douglas A. Anello, General Counsel of the National Association of Broadcasters.

Schildhouse and Anello, representing different viewpoints on CATV, ex-

pressed the same ultimate objective for cable television—"a full growth potential for both existing and new CATV systems compatible with free broadcasting—" Both emphasized the necessity for federal regulation. Schildhouse also spoke of local regulation but took a stand against state regulation.

"Inhibiting Effect"

"State regulation," said Schildhouse, "is not now all that clearly indicated. I am not aware of abuses that only state regulation can handle. . . and I am fearful—if the Connecticut experience where cable is bacalmed is any indicator—of the possibly inhibiting effect of another layer of regulation."

Anello brought out four main points

of contention between broadcasters and CATV: the importation of distant signals, the origination of programs, the electronic interconnection of systems, and the leasing of channels on a common carrier basis.

Unregulated CATV growth has a "dangerously destructive potential" said Anello. He cited broadcaster's hopes for continuation of control over importation of distant signals. He also said that "broadcasters would agree that the origination of programs of a local public service nature offers promise as a means of increasing the number of outlets for community self-expression."

But Anello then said that broadcasters object to microwave links to distribute programming and fear mass appeal programming by CATV. A combination of the two, he said, is dangerous to the broadcasting industry and to the general public. He said that local origination with advertising permitted would be "engaged in direct competition for the adversiting dollar with the very stations whose signals it is using for a basis of operation. This situation would defy the most elemental standards of fairness."

Soft Words for the FCC

Anello characterized the FCC's proposal that CATV systems be permitted to operate as a common carrier as "a bit of naivete in the Commission's rationale." He said that there is no need to place CATV in the common carrier business to satisfy the needs of the public in this area.

Schildhouse's prediction for the cable television and broadcast industries was a "continuing series of small skirmishes, most of which will be settled by some kind of regulatory reaction to the necessities of the moment." He said that he did not look for a change soon in the 35-mile distant signal importation stalemate until the outlook for early copyright settlement is clarified.

"The Commission has spoken favorably of originations," said Schildhouse. "In fact the proposals now under consideration would require all except probably the smallest of systems to undertake the production of local programming."

(Continued on page 16)



Turnkey signed: Raymond E. Carow, vice president of Gray Communications, signs a turnkey contract with Kaiser CATV for additional construction to the Albany, Ga., system. Looking on are Pete Freeauf, manager of Gray Cablevision, Jim Taglia, regional manager, Kaiser CATV; Derwin Ottwell, construction manager, Engineering Associates, Inc.; Perley E. Eppley, director of engineering, Gray Communications. Construction of the 30-mile addition is now underway with completion date set for October 1.

NCTA, NAB Hold Cards Close To Vests

As long as there's any chance of settlement, negotiators for NCTA and the National Association of Broadcasters are playing their cards very close to their vests.

As reported last week, the initial NAB position was, as expected, much tougher than the stance outlined in the compromise proposal drawn up by the staffs of NAB and NCTA. It remains a very delicate problem whether the NCTA can manage to convince NAB to come up with a reasonable compromise plan in time to have it included in a copyright revision bill, which Sen. John L. McClellan (D-Ark.) has said he will report without a CATV section if no agreement is reached. Talks, of course, will be up for major discussion at this week's NCTA board meeting.

Cox Cable Announces Secondary Share Offering

Cox Cable Communications last week announced that it intends to file a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission this fall covering proposed secondary offering of approximately 250,000 shares of common stock.

The offering, to be made by underwriters Drexel Harriman Ripley, Inc., involved shares to be sold by stockholders of TeleSystems Corporation under the terms of the acquisition agreement between the stockholders and Cox Cable.

In late May, Cox Cable acquired the CATV holdings of TeleSystems through an exchange of one million shares of Cox common stock for the outstanding shares of TeleSystems.

Commission Defers CSI

The FCC last week decided to defer until December any decision on the CSI copyright proposal of lawyer Harold Farrow and cableman Bill Hargan.

A letter was sent out notifying them of the delay in consideration, which had been expected (*CATV Weekly*, Aug. 11), though the letter was not released

by the Commission as of last Thursday.

The CSI plan is an attempt to deal with the Commission's proposal to required retransmission consent on a program-by-program basis before most major CATV systems can carry distant signals. It amounts to a central clearing-house for copyright problems.

Hughes Quits Superior Joins CAS Staff

The NCTA Board of Directors Associate Representative Ben Hughes has resigned as products manager of Superior Continental Corp. to become national sales manager of CAS Manufacturing Co., Dallas, Tex.

In his role with CAS, Hughes will direct the national sales effort. The firm manufactures head-end and distribution equipment, and also provides subscriber material, system consulting, design and financing.

A former associate representative of the Southern CATV Association, Ben Hughes has been involved in CATV since 1953.

Closed-Circuit TV Posed For House Proceedings

Another effort is being made to modernize some of the procedures of the U.S. House of Representatives to allow a foothold for electronic coverage of its floor actions. But obviously, any breakthrough is still far away.

A group of Congressmen led by Rep. John R. Dellenback (R-Ore.) has introduced legislation that would permit closed-circuit television pictures to be piped into individual Congressional offices from the floor of the House.

Though congressional proceedings are popularly thought to feature all the legislators milling about on the floor while debates and votes are carried out, the fact is that most Congressmen go to the floor only when bells ring signaling the approach of a vote—if they even go then. Many Congressmen rebel at the outmoded procedures of the House, and Dellenback and his supporters want to be able to work in their offices while following floor action on closed-circuit television for efficiency's sake.

MEETING CALENDAR

AUGUST

20-22—NCTA Board of Directors meeting. Hotel America, Washington, D.C.

26-27—School for Pacific North West system operators covering CATV engineering practices and principles; conducted by Cascade Electronics Ltd. Washington Plaza, Seattle.

SEPTEMBER

15-16—Pacific Northwest CATV Association fall meeting. University Tower Hotel, Seattle, Wash.

22-24—"Workshop for Antenna Site Engineering." National Cable Television Center, J. Orvis Keller Bldg., Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa.

23-25—Pennsylvania Community Antenna Television Association annual fall meeting. The David Mead, Meadville, Pa. Plans are being formulated and will be announced later.

26-27—Tennessee Cable Television Association annual meeting. Howard Johnson's Motor Inn, Gatlinburg, Tenn.

OCTOBER

13-15—North Central CATV Association fall meeting. Playboy Club, Lake Geneva, Wisc.

13-15—"Seminar for Antenna Site Design and Maintenance." National Cable Television Center.

20-21—Mississippi CATV Association annual meeting, Broadwater Beach Hotel, Biloxi, Miss.

30-31—Mid-America CATV Association. Prom-Sheraton Motor Hotel, Kansas City, Mo.

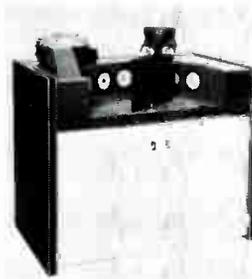
NOVEMBER

6-8—NCTA Cablecasting Seminar. National Cable TV Center, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa.

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TeleMation To Open Midwest, Eastern Offices

TeleMation, Inc., Salt Lake City-based CATV supplier, has announced that it has received \$3,137,200 from the initial sale of securities by underwriters Goodbody & Company. TeleMation stock has been traded over the counter since July 8. President Lyle O. Keys said the proceeds will be used for site development and construction of the company's new manufacturing plant and administration headquarters.

Keys also announced that the firm has opened two regional offices.

TeleMation Midwest has opened offices in Chicago, with Charles E. Pipher as general manager. Branch offices will be located in St. Louis and Indianapolis.

TeleMation's new eastern office will formally open September 15 in Washington, D.C.

Appointed as manager of government and special accounts is Robert W. Crawford, formerly a staff engineer at CBS Labs.

Broadcast Profit High For 1968 Operations

Broadcasters, despite their loudly voiced fears of the encroachment of CATV into their economic preserves, enjoyed an outstandingly successful year financially in 1968 according to the latest figures released by the FCC.

Profits leaped 19.3 percent above the 1967 totals to \$495 million, while expenses rose only 8.9 percent. Total revenues jumped 10.8 percent to a level of \$2.5 billion (see box this page).

Total time sales increased 13.1 percent, and sales to local advertisers accounted for most of that increase.

Not all stations, of course, showed a profit. While a whopping 85.6 percent of VHF stations reporting said they made a profit, only 44.9 percent of the UHF stations reporting said the same. Network-affiliated Us fared better than others, with 63 percent reporting profitable operations, but of the 37 independent UHF stations, only 2 came up in the red. (see box, this page).

The ceiling on profits for the UHF stations which reported was

\$400,000-\$600,000, and only 2 reached that level. Profit categories for the Vs, on the other hand, went as high as \$5,000,000 and over, with 22 stations falling in that classification.

Signals Grant Won By Pennsylvania System

Conestoga Television Cable Company, which operates a CATV system in Pennsylvania, last week won FCC permission to import a pair of New York City independent television station signals. The Commission overruled opposition to the grants by a pair of Philadelphia television outlets.

Conestoga Television operates a cable system at Boyertown, Bechtelsville, Bally Boroughs, and parts of Washington and Cole-Brookdale Townships. All the locations are about 38-miles outside of Philadelphia.

The cable operator won permission to import the signals of WNEW-TV and WPIX in New York, though Philadelphia outlets and WPHL-TV and WIBF-TV objected.

The essential reason for the FCC grant is that Conestoga Television is out-

side the 35-mile zone of Philadelphia and is also more than 35-miles away from any operating television station. Under the Commission's proposed new rules, such stations are free to import distant signals, so the normal hearing requirement was waived by the FCC.

Opposition Objects

Conestoga Television first asked for Commission permission to carry the signals on March 14, 1967, and oppositions were promptly filed. The application then was put into hearing status along with all other Philadelphia market proposals. Shortly after the December, 1968 issuance of proposed new rules, however, Conestoga Television resubmitted its application because of the 35-mile limitation, which would free it to act. Once again, WPHL-TV and WIBE-TV filed opposing petitions.

Opposition to the Conestoga Television proposal was based on the arguments that the CATV system is within 35 miles of educational station WLVT-TV in Allentown, Pa., and also within 35 miles of outstanding commercial TV station construction permit for WRPA-TV in Reading, Pa.

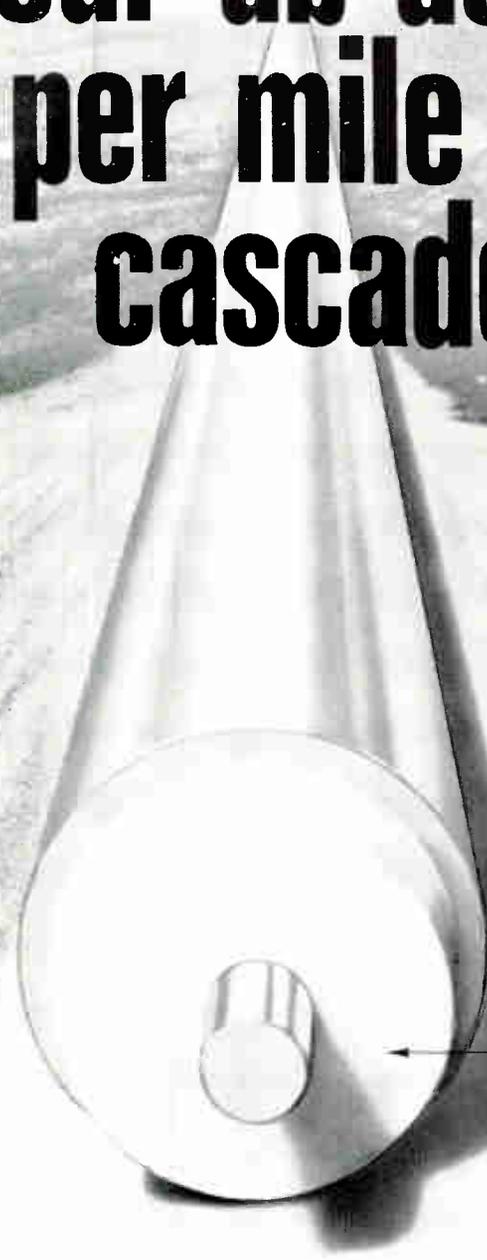
Broadcast Revenues, Expenses and Income (\$ Millions)

Year	Revenues	Expenses	Profits Before Tax
1968	\$2,520.9	\$ 2,026.1	\$ 494.8
1967	2,275.4	1,860.8	414.6
1966	2,203.0	1,710.1	492.9
1965	1,964.8	1,516.9	447.9
1964	1,793.3	1,377.7	415.6
1963	1,597.2	1,254.0	343.2
1962	1,486.2	1,174.6	311.6
1961	1,318.3	1,081.3	237.0
1960	1,268.6	1,024.5	244.1
1959	1,163.9	941.6	222.3
1958	1,030.0	858.1	171.9

1968 Profit or Loss Reports

Item	Total	
	VHF	UHF
Total Number of Stations Reporting	452	118
Number of Stations Reporting Profits	387	53
Profitable Stations as Percent of Total	85.6	44.9
Number of Stations Reporting Losses	65	65
Unprofitable Stations as Percent of Total	14.4	55.1

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Franchise Activity

CALIFORNIA: Northern Orange County: The county supervisors have awarded a non-exclusive franchise to the lone bidder Cablecom-General of Southern California. The company is a subsidiary of RKO General. . . . **Los Gatos:** Nationwide Cablevision, Inc., a subsidiary of Kaufman and Broad, Inc., has been awarded a cable television franchise by the board of supervisors. This franchise extends the company's operations in the San Francisco Bay Area to 10 franchises.

FLORIDA: Brooksville: The city commission has received a franchise bid from Micanopy Group companies and Pasco County Cablevision. . . . **Greenville:** Ratified by the city's voters, a franchise awarded by the town council has been given to Panhandle Communications Inc. . . . **Treasure Island:** TelePrompTer Corp., which recently

received a franchise from St. Petersburg Beach, asked the city commission to prepare an ordinance so that the company may submit a franchise bid.

ILLINOIS: Carmi: Adoption of an ordinance by the city council gave a franchise to John Kirby of Effingham. According to the ordinance Kirby must start installation within two years. . . . **Dixon:** The city council has opened the way for consideration of a franchise request by Dixon Cable Television, Inc., by voting to revoke the current franchise holder Soundvision Inc. . . . **Wood River:** The city council has granted a 25-year franchise to Madison County Cablevision Co. Under the franchise the city will receive 3% of the gross for the first 2,000 subscribers, 4% of the next 1,000, up to 6½% of gross for over 5,000. Rates will be under \$20 for installation.

NEW YORK: Putnam Valley: The town board has received a franchise bid from Mid-County Television Corp., owned by Sterling Communications Inc. The company has set fees for \$9.95 per set for installation and monthly charges of \$6 for the first set and about \$2 for each additional set. . . . **Oneida:** The city council has received a franchise bid from Telecable TV. The bid specifies 6% of the gross to the city, 12 off-the-air channels, and police and fire surveillance systems.

OKLAHOMA: Muskogee: Upon the recommendation of the public affairs committee, the city council has awarded a franchise to Cablevision of Muskogee, whose company directors are Patrick T. Pogue, Stanley M. Searle and Scot Bergren. The company has promised 5% of gross to the city of 38,000 along with 8 off-the-air channels, 2 color local origination channels and additional channels with microwave when permitted.

PENNSYLVANIA: Scranton: The city council has drafted a resolution and is now accepting franchise bids.

System Construction

CALIFORNIA: Modesto's system Triangle Cable Co. has been granted permission to install a 150-foot tower in a residential district by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors.

DELAWARE: Vistavue Cable TV, a subsidiary of WNRK, has begun construction of a 400-mile network of cables in New Castle County. The company has received exclusive pole rights for the southern part of the county. The system's studio in Ogletown will originate coverage of local sports and other events.

KANSAS: Ten-channel service, local origination and a time and weather channel are included in the operation plans of Midway Cable TV in Kansas City.

MASSACHUSETTS: High Fidelity Cable Television of Great Barrington has

announced rate changes. Monthly fees have been increased from \$5.50 to \$5.95, and installation has been reduced from \$25 to \$19.95 for initial installation and from \$15 to \$9.95 for additional sets or FM.

NEW YORK: Rockland Cablevision has completed construction in Stony Point and has begun operations. The firm also serves Mt. Ivy, Garnerville, and Haverstraw, N.Y.

People's Cable Corp. of Perinton has signed a turnkey contract with Jerrold Electronics, and construction has begun.

TEXAS: A channel changeover has been completed by Nacogdoches Cable TV of Nacogdoches, of channels 7, KLTV-Tyler and 11, KTVT-Dallas.

VIRGINIA: The cities of Iron Gate and Wesgate have been given clearance for construction by Cablevision, managed

by Bob Craft, and construction has started.

214 APPLICATIONS: Indiana: Indian Heights Subdivision near Kokome; Indiana Bell Telephone Co. for Booth American Co.; Cost \$49,100; File No. P-C-7526.

Maine: Skowhegan; New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. for Skowhegan TV, Inc.; File No. P-C-7331; Granted.

Michigan: Canton Township; Michigan Bell Telephone Co. for Royal Holiday Park; Cost \$20,456; File No. P-C-7504. . . . East Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids, Wyoming and Kentwood; Michigan Bell Telephone Co. for Lamb Communications, Inc.; Cost \$2,997,120; File No. P-C-7052. . . . Midland and Midland Township; Michigan Bell Telephone Co. for Booth American Co.; Cost \$509,964; File No. P-C-7507.

New York: Village of Warsaw; Rochester Telephone Co. for Warsaw Television Cable Corp.; Cost \$50,757.26; File No. P-C-7528.

Moving Up

Visual Electronics has announced the promotion of *G.A. Dodds, Jr.* to VTR national sales manager. Dodds, joined the firm in 1967 as a midwestern based sales engineer. Prior to joining the company, he was associated with the S. Sterling Co., Ampex and Concord Electronics Corporation and held positions in sales and sales management.

Ed Hurt, ex-Gates Radio Service Manager, recently Chief Engineer of Cable TV of Santa Barbara, has joined the consulting firm of Hammett & Edison, San Francisco, Calif., as an associate engineer.

Thomas E. Scholten has been named marketing manager for the Ampex professional audio products division. He will be responsible for the marketing of all Ampex professional audio recorders and accessories. He has joined the company from Caelus Memories, San Jose,

and has held marketing positions with Ampex previously.

Athena Communications has announced appointments of *Barry D. Stigers* as manager of advertising and sales promotion and *Robert G. Gray* as



Mr. Toner

Mr. Einhorn

chief engineer. Stigers, who has been operations manager and general manager of two cable systems has been secretary-treasurer and director of the New England Cable Television Association, and director of the Pennsylvania Cable Tele-

vision Association. Gray recently held the position of director of engineering for Cablevision Corporation of America, Boston. Previously he held the positions of chief engineer and manager of National Trans-Video, Los Angeles, and manager of construction and development for Caribbean Communications in the Virgin Islands.

Robert C. Wisniewski has been named general manager of Cosmos Cablevision Corp. and Cox-Cosmos, Inc. The two firms have systems in North and South Carolina. Wisniewski, who has been with Cosmos since 1961, was previously director of program operations.

St. Marys and Belmont, Ohio Valley Cable systems have appointed *Harry Williamson* of Belmont as technical representative. His responsibility will be to perform preventive maintenance tests on electronic equipment at antenna sites and throughout the systems. Williamson has worked with Ohio Valley Cable Corp. for seven months.

American Pamcor, Inc., has appointed *Robert L. Toner* CATV product sales manager, with responsibility for the marketing and new product development of all CATV products. Prior to joining the firm, Toner held the position of national sales manager of Jerrold's CATV System Division.

Edward A. Petro, Jr., has joined HTV Systems, Inc., as southeastern sales representative. Petro has had several years of sales experience in the electronics field, most recently with Swan Electronics. Prior to that, he was employed by Vikoa, Inc. He will be based in the HTV regional sales office in Petal, Mississippi.

Vikoa, Inc., has announced the appointment of *Arthur Einhorn* as director of corporate planning. Einhorn, was formerly assistant to the treasurer of the company, and prior to joining Vikoa in 1968, he was business manager for Triangle Publications' CATV, Syndication and Educating subsidiaries. He formerly served as assistant business manager for Triangle's Broadcast division, encompassing sixteen AM, FM and TV stations, and was instrumental in the establishing of the firm's first CATV system.

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FCC Sets Hearing For Nine 214 Cases

Nine applications by New York Telephone Company, an American Telephone and Telegraph subsidiary, for Section 214 certification of CATV channel facilities have been set for hearing by the FCC.

The nine communities—including the crucial New York City market—are widely dispersed, but involve similar 214 issues of telco discrimination in offering CATV channel facilities. As reported at the time by *CATV Weekly*, the FCC in April set a Hyde Park application for hearing on these issues. Now eight other applications have been consolidated with the Hyde Park proceeding.

The Hyde Park case involved charges by Better T.V., Inc. that U.S. Cablevision Corp. was given preferential treatment. The eight other cases named for the consolidated hearing are:

- (1) Hudson Valley Cablevision Corp. in the general vicinity of Titusville, Poughkeepsie and La Grange;
- (2) Hightower of Poughkeepsie Inc. in the general vicinity of Arlington, Poughkeepsie and La Grange;
- (3) Catskill Cablevision Corp. in the general vicinity of Catskill;
- (4) Comtel Inc. in the Borough of Manhattan;
- (5) WEOK Cablevision Inc. in the general vicinity of Poughkeepsie and La Grange;
- (6) WEOK Cablevision in the general vicinity of Poughkeepsie, La Grange and Pleasant Valley;
- (7) Broadway Maintenance CATV Corp. in the general vicinity of Brookhaven; and
- (8) Manhattan Cable Television in the Borough of Manhattan.

Comtel: "Special Problems"

"In ordering a consolidated hearing," the FCC announcement noted, "the Commission specified issues to determine the facts of telco's rent or denial of duct space and pole-line arrangements with CATV operators in the communities for which certification was requested, and the policies and practices underlying telco's actions; whether telco's tariff offerings caused undue or unreasonable prejudice or disadvantage; whether the public convenience and necessity requires any or all of the construction and operation for which certification is requested; if construction and

operation is justified what conditions, if any, should be required; and whether the Commission should take any further action."

The case of Comtel in New York City raises special problems, as that CATV subsidiary of the telco is not franchised by New York, and has fought in the courts—successfully, so far—with the argument that CATV service is a legitimate part of a telco's city franchise.

FCC Waives Hearing

Another Section 214 application in the same area might have been included, but was not. Dimension Cable TV Inc., a cable operation in Plattsburgh, pleaded for a 214 grant without hearing, and the Commission agreed. Dimension said that more than \$275,000 has been poured into its system, which has been operating at a loss since it began in July 1967, and that the CATV system must be completed before it can become a going operation. Furthermore, Dimension said, clinching its argument, no "person or entity has come forward with any claim that there is a likelihood of wasteful duplication by telco in Plattsburgh, or any charges that telco has shown undue discrimination . . . or preferential treatment for certain CATV operators, or engaged in unlawful anti-competitive practices or other improper conduct."

The FCC therefore made the Platts-

burgh grant "subject to an appropriate condition which will insure compliance by the CATV customer with the rules and any outstanding or subsequently issued orders of the Commission concerning non-duplication protection for the local television stations is in the public interest."

ATC Buys Wisconsin, Florida CATV Systems

American Television & Communications Corporation (ATC), announced last week that it has reached agreements in principle to acquire CATV systems in Wisconsin and Florida.

In Wisconsin, ATC will acquire the Chippewa Cable Company, Inc., a 2,000-subscriber system in Chippewa Falls, which is adjacent to Eau Claire, where ATC already has a system serving more than 7,800 subscribers.

In Florida, a newly constructed system serving approximately 1,000 subscribers in Sarasota County, will be acquired, a company spokesman said.

Both acquisitions will be made in exchange for ATC common stock. ATC currently operates systems with more than 102,000 subscribers in 17 states. It also has a 50 percent interest in systems in Florida and Tennessee with 25,000 additional subscribers.

The broker in the transaction was Daniels and Associates, Denver.

Rifkin Sees American Television Profit

American Television and Communications Corp., last week announced that it expects to report a profit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970 compared to a loss of approximately \$400,000 in the most recent fiscal year. Monroe Rifkin, president of the Denver-based MSO made the announcement to the New York Society of Security Analysts.

He said that final figures for the 1969 fiscal year (ATC's first year of operation) would be available in a few weeks, but preliminary indications are that consolidated revenues would amount to about \$5.8 million and cash flow would be approximately \$1.6 million.

"On a pro-forma basis," he told the meeting, "the comparable figures for the previous year would have been \$3.8 million and \$800,000, respectively."

He reported that the 1969 figures would not include the operations of two companies in which ATC has a 50 percent interest. "One of these companies is generating almost \$900,000 in cash flow and more than \$400,000 in profits," he told the analysts.

ATC has more than 102,000 subscribers in 17 states. It also has a 50 percent interest in cable companies in Florida and Tennessee with 25,000 subscribers.

(Continued from page 8)

He mentioned telco involvement in CATV but said it is awkward to frame policy until the FCC knows what kind of business CATV is going to be. He said, "For one thing, it would be exceedingly wasteful not to make some kind of use of what is already in place (the existing telephone company plant). And, in any event, hauling is their kind of business and they know how."

FCC Calls Wisconsin Non-Duplication Hearing

The FCC last week ordered a Wisconsin CATV system to show cause why it should not be ordered to cease and desist from carriage of a television sta-

tion's signals without providing program exclusivity protection.

American Cablevision Corp.'s operation in La Crosse is the one in question. The Commission's action was at the request of WEAU-TV in Eau Claire, which alleges that La Crosse is within the WEAU-TV predicted Grade A contour and should have non-duplication protection from the signals of KROC-TV in Rochester, Minn. American Cablevision, however, allegedly carries the duplicating KROC-TV signals.

According to the Commission, American Cablevision admits that WEAU-TV asked for non-duplication protection, but that the cable system did not afford it. The CATV firm says that it is not clear whether or not WEAU-TV puts a predicted Grade A signal over La Crosse.

In directing the cable firm to "show cause why" the Commission said that it had ruled in 1967 that La Crosse is within the predicted Grade A contour of WEAU-TV and that American Cablevision had not shown otherwise.

Cascade Slates Tech School

Cascade Electronics Ltd. of Port Moody, B.C., will conduct a school at the Washington Plaza in Seattle on August 26 and 27. Pacific Northwest system operators will attend the classes under the direction of Jerry King, the company's director of systems engineering. The school will cover basic as well as advanced CATV engineering practices and principles.

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Industry Stocks

Stock	Stock Exchange	This Week	Last Week	Year High	Year Low	Shares Outstanding
Amer. TV & Comm.		14	13 1/2	14 7/8	7 1/2	1,392,773
Ameco	AM	9 5/8	9 1/2	19 1/2	7 1/2	1,200,000
AM Elec. Labs	OTC	8	7 3/4	29	7 1/2	1,516,432
Avnet	AVT	13 3/4	14 7/8	20 1/2	13	9,909,054
Cable Info Systems	OTC	3 3/4	3 3/4	5 3/4	3 1/2	955,000
Cablecom General		10 1/4	10 1/4	12 3/4	9 1/2	—
Columbia Cable		9	9	14 1/2	9	—
Cornelia Corp.	OTC	1 1/4	1 3/8	8 3/8	1 1/4	—
Cox Cable Comm.	OTC	13 1/4	13 1/2	23 7/8	13 1/2	2,550,000
Cypress Comm.	OTC	10	13 1/2	20 1/2	10 1/2	—
Entron	OTC	3 3/8	3 5/8	11 1/4	3 5/8	600,700
Famous Players Ltd.	C	14	14 1/8	19 1/4	13 1/4	—
General Inst.	NY	41	37 3/4	57	18 7/8	—
Gulf & Western	NY	21 1/4	22 1/8	60	20 5/8	15,120,860
H&B Am	AM	16	15 1/4	27 3/8	10	4,972,589
Int. Cablevision	OTC	9	9	13 1/2	9	368,025
Kaufman & Broad Inc.		39 7/8	38 3/4	42 3/4	33 1/2	3,900,909
Lamb Comm., Inc.	OTC	4 1/4	4 1/8	10	4 1/8	2,468,284
Livingston Oil	NY	9 1/8	9 5/8	15	8	5,692,078
Maclean-Hunter	C	16 3/4	17 3/4	18 1/4	11 1/2	2,000,000
Reeves	AM	13 3/4	15 1/4	39 5/8	15 5/8	—
Scientific-Atlanta		8 1/2	8 7/8	19	8 5/8	903,442
SKL	OTC	3 1/2	3 1/2	11 1/2	3 1/2	—
Sterling Comm.	OTC	6 3/8	6	13 5/8	5 3/4	—
TelePrompTer	AM	56 3/4	56 1/2	78 1/2	32 1/2	—
Vikoa	AM	23 3/8	23 3/4	39 1/4	12 5/8	1,719,345

These are Wednesday closing prices supplied by Dempsey-Tegeler. AM = American Exchange; NY = New York Exchange; OTC = Over the Counter; C = Canadian Exchange.

Digest of Earnings

TELEPROMPTER CORP.

6 month June 30: 1969		1968
Share earns	\$.32	\$.16
Revenues	4,290,324	3,655,618
Income	365,574	182,978
Spec cred	99,250	645,500
Net income	464,824	828,478

MICROWAVE ASSOCIATES

Quarter June 28: 1969		1968
Share earns	\$.27	\$.30
Sales	6,794,800	6,901,200
Net income	310,000	345,800
Common shares	1,155,300	1,142,100
9 month share	.57	.48
Sales	20,823,000	19,806,800
Income	654,000	548,200
Special credit		195,900
Net income	654,000	744,100

UNITED UTILITIES INC.

6 Month June 30: 1969		1968
Share earns	\$.59	\$.53
Total rev	199,924,000	174,751,000
Net income	21,919,000	19,847,000
Average shares	28,032,746	27,746,829
12 month share	1.26	1.13
Total revenues	400,773,000	348,640,000
Net income	45,691,000	41,430,000
Average shares	27,934,111	27,656,324

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JOHN WILLIAM PATRICK MOONEY

Born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, February 6, 1936. He graduated from Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1957 with a B.S. in Political Science. His first post-graduate position was with the Berkshire Eagle, and he spent the next few years in newspaper work in Massachusetts, North Carolina and on the West Coast. After teaching for two years, he returned to newspaper editing. Through the Berkshire Eagle he became involved in a local origination news program for the CATV system, and was subsequently named Program Director for the High Fidelity CATV system in Great Barrington, Mass. As of last week, he is General Manager of that operation. He is also President of the New England CATV Association and an NCTA member.

John William Patrick Mooney, volatile Massachusetts Irishman, has an unerring instinct for finding out where the action is. Perhaps it's his years of newspaper experience, his extensive involvement in understanding and reporting the political scene. Unquestionably it was this background that led him into cable television to begin with. He was Managing Editor of the weekly *Berkshire Courier* when he took on the added responsibility for a half-hour news program on High Fidelity's cable system in Great Barrington in 1967. So successful was the enterprise, that John continued to expand the firm's local origination and was named Program Director for the system.

An outspoken and articulate newsman, John made the system's origination program into one of the most imaginative and best known among cable people. But his executive abilities range over a wider scope than only cablecasting, and the system owners began to rely increasingly on him for management of the overall, day-to-day operations. Last week, he was formally named General Manager of High Fidelity Cablevision—comprised of four Massachusetts systems owned by Billboard Publications.

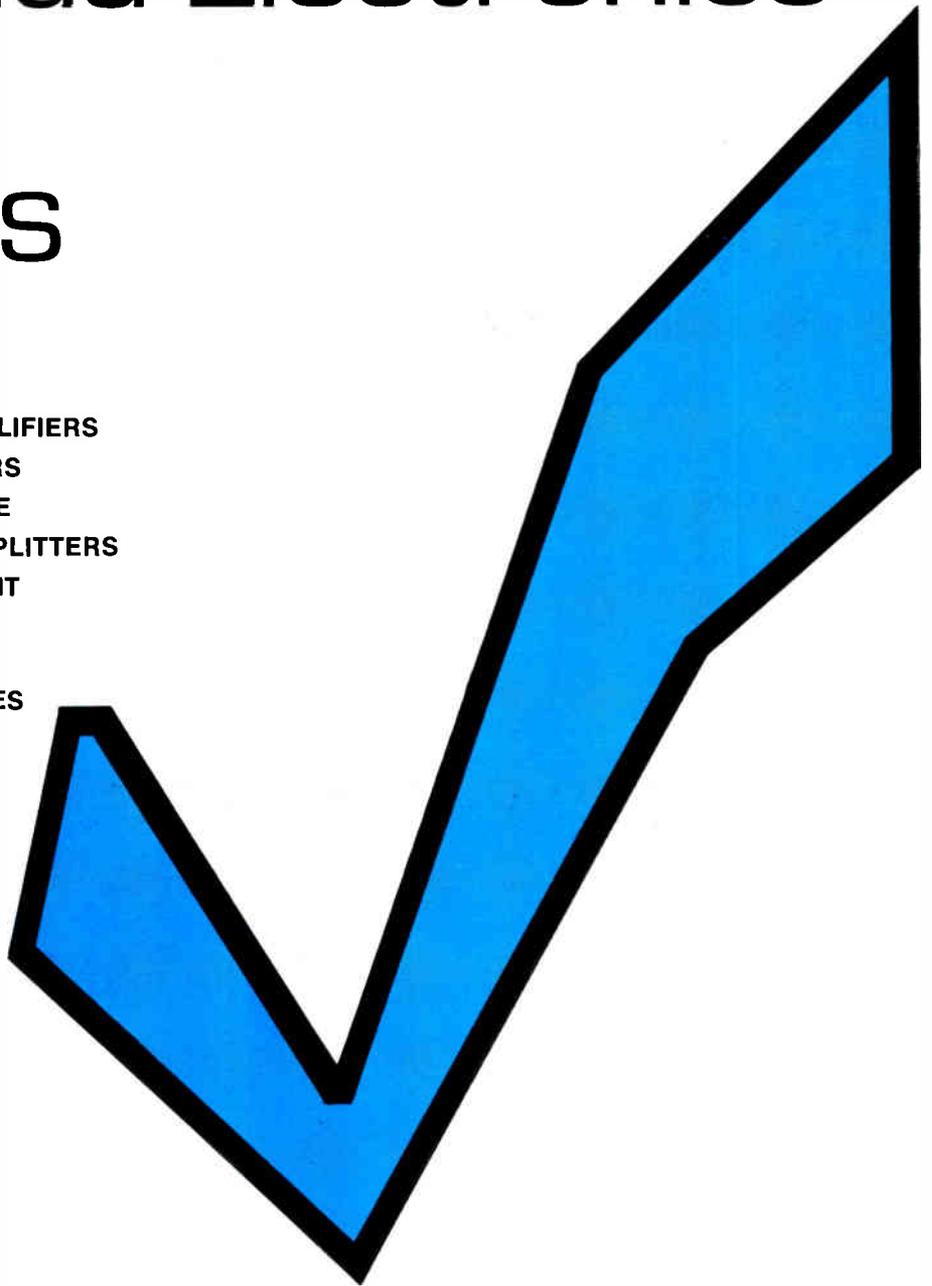
John's responsibilities are not light ones. Among other problems he faces is that of being a leaseback operator. "Leaseback is a dirty name to many independent operators," he says, but he adds that those who are forced to go leaseback have more difficulty with telephone companies than the independent CATVers—and get far less sympathy. What he'd like to see is a panel at the next NCTA Convention which will explore the woes of leaseback as well as the pole attachment type of problem.

Because of his association with the press, John has personally stayed uninvolved in political activities. But as a cableman, he has a keen awareness of the importance of that arena—and as President of the New England Cable Television Association he is doing what he can to prepare himself and his fellow cable operators for political action. One of the inevitable events John sees on the horizon is the ever-increasing pressure for PUC regulation by the states. "We might enjoy a brief hiatus while state legislators sit back and wait for the FCC to see what it wants for itself," he says. "But after the areas are cleared, the states will pounce on what is left."

But then, in the opinion of John William Patrick Mooney, crises are what you grow on, and the best kind of growth comes from having to strive hard for what you get.

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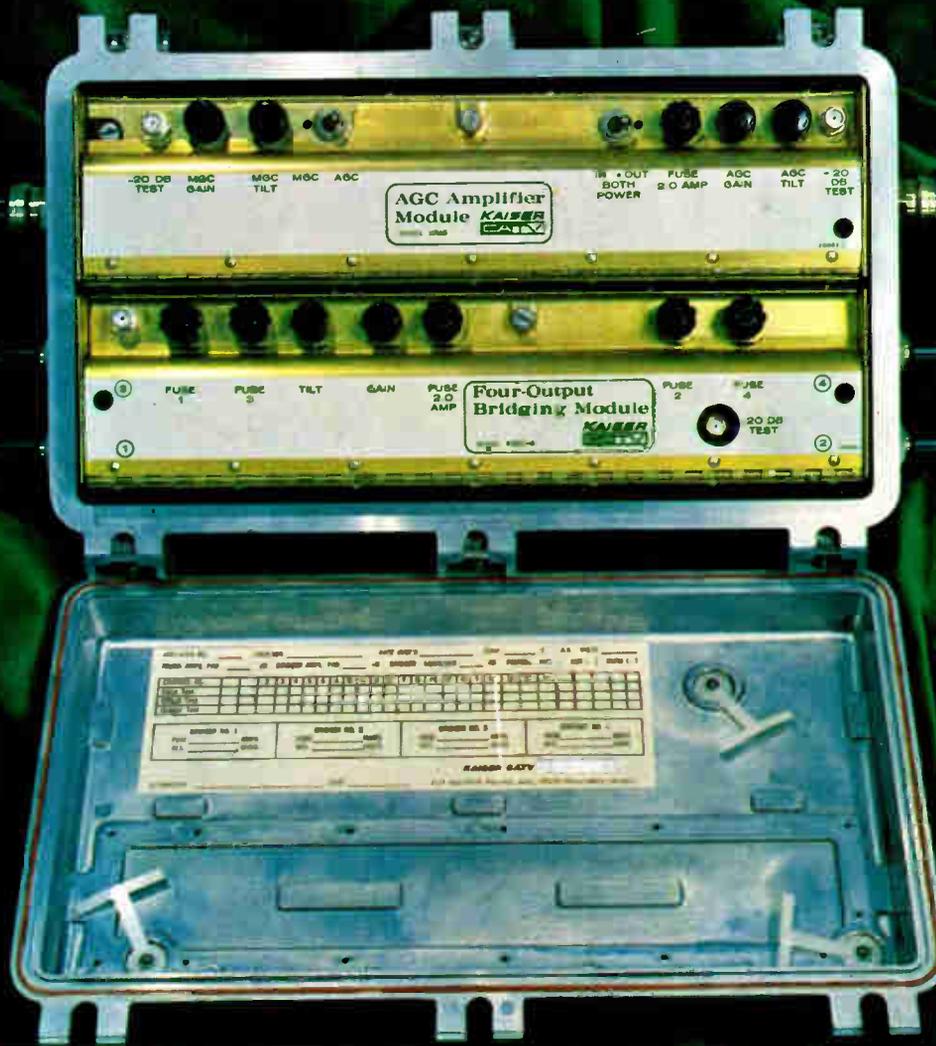
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