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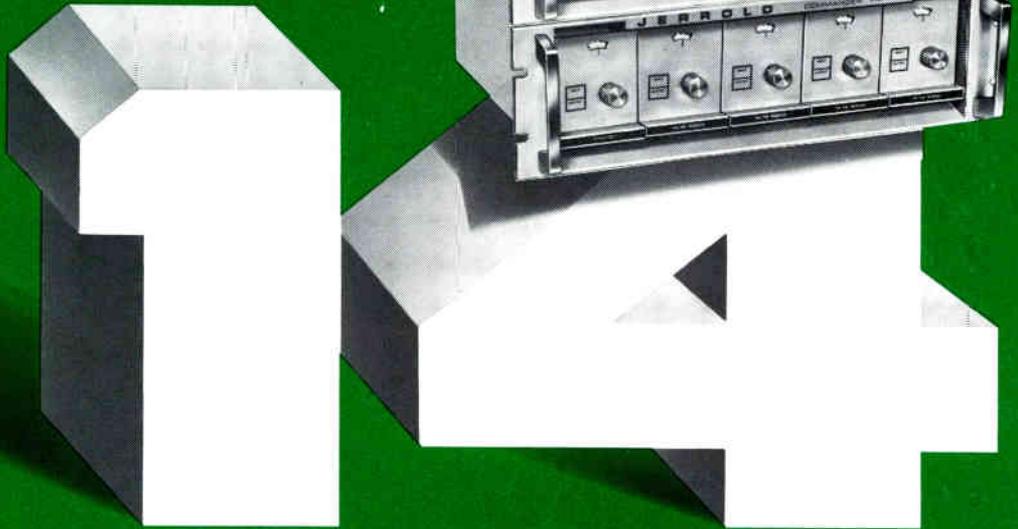
April 20, 1970

CATV

Authoritative Newsweekly of Cable Television



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OUR COVER

Meeting surprise speaker Professor Erwin Cory (right), famous TV and stage comic, at the Texas CATV Association annual meeting are association directors Jay O'Neal and Maurice Nixon. (See story inside.)

CATV

Authoritative Newsweekly of Cable Television

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NCTA, NAB, AMST, and program suppliers comment on amount of information needed on FCC's CATV reporting form. Strictest recommendation comes from program suppliers.

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Canadian Radio-Television Commission turns out guidelines for CATV which will require a blackout of most U.S. signals one week prior and one week subsequent to Canadian TV airing.

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Ameco's Discade system is successful in first attempt in Daly City, Calif. Reports from CATV system reveal new concept of distribution meets all expectations and more. Ameco sells cable system interests to Times-Wire.

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Texas CATV Association meets in Dallas for annual convention. Copyright panel and telco panel top list of events in association's three-day meeting.

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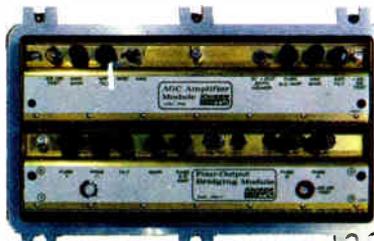
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Long-famed as the world's rubber products capital, Akron, Ohio, will soon have another claim to fame . . . one of the world's largest and finest CATV systems. □ TeleVision Communications Corporation (TVC), holder of the Akron franchise, chose Kaiser's new Phoenician XR (Extended Range) Series for this 1,300-mile dual-cable installation after careful evaluation. The "XR" Series incorporates the latest in push-pull

techniques, and is capable of carrying up to 32 TV channels plus FM on each cable. □ This is the largest CATV equipment order ever placed for a single location! Which backs up what we've been saying all along: From the smallest system to the largest, Kaiser CATV can provide "just right" equipment of latest design and highest reliability. □ If you're thinking small or thinking big, think first of Kaiser CATV.



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Robert A. Searle
Editor

Viewpoint

Environmental Concern and CATV

Concern about our environment—about the pollution of the elements around us—is now an officially acknowledged national issue. There is nothing new about the concern, but it is newly urgent.

It is no idle attempt to hop on the bandwagon to point out that, in the years ahead, the cable television industry may be in the forefront of efforts to roll back man's pollution of his environment.

One of the potentially most significant studies produced by American industry was the recent filing at the FCC by the Electronic Industries Association. The EIA study, you will recall, asked the FCC to open up cable communications to full development, allowing not only CATV as we know it, but a full range of common carrier services, including two-way transmissions. Businesses would be able to transfer massive doses of information from one point to another almost instantaneously. A virtually unlimited number of educational and professional services would be at the fingertips of businesses—and homeowners.

And what has all this to do with pollution? Quite a bit. For one thing, much of our air pollution is caused by automobiles, and many of our environmental difficulties are tied to the cities that draw those exhaust-spewing automobiles together. EIA pointed out that cities evolved because they supply power sources—and now power can economically be switched anywhere. And with the development of a truly comprehensive cable system in this country, information will be transferrable as easily as electricity is right now. There will be no need for thousands upon thousands of office workers to pour into the heart of cities daily if downtown offices and various suburban branches are able to exchange information as rapidly and almost as inexpensively as handing a slip of paper across a desk.

Are these pipe dreams? Something to make cable operators feel that they're participating in a national drive, even though nothing will really happen? Not at all. The cable industry is no giant by American standards—but this plan was suggested to the FCC by many of the real powers of the country, the members of EIA. With the political and industrial ower of the EIA combined with a potent political issue, the salvage of our environment, the cable industry might well be in the forefront of the communications network of tomorrow.

Publishers' Note

Two weeks from today, watch for CATV Magazine's total cover-to-cover new look! Complete up-to-the-minute coverage of all CATV news fronts won't change. But the magazine appearance *will*. We're excited about the changes—we believe the "new" CATV will give you more pleasure in the reading. We hope you like it . . . and we'll look forward to hearing your comments.

Get it all together

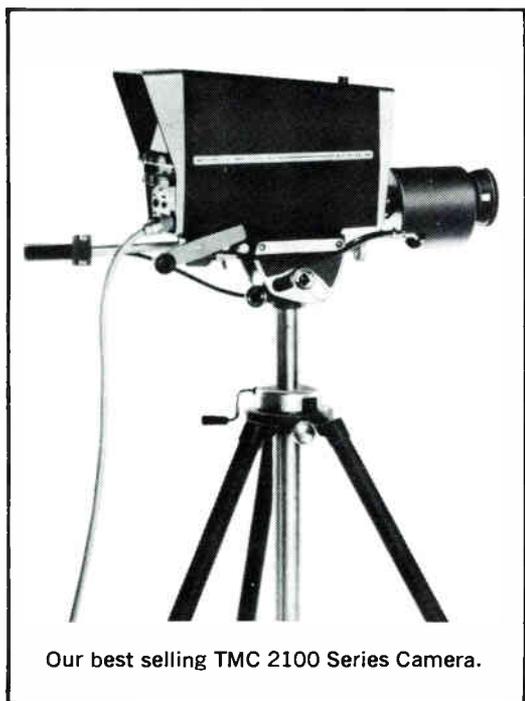
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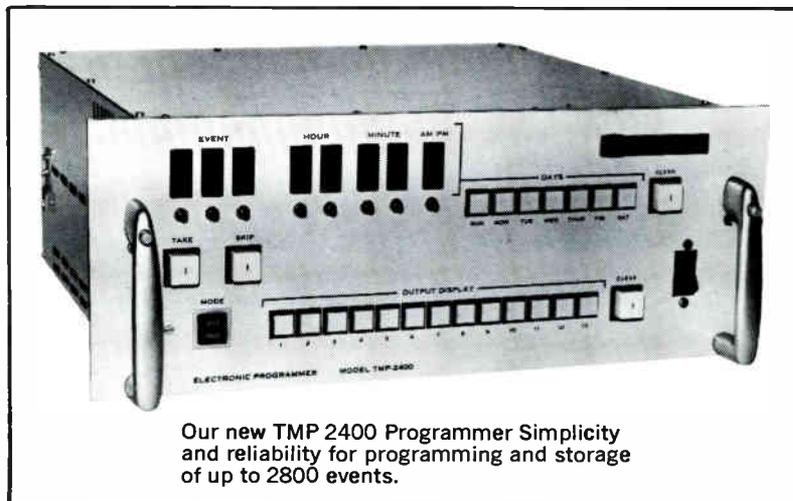
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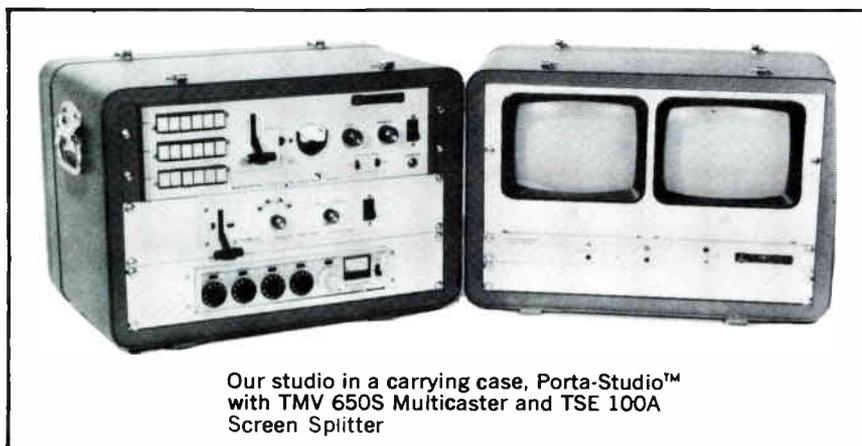
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CATV, Broadcast and Software Comments On CATV Reports Voice Varied Opinions

NCTA, NAB, AMST, and programmers range in opinions on amount of information needed and strictness of questions asked. Most severe requirements asked by program suppliers.

Comments came into the FCC last week on the Commission's proposed reporting form for program origination by CATV systems. And virtually without exception, cable industry filings asked for less detailed and cumbersome forms, while broadcasters said that more specific information should be demanded of CATV.

The Commission is asking for financial and general data to be filed by cable systems annually. But comments last week were restricted to program origination data, which the Commission intends to solicit on a one-shot basis, though broadcasters are mostly in favor of requesting it on an annual basis.

Fees Are 'Confidential'

NCTA and the National Association of Broadcasters in general outlined the positions of the respective industries. NCTA said that questions regarding subscriber and installation fees solicit information that is confidential and has "no place in an originations report" and hits various other questions as unnecessary or unclear.

NCTA admitted that "the Commission is entitled to obtain such information as is necessary to properly carry out their responsibilities with respect to CATV as it is viewed as ancillary to television broadcasting. However, because program origination itself is not ancillary to television broadcasting and, therefore, in any report form on CATV program originations only such information as is absolutely necessary should be required."

NAB, meanwhile, argued that origination information should be filed annually if the Commission is to "remain attuned to the scope and nature of program originations," and urged the FCC to ask whether higher monthly fees or per program charges are being made by cable systems. The NAB also asked for a complete breakdown of program origination into categories and percentages.

Eight prominent cable firms said that the proposed filing form "requests information in such detail as to be justified only with respect to proper exercise of the Commission's licensing function. The proposed form is highly similar to a programming section required to be filed by a broadcast station on a periodic basis, and consequently, is far too detailed to be useful or justifiable in the context of the present one-time filing requirement."

The firms, which spelled out exactly how they want the proposed forms simplified, are Athena Communications Inc., Buckeye CableVision, Carthage Cablevision Inc., Cox Cable Communications Inc., the Jerrold Corp., National Trans-Video Inc., Newchannels Corp., and Television Communications Corp.

Their filing, prepared by John Matthews and Charles Helein of the Washington law firm of Dow, Lohnes and Albertson, said that "it should be noted that completing the proposed form adds to the burden of an already heavily regulated and non-licensed industry and hence adds to its costs of doing business as well as the time that must be spent in administering a massive pile of paperwork required by the regulation. Consequently, any additional reporting requirement should be based solely on facts and information which are currently necessary to enable the Commission to properly perform its regulatory rule." The filing examined each of the proposed reporting form questions and suggested simplifications.

Cable Firms Comment

Joint comments were filed by the D.C. law firm of Cole, Zylstra and Raywid on behalf of some 100 firms representing about 200 cable systems with a total subscription list of about half a million homes.

"We agree with the Commission that there is a decided lack of current factual

(Continued on page 24)

Shapp Seeks Governor's Post



Philadelphia CATV operator Milton Shapp (right) appears with Pennsylvania State Auditor Robert Casey on WIIC-TV's "Face to Face" series in Pittsburgh. Shapp and Casey will battle for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Pennsylvania. Quizzing the two are Robert Cochran of WIIC-TV; Merle Pollis of WJAS Radio in Pittsburgh; and Frank Matthews of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.



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2. Q. **Where are they necessary?**
A. Primarily at Head End Signal Processors, at both input and output.
3. Q. **Why at outputs?**
A. To eliminate "leakage" of 45.75 IF and local channel oscillators.
4. Q. **How can 45.75 harm the pictures?**
A. Because of loose "tolerances".
5. Q. **How does that affect the matter?**
A. Plus or minus 100 KC means up to twelve different "45.75's", varying from 45.65 to 45.85.
6. Q. **So what?**
A. They "beat".
7. Q. **Then what?**
A. Their "beats" then modulate desired carriers".
8. Q. **Then what?**
A. A TV Receiver detects them and they appear as "wormy pictures" or "busy backgrounds".....or just plain noise.
Only \$144.00 per set of 12 channels, 2 thru 13. Less than 12 \$15.00 each.
9. Q. **Back to the Head End...how do they beat without a Detector?**
A. They don't.
10. Q. **Where is the detector?**
A. Every non-linearity from Head End "Mixing" to cascaded amplifier.
11. Q. **What's a typical example?**
A. Signal Processor outputs. They have steep slopes at 45.75 to minimize leakage. When interconnected to other Processors they make near perfect "slope detectors" for 45.75 MC "beats".
12. Q. **What else?**
A. Broad Band Amplifiers. They also have steep slopes at 45.75.
13. Q. **Why are the "wormy pictures" worse after cascading amplifiers?**
A. Because you cascade "slope" detectors.
14. Q. **Will Hamlin B.P.F.'s at \$12.00 actually cure this?**
A. Yes, unconditionally.
15. Q. **Have you sold many?**
A. More than 8,000.
16. Q. **Is that a lot?**
A. Probably more than sold by the whole industry since 1949.
17. Q. **And what did you say the price is?**
A. Only \$144.00 per set of 12 channels, 2 thru 13. Less than 12 \$15.00 each.

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CRTC 'Guidelines' Force Blackout of U.S. Signals, Require Originated Programming

Commission's priorities list CATV in the cellar. New guidelines may stifle CATV's growth in attempt to save Canadian broadcasting system. Guidelines labeled not specific enough.

The Canadian Radio-Television Commission has announced stringent new guidelines for cable TV which will force CATV companies to black out most of the leading programs transmitted by U.S. stations.

The new guidelines take effect immediately in CATV systems applying for licenses and seeking to amend and renew licenses. The Commission action gives the CRTC a big hammer for the molding of CATV activities, especially in new applications for licenses.

Previous CATV Posture

In public announcements May 13, 1969, and December 3, 1969, the Commission outlined interim policies it would follow in granting licenses. At these times the CRTC said that CATV should develop without threatening the rest of the television industry.

The new guidelines indicate that regular TV stations would have priority over cable systems if one was economically affecting the other.

"It's a matter of deciding whether we want a Canadian broadcasting system or we don't," said CRTC chairman Pierre Juneau. "The guidelines are not rigid," he said, "and the CRTC retains the power to decide each case on its merits."

The blackout of U.S. programs which duplicate programming carried by Canadian broadcasting stations, forbids CATV systems from carrying the programs one week prior to its Canadian station airing and one week after airing. Juneau said that 47 of the 50 leading U.S. shows are carried by Canadian stations.

The result is a severe blow to CATV systems in areas where viewers using rooftop antennas would have a greater diversity of programming than subscribers to cable systems. The blackout proposal is the main point of contention of the Canadian Cable Television Association's argument against the guide-

lines. The association has also pointed out that the guidelines need to be more specific.

CATVers Brace Themselves

The CRTC said it would hold hearings in the fall on the proposed guidelines, but that existing cable companies could continue their present practices until their licenses are up for renewal. At that time, if they want exemptions from parts of the guidelines they will have to convince the Commission that what they want is in the public interest. This gives most cable firms from one to two years before their licenses are up for renewal.

The interim policies of 1969 suggested local program origination in CATV systems, but the new guidelines require programming of a local nature and in addition, one channel must be provided for educational television programs.

The Commission said that cable systems should not prevent the extension of regular telecasting, or cause the failure of a broadcasting station. In order to prevent this, it said it would, if

necessary, limit the number of channels a cable system would be allowed to carry.

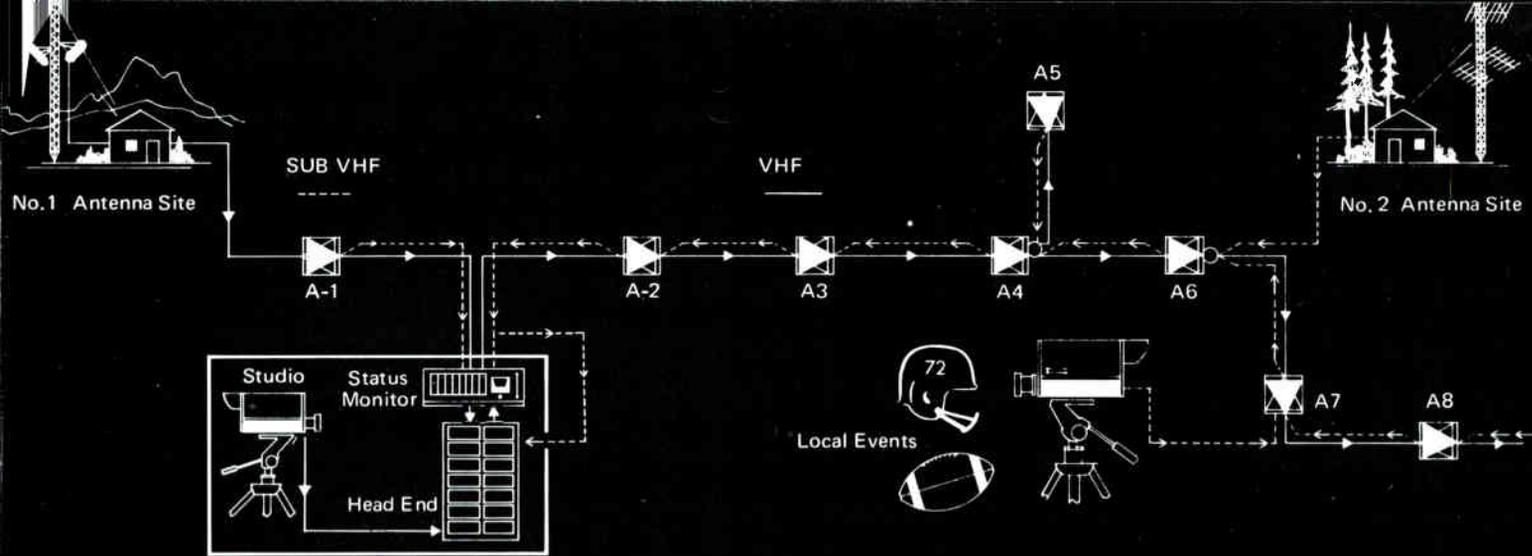
The Commission warned border U.S. TV stations not to solicit advertising to such an extent that it would "disrupt the economic balance established by the normal licensing procedure." To do so, the CRTC said it might cause Canadian cable systems to lose the particular stations.

"There is \$10 million of advertising taken out of Canada at the moment by border stations," Juneau said. He noted that the CRTC has considered having commercials blacked out from programs aimed at Canada from abroad, but that such a move would be legally contentious. Nevertheless, the proposed priorities warn that advertising banned by Canadian law should not be carried. The CRTC encouraged CATV to move into areas removed from the Canadian border—such as Calgary and Edmonton. Microwave will be allowed by the CRTC to carry one American TV network to such cities. But the Commission qualified its statement saying that applications for license amendments for existing systems to use broadband distribution "until further notice" will not be considered.

The Commission intends to propose regulations in a public hearing in the fall of 1970. The hearings will be for the purpose of establishing rules applicable to "all existing and future CATV systems."



Juneau: "The guidelines are not rigid" . . . and the CRTC will decide each case on its merits.



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- A3 Mid Span Bridger with sub VHF.
- A4 Trunk Combination TLC with sub VHF.

- A5 Terminal Bridger with Level Monitor and sub VHF
- A6 Trunk Combination TLC with Level Monitor and sub VHF Amplifier.
- A7 Trunk Combination AGC with sub VHF.
- A8 Trunk Combination TLC with Level Monitor and sub VHF.



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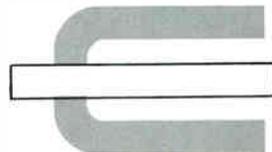
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On Capitol Hill

GOP Wakes Up for New Battle Over Reduced-Cost Political Time

CATV Washington Bureau—An intriguing political story lies behind the current Congressional efforts to pass legislation to eliminate or reduce the cost of broadcast advertising time during election campaigns. And the story reveals the likelihood that no such legislation will be signed into law by President Nixon.

Despite the legislation's smooth progress in the Senate under the guiding hand of Sen. John O. Pastore (D-R.I.), chairman of the Communications Subcommittee of the Senate Commerce Committee, the bill may be headed for oblivion in the House. The reason, quite simply, is money—the money that the Republicans have and the Democrats don't. The bill is designed to ease campaign expenses for television time in particular, expenses that are horribly high but absolutely necessary to a major candidate.

Any legislation that affects radio-TV treatment of political time will affect CATV—the FCC has made it abundantly clear that all program restrictions of that type will be transferred in duplicate from broadcast operations to cable television. Likewise, any freedom that broadcasting wins will also be won by CATV—so that a permanent suspension of the equal-time law would remove that requirement from cable operators. The legislation therefore deserves the close attention of the CATV industry.

As previously stated, the Nixon administration and the Republican Party in general may maneuver to bury the proposals as quietly and effectively as possible. It wasn't until the actual day last week when the Senate voted on the bill that it was too late.

Just how does legislation that eases the financial burden of political campaigns work against the Republicans? That's not such a hard question as it might seem. The fact is, the GOP, traditionally the "money party," under the guidance of President Nixon is relatively well off and collecting more money all the time. Vice President Spiro T. Agnew has proven no less than superb at fund-raising appearances.

But the Democrats have never recovered from the decline and fall of Lyndon Johnson and the resultant chaos at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in 1968. Many contributions stopped then, and few have resumed. Bruising presidential primaries left the party with large debts. New Democratic National Chairman Lawrence O'Brian admits that the party is nearly ten million dollars in debt, and he flatly states that the Democrats can't compete with the Republicans

for national office if the GOP can massively outspend the Democrats for television time.

Furthermore, the bill as passed by the Senate would aid other federal office seekers. By a 50-25 vote, the solons agreed to limit campaign spending on radio-TV to seven cents per vote cast in the last election. Also, all broadcast stations are urged to make available to candidates for federal office as much prime broadcast time as community needs seem to indicate—another way of saying that candidates should not be frozen out of prime time.

Pastore is an extremely able and prestigious Senator, and his backing was a key element in winning votes on the political broadcast time measure. Republicans became aware of its potential efforts too late to successfully oppose it in the Senate. But it seems safe to predict that the road will be a much rougher one in the House, and the GOP is no doubt already plotting the demise of the legislation.



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Return a sub VHF signal from a remote antenna site back to your head end thereby picking up those signals that are weak at the main antenna. Originate programs (sports, community activities, etc.) at any point in the system, via a sub VHF channel. Monitor the performance of your amplifiers continuously, from any suitable point in the system. The results are better programming, picture quality and reduced maintenance costs — increase your cash flow now!

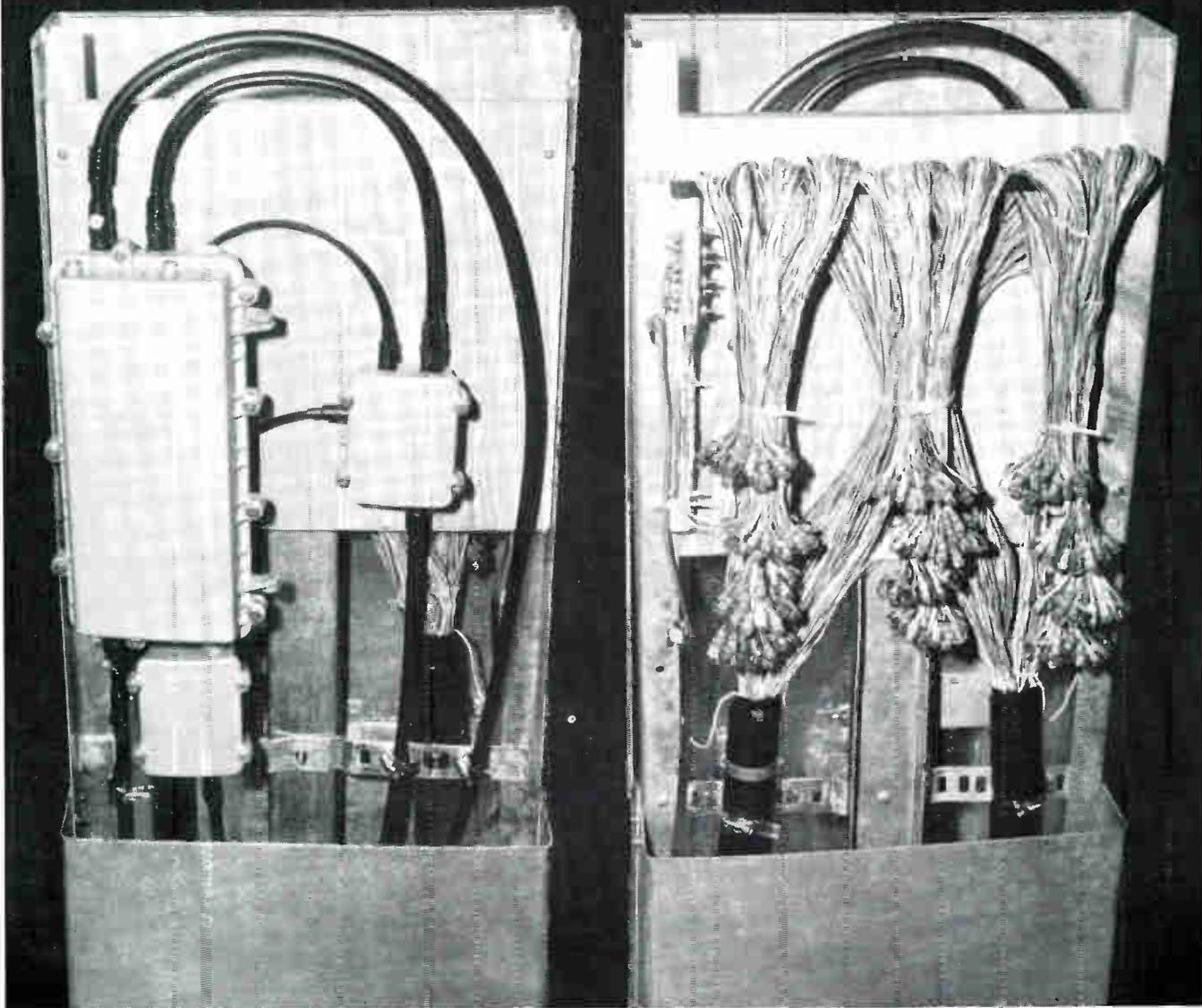
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Outside you have a compact, low-profile housing of sturdy, weatherproof construction. It is made of heavy 12 and 14 gauge steel, and is protected with a heavy zinc coating from the IS&W hot-dip galvanized-after-forming process.

Inside you have more space than you would think possible with so compact an exterior. A $\frac{3}{4}$ " Marine-grade plywood internal separator finished with weatherproof polyurethane doubles as a surface for equipment mounting, and as a divider for the interior space between Cable TV and telephone

terminals.

Here is what you can put into our Series "D" housings:

Model D-1 Up to 200 pairs of splicing*; up to 75 pairs of loading and up to 18 pairs of termination. Plus CATV component space of 12" x 18".

Model D-2 Up to 400 pairs of splicing*; up to 100 pairs of loading and up to 18 pairs of termination. Plus CATV component space of 18" x 18".

Model D-3 Up to 600 pairs of splicing*; up to 150 pairs of loading and up to 18 pairs of termination. Plus CATV component space of 24" x 18".

There are four more good reasons for ordering the Model "D" from IS&W:

Single stake mounting for faster installation; locking facilities to prevent tampering; upper and lower covers are quickly and independently removable for easy access; a full 9 inches of space for pressurization equipment.

*Based on 22 gauge cable for average ratings.

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CATV—April 20, 1970

Moving Up

Jack H. Mann has been appointed president of National Telesystems Corporation, according to Donald F. Eldridge, International Video Corporation president and Dick Clark, Dick Clark Enterprises president, co-founders of NTC. Most recently Mann was vice president-marketing for Dick Clark Enterprises.

Frederick Shuh, president of General Instrument of Canada Ltd., has announced the promotion of A.T. (Terry) Keenan to the position of vice-president and general manager of the Jerrold/Watkins divisions of General Instrument of Canada, Ltd. Keenan assumed his new position effective April 1, 1970.

Columbia Cable Systems has announced the appointment of Richard Pew as manager of Columbia's Washington systems covering the communities of Pasco, Kennewick, Omak, Okanogan, Tonasket and Oroville. Pew was formerly head of engineering for Columbia's Northwest systems and prior to that was Northwest sales manager for the Jerrold Corporation. Columbia also announced the appointment of Jerry Cranford as general manager of Texas Cablevision Corporation, a Columbia subsidiary operating in San Angelo and Ballanger, Texas.

Kirk A. Hollingsworth has recently been appointed regional sales manager for Anaconda Electronics Co. In his new position, Hollingsworth will be responsible for all CATV equipment sales in the states of California and Arizona. He has previously served with Anaconda as manager of customer service and also western states representative.



Mr. Mann



Mr. Titsch



Mr. Thomson

Stan Searle, marketing director of National Cable Television Institute, has announced the appointment of Bob Titsch as national sales manager. Titsch's background includes extensive experience in sales and marketing. Immediately prior to his association with NCTI, Titsch was vice president of sales & promotion for Travelers Motor Club and previously was advertising sales manager of Communications Publishing Corporation, publishers of TV COMMUNICATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, and CATV WEEKLY.

Robert F. Thomson has been appointed director of purchasing for Jerrold Corp., according to an announcement by Lee Zemnick, executive vice president.

CATV—April 20, 1970

Benco also performs in skyscraper country.



Bring on your big cities grown tall. Skyscrapers never did frighten us. Our CATV equipment still delivers signals straight and true, sharp and clear, channel after channel throughout any downtown area.

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27 Taber Road, Rexdale, Ontario.

System Construction

ALABAMA: Muscle Shoals TV Cable Co. has announced that the \$2.5 million rebuild of its five video channel system which serves the Florence area is scheduled to be completed sometime this fall. The new system will be transistorized and have a 12 channel capacity. According to a representative of the firm, the project was begun in late 1968 and is now approximately 65% completed.

CALIFORNIA: California Cable Television Corp. has announced that construction is scheduled to begin in the near future in Saratoga. According to terms of its franchise, the firm is to have initial service available by July 1.

COLORADO: Midwest Cable TV Co. has announced the completion of a new antenna to improve reception for its system which serves Akron.

Midwest Cable TV Co. has announced that hook-ups are now under way in Yuma.

FLORIDA: Englewood Cable-Vue recently held grand opening ceremonies for its 150-mile, 10 video channel system which now serves subscribers in Englewood.

Florida Cablevision has announced plans to extend its five video channel system to Fort Pierce residents who live on Hutchinson Island.

MICHIGAN: Gross Telecasting, Inc. has announced plans to begin construction of its system to serve Lansing within five weeks.

MINNESOTA: American Cablevision Co. has announced plans to add Channel 19, La Crosse, to its 11 video channel system which serves Winona.

MISSISSIPPI: Daves Cable Co. has announced the addition of two channels to its previously five video channel system which serves Eupora. The firm serves approximately 300 subscribers in the area.

MISSOURI: Delta Video Cable TV has opened its offices in Portageville and announced that service is scheduled to be available to the area within a few weeks.

NEBRASKA: Multi-Vue TV Systems has announced that construction is nearing completion on its 90-mile system to serve Hastings. The firm is presently offering subscribers four video channel viewing, including time and weather service on one channel.

NEW JERSEY: TeleCommunications, Inc. has received permission from the town planning board to construct a tower in a residential area for its system to serve Dover.

OHIO: Continental Cablevision of Ohio, Inc. has announced that construction is scheduled to begin in the near future on



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Just add the optional optical viewfinder to make a professional studio camera. With internal or external sync, plus automatic light control and the exclusive sync output provision, it is ready to become part of a high-performance multi-camera system.

its system to serve Bellevue and Clyde. The firm is planning to begin construction on its 350-foot tower near May 1.

Construction has begun in Norwalk, according to Continental Cablevision of Ohio, Inc. The firm is planning a 330-foot tower for its proposed 12 video channel system.

PENNSYLVANIA: The Phillipsburg town council has given Clear-Pic Cable Co. permission to raise its monthly rate by \$1.

The borough council of Wilson has hiked the franchise fee of Clear-Pic Cablevision to five percent of its gross receipts. The firm had previously paid three percent of its receipts to the city. In another matter, the firm recently raised its monthly subscriber rates by \$1, to \$4.50 monthly.

TEXAS: Southwest Cable Television, Inc. has announced plans to begin construction in Falfurrias in the near future. The firm is planning to initially construct a four or five video channel system.

UTAH: Basin Television, Inc. has announced the addition of a new microwave station for its five video channel system which serves subscribers in Vernal and Maeser.

VIRGINIA: Cablevision of Virginia has announced plans to rebuild its eight video channel system which serves Clifton Forge. The project is expected to cost approximately \$140,000, according to the firm.

Cable TV, Inc. has announced that construction is presently under way on its system to serve Onancock and Onley. The firm is planning a 300-foot tower to serve its proposed eight video channel system which is scheduled to be operational by May 1.

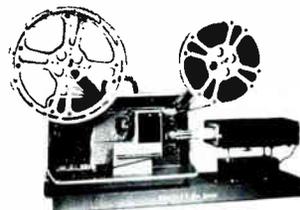
Pulaski Television System has announced that it is now serving Pulaski subscribers with 10 video channels.

WASHINGTON: Spokane Cablevision, Inc. has announced plans to begin construction of its system to serve parts of Spokane Valley within 45 days.



TYLER SLIDE-SCANNER

Here's a low-cost way to add interest and versatility to your origination. The built-in Kodak Carousel projector gives you fool-proof automatic projection of up to 88 2x2 slides. The Concord MTC-18 camera has automatic light control and provision for internal or external sync. Just mail the coupon to learn how easily the Slide-Scanner can be phased into your automated origination system.



GRAFLEX 16TV PROJECTOR

Subscribers love movies, and this Graflex projector unit will put quality 16mm programming on your system. It's low in cost, but highly reliable. Features include precise 30 fps synchronization, superior picture steadiness, easy loading, pushbutton control and premium-quality Schneider lens. Standard camera is Concord's advanced MTC-18, others optional. Mail the coupon now for free information.



WEATHERSCAN II

Here's the foundation for your origination facility... ideal as a first step, or as a modern replacement for less-reliable equipment. Weatherscan II is completely automated, and continuously scans up to seven time and weather instruments plus two cardholders. Standard-equipment camera is the high-resolution Concord MTC-15, with others optional. Gauges are large black face units from Texas Instruments. The basic time, temperature, wind direction and wind velocity unit comes complete for only \$2,475, including rooftop sensors. Barometer, rainfall and humidity gauges and a rugged floor stand are optional extras. Weatherscan was the original CATV time/weather unit, and the Weatherscan II is its modern successor. From Tyler, of course. Why not return the coupon today for free information?



OK, I'd like to read about your origination equipment. Without cost or obligation, please send me information on the items checked below:

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- Tyler Roto-Scan (our best)
- Tyler Slide-Scanner (88 2x2 slides)
- Tyler Service Scanner (16 3x5 cards)
- Concord TV Cameras (3 models)
- Concord VTRs (4 models)
- Concord Monitors (3 models)
- Concord Studio Control Panels
- Smith-Victor Quartz Light Kits
- Graflex 16mm Film Chain Projector
- Other

name _____

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system _____

address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____



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6 cents



the originator of origination equipment for Cable TV

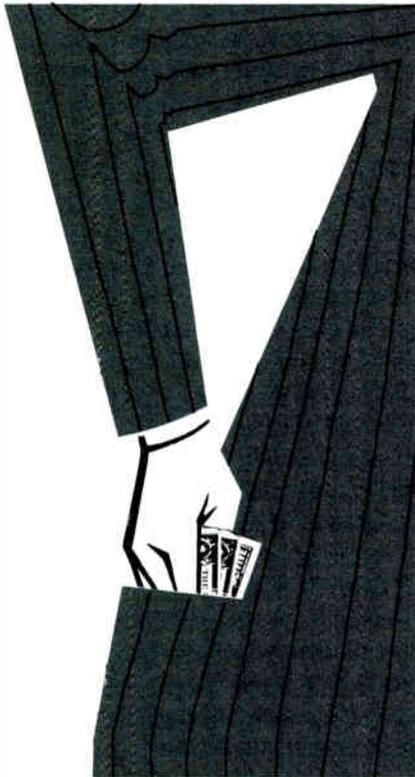
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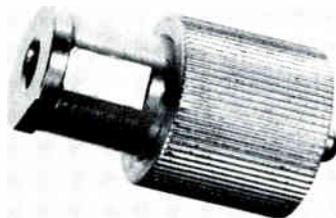
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Product Progress

TRACE-RECORDING CAMERA

Tektronix, Inc., P.O. Box 500, Beaverton, Ore. 97005, has added the C-70 Trace-Recording Camera to the company's list of products. Focusing is done by aligning two bars of light which the camera projects onto the CRT. Correct shutter speed and f-number are selected by matching a photometer spot to the CRT trace. Once set, controls are said to lock together maintaining correct exposure when either control setting is changed. The f/1.9 lens has a 1:0.575 image-to-object ratio. Pack, Roll, and Graflok Backs can be interchanged without refocusing.

NEW GOLD LINE CONNECTOR



Gold Line, Muller Avenue, Norwalk, Conn. 06852, has developed and patented a new connector which is available in two models, one for RG 58/U cable and the other for RG 59/U cable. Testing indicates that the unit, called the GLC 89, can be assembled, depending on the assembler, from 30 seconds to 3 minutes. Although no special tools are said to be required for field assembly the firm has developed special fixtures for production line application.

CAB-L-DUCT COLOR CODING

Cabot Piping Systems, 402 W. Central Avenue, Santa Ana, Calif. 92702, has

introduced color coding for its new line of electrical conduit (Cab-L-Duct) designed for CATV. The product is now available in black, red, orange, light green and dark green. Other colors can be provided upon special request. The product is manufactured from a plastic compound—Caboblend 15. It incorporates tubes, sweep elbows and couplings. It is said to have a high impact resistance. The product is available in 1½" and 2" IPS, as well as other common sizes.

DIRECTIONAL COUPLER

Vikoa, Inc., 400 Ninth St., Hoboken, N.J. 07030, is now producing the Underground Miniature Stripline Directional Coupler. The units are said to have small physical size and solid Vik-O-Processed zinc die cast case and plate. The top of each housing is color-coded for value identification. Tilted outputs automatically compensate for more than 150' of drop cable. The product is designed for a tap to tap isolation of more than 20 dB with a tap match of 1.22:1. Frequency response has been extended to beyond 250 MHz with only slight change of performance characteristics beyond 230 MHz. The unit is stocked with .412 Dual Grip connectors to eliminate pull-out problems.

PHASE LOCK GENERATOR

Phasecom Engineering, P.O. Box 2042, Anaheim, Calif. 92804, has introduced the Phase-Lock Generator for use in eliminating co-channel beat (from the headend) between modulator output and direct pickup signals. With the unit, the local broadcast signal is connected to the input of the Phase-Lock Generator (input level 10-20 DBMV). The output signal is a CW signal (clean unmodulated with spurious response of 60 DB down) locked to the broadcast station. This CW signal (55 DBMV level) is substituted for the carrier oscillator of

the modulator. The output signal of the modulator fixed with the unit is said to have no co-channel interference and the modulator output frequency will have the same stability as the broadcast station.

NEW OUTPUT SWITCHERS



Fung Engineering Co., 111-4 Glen Way, Belmont, Calif. 94002, has announced the availability of passive video switcher models PVS-8 and PVS-10. The units, designed for CATV use, utilize 8 or 10 video inputs. The unit includes an extra set of contacts for audio switching and is available with up to three switched program line outputs. All inputs are terminated 75 ohm.

MESSAGE PROGRAMMER



Megadata Computer and Communications Corp., 151-8 West Industry Court, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729, is marketing a new soft copy message programmer with potential CATV applications. Called the S/R 800, the unit transmits alpha-numeric data for local announcements and bulletins over television stations. Said to be economically priced, the unit is adaptable to CATV operations. The unit generates alpha-numeric data which can be mixed with standard American video equipment. Internal sync generation (EIA U.S. standard) provides a self-contained, stand-alone

unit which composes messages using a typewriter-style keyboard.

COHU SYNC GENERATOR

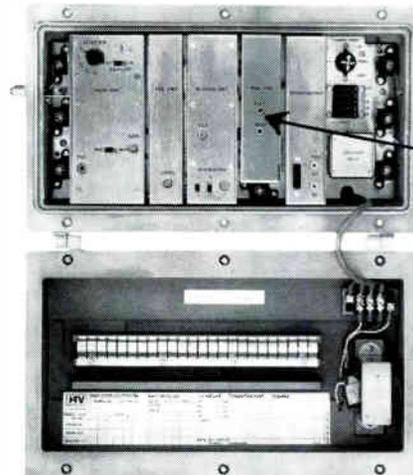
Cohu Electronics, Inc., Box 623, San Diego, Calif. 92112, has introduced a new sync generator called the 2600 Series. The unit's circuits are said to assure jitter-free sync performance in standard and colorlock modes. The basic system includes three modular plug-in boards for sync, output, and power.

DYNAMIC MICROPHONE

Electro-Voice, Inc., Buchanan, Mich. 49107 has introduced the model RE20 dynamic microphone. The unit has a case which is machined from solid steel bar stock and is said to have a built-in shock mounting and electrical shielding. A built-in pop filter eliminates breath or wind noises. An external mount is available for extra shock protection. Cardioid pattern is specified to be very uniform. Off-axis response is said to be as flat as on-axis.

LOCAL ORIGINATION?

USE THE HTV L-20-L AMPLIFIER to transport local origination signals to the head end on the same cable that is carrying CATV programs. Can also be used for CCTV, for schools, banks, surveillance systems and other broadband communications.



Sub VHF amplifier or Jumper Module. (Separation filters under base plate.)

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Franchise Activity

CALIFORNIA: **Campbell:** The city council has given first reading to an ordinance granting a franchise to Santa Clara County Cable TV. The council awarded a franchise to San Jose CATV nearly three years ago. . . . **Hesperia:** The San Bernardino County board of supervisors has awarded a franchise for the community to UTI Cablevision of Hesperia, Inc., a subsidiary of United Telco, Inc.

FLORIDA: **Casselberry:** Seminole Cablevision, a subsidiary of American Telephone and Communications, has submitted its franchise bid to the city council. TM Communications has already submitted a bid to the council. . . . **Edgewater:** TM Communications Co. has submitted its franchise bid to the city council. . . . **Winter Garden:** The city council has awarded a franchise to TM Communications Co., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Times Mirror Co.

ILLINOIS: **Carbondale:** Cable Information Systems, Carbondale Cablevision Co., General Communications, Inc., and Time-Life, Inc. have each submitted franchise bids to the city council. . . . **Coal City:** The village board has tentatively granted a franchise to Community Electronics Systems of Wilmington.

KANSAS: **Overland Park:** The city council has tentatively awarded a 20-year franchise to Tele-Cable Corp. According to the agreement, franchise fee would be on a graduated scale from seven to nine percent of the firm's gross revenues, with monthly subscriber rates of \$5 to \$5.25.

MASSACHUSETTS: **Cheshire:** Berkshire TeleCable Co. has asked the town selectmen to renew its franchise for another five years. . . . **Dudley:** Quinebaug Valley Cable TV has submitted its franchise bid to the town selectmen. . . . **Natick:** TeleCable Television Corp. has submitted its franchise bid to the town selectmen. Three other firms have already submitted bids.

NEW JERSEY: **West New York:** The city commission has passed an enabling ordinance. One of the requirements of the ordinance is a five percent franchise fee.

NEW YORK: **Hudson Falls:** Normandy Broadcasting has submitted its franchise bid to the village board. . . . **Pittsford:** Cable TV of Rochester, Inc. has submitted its franchise bid to the town board.

OHIO: **Fremont:** The city council has granted a franchise to Wolfe Broadcasting Corp. . . . **Lodi:** The village council has given second reading to an ordinance granting a franchise to Lodi Cable TV Corp. . . . **Margaretta Township:** The township trustees have awarded a franchise to North Central TV.

PENNSYLVANIA: **Pine Grove:** The borough council has awarded a 20-year, exclusive franchise to Pine Grove TV Cable. . . . **Springhill Township:** The township supervisors have tentatively granted a franchise to Video Link Cable TV.

SOUTH CAROLINA: **Abbeville:** The city council has given second reading to an ordinance awarding a 15-year franchise to Sareco. . . . **Anderson:** The city council has tentatively granted a franchise to Anderson Cable Television.

VIRGINIA: **Berryville:** American Tele-Systems Corp. of Bethesda, Md., has submitted its franchise bid to the town council. . . . **Kenbridge:** The town council has awarded a 12-year franchise to American Cable Television, Inc. Franchise fee has been set at three percent of revenues up to \$100,000 and four percent of revenues over \$100,000. . . . **Leesburg:** The town council has granted a 30-year, exclusive franchise to TransAmerican Airports, Inc.

WISCONSIN: **Burlington:** Fox River Enterprises has submitted its franchise bid to the city council.

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See us at the NCTA Annual Convention,
June 7-11, at The Palmer House in Chicago.

California Spring Meeting To Spin Cablecasting Story

The spring meeting of the California Community Antenna Television Association will be a departure from the association's regular format for the meeting. This year the meeting will feature an equipment show which has been tailored to fit the overall slant of the meeting—political cablecasting.

In past years (and again this year) the spring meetings have been leveled at legislators with each cableman from the state inviting his own legislators to attend. The meeting will be held at the Senator Hotel in Sacramento on May 10-12.

TeleMation, Sony, IVC and Concord have been given four cablecasting booths by the association. The two operated by IVC and Sony will be color and the two operated by TeleMation and Concord will be black and white.

The four booths will be used to tape interviews with the individual lawmakers in which the association's membership will participate by interviewing the legislators themselves.

Keith Burcham, president of the association, said that the new addition to the meeting came about for two reasons: "To demonstrate political cablecasting capabilities of California operators to state legislators and to provide a practical demonstration of equipment and techniques for the association membership."

Although the program hasn't been finalized, plans already released include selection of officers and plenty of discussion on the introduction of two bills affecting CATV in this session of the state legislature.

NCTA Appeals FCC's Denial Of Request for Fee Facts

NCTA has appealed the FCC's denial of its request to see background information involved in drawing up the proposed new filing and annual fees at the FCC. The filing would require each cable system to pay 30 cents per subscriber annually.

Commission Executive Director Max Paglin earlier turned down the request

by NCTA General Counsel Gary Christensen, who appealed on grounds that it would be unfair and unreasonable not to make the information available. Comments on the fees proposal are due April 20.

Over 100 Firms Contract For 1970 NCTA Convention

Over 100 firms have contracted for exhibitor space at the 19th Annual NCTA Convention & Exposition at the Palmer House in Chicago June 7-10, NCTA announced last week.

Exhibitor space equivalent to over 300 booths has already been leased for additional applicants. NCTA expects an increase of more than 50 percent over booth space available at last year's convention.

Last year 78 firms were represented at the San Francisco convention. This year more than 110 firms are expected to be displaying products.

This year various function rooms and exhibit halls will be used by large firms, which is an NCTA first.

Digest of Earnings

H & B AMERICAN CORP.

	1970	1969
6 mo Jan 31:		
Share earnings	\$.13	\$.12
Revenues	7,973,975	7,125,688
Net income	660,964	569,996
Avg shares	128,965	4,948,914

William M. Jennings, chairman, announced that the company plans to hold a deferred annual meeting of stockholders in May, 1970, in which the TelePrompTer Corp. merger will be voted upon.

CABLE INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC.

	1969	1968
Year Dec. 31:		
Share loss	(\$.21)	(\$.62)
Revenues	950,673	445,075
Net Loss	(194,100)	(374,402)

The 1968 figures for the firm reflect earnings from its inception on May 1, 1968. The MSO now serves approximately 15,500 subscribers in Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, New Mexico, Texas, and Tennessee.

PREFORMED LINE PRODUCTS

Directors of Preformed Line Products Company have voted a 33 percent hike in the quarterly dividend, increasing it from 75 cents per share to \$1.00 per share. The dividend is payable April 20 to shareholders of record April 10.

Industry Stocks

Stock	Stock Exchange	This Week	Last Week	Year High	Year Low	Shares Outstanding
Amecco	AM	7 1/2	8 1/2	16 1/8	7 1/2	1,200,000
Amer. Elec. Labs	OTC	5 1/2	6	15	5 1/2	1,516,432
Amer. TV & Comm.	OTC	18 3/4	19	23	11 7/8	1,775,101
Avnet	NY	9 1/4	9 7/8	20 1/8	9 1/4	9,909,054
Burnup & Sims	OTC	20	21 1/4	31 1/2	12 1/4	
Cable Info Systems	OTC	2 1/2	2 5/8	4 5/8	2 3/8	995,000
Cablecom General	AM	9 1/4	10	25 1/2	8 3/8	1,605,000
Citizens Fin. Corp.	AM	13 5/8	14	28 3/4	11 7/8	994,689
Columbia Cable	OTC	14 1/4	15	16 1/2	9	876,000
Comm. Properties	OTC	9	9 1/4	10 1/2	4 1/2	644,621
Cornelia Corp.	OTC	3/8	3/8	4 1/4	3/8	
Cox Cable Comm.	OTC	19 1/8	19 3/4	25 1/4	13	3,550,000
Cypress Comm.	OTC	15 3/8	15 1/4	19 1/4	10	893,000
Entron	AM	4	5	7 5/8	2 1/8	1,325,904
Famous Players Ltd.	C	10 7/8	11 3/4	17 3/4	10 7/8	6,948,000
General Inst.	NY	16 1/4	18 5/8	41	16 1/4	6,026,000
Gulf + Western	NY	15 1/8	15 7/8	32 1/2	15 1/8	15,120,860
H & B Amer.	AM	18 1/8	20 1/8	28 1/2	13 5/8	4,972,589
Kaufman & Broad Inc.	NY	34 1/2	36 3/4	52 5/8	29 1/2	3,900,909
Lamb Comm. Inc.	OTC	5	5 1/4	10 1/4	3 1/4	2,468,284
LVO Corp.	NY	6	6 3/4	12 3/8	6	5,692,078
Reeves	AM	5 7/8	6 1/4	23 1/4	5 1/2	2,163,000
Scientific-Atlanta	AM	7 1/4	7 1/2	13 3/8	6 1/2	903,442
SKL	OTC	4	4 1/8	8 3/4	3 1/2	550,000
Sterling Comm.	OTC	5	5 1/2	10 3/4	5	450,000
Tele-Communications	OTC	13 3/4	14	16 1/4	13 3/4	2,254,472
TeleMation Inc.	OTC	15 1/2	16	30 1/2	14 1/2	1,086,735
TelePrompTer	AM	76	83 7/8	129 3/4	47 3/4	1,006,000
TeleVision Comm.	OTC	12	13	20 1/2	10 3/4	2,645,046
Vikoa	AM	9 7/8	11 1/2	34	9 7/8	2,183,382

These are Wednesday closing prices supplied courtesy of Oempsey-Tegeler, S. James Horning, Consultant, AM = American Exchange; NY = New York Exchange; OTC = Over the Counter; C = Canadian Exchange.

Reporting Form

(Continued from page 7)

data available to the Commission concerning the CATV industry," the statement noted, but added: "The collection, reporting and analysis of information regarding the CATV industry will require the expenditure of significant amounts of time, energy and money. We suggest, therefore, that the Commission require the submission on information only to the extent that it relates to federal regulation or to the formulation of overall policies of development for the CATV industry. Other information requirements, which would be of relevance to the Commission in the case of a licensee, should not be required of a CATV system."

The cable operators told the Commission that the forms ask more information than broadcasters have to give, which is inappropriate because broadcasters are more closely regulated, and rapidly becoming fewer in relative number. They said broadcasters are more able to afford such expenses as filling out forms, and have to keep much stricter logs.

The filing also said that the FCC proposal "to require all CATV systems (having 50 or more subscribers) to submit the program originations report seems to us quite anomalous when, in fact, only systems having 3,500 or more subscribers will be required to engage in program origination."

More, not less, information in the proposed form was asked by the program suppliers in a joint filing prepared by the New York law firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin, Krim & Ballon. The firms represented are Allied Artists Television Corp., Columbia Pictures Industries Inc., Independent Television Corp., MCA Inc., Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc., Metromedia Inc., Paramount Pictures Corp., Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp., United Artists Television Inc., Walt Disney Productions, Walter Reade Organization Inc., and Warner Bros. Inc.

They called for an official FCC composite week (Commission procedure for television and radio station reports) for CATV systems' reports, instead of leaving it to the CATV system to pick a typical week. They also suggested that

"the frequency of such reports be increased to semi-annual reports instead of reports only once a year so as to reflect changing conditions during the year (such as differences between summer and winter programming) and developments and changes in the television programming market."

The Association of Maximum Service Telecasters noted that the FCC has broken the reporting forms into three parts for comments—the "CATV Program Originations" section was due last week, "CATV Annual Financial Report" will be due May 20. But, AMST said, the fact is that program origination reports, even if separated for

the purposes of comments, must not be on a one-time basis but be filed annually. In addition, AMST analyzed each proposed section and suggested tightening up possibilities.

The ABC network said that "by and large, ABC believes that the form is sound and, in most areas, calls for sufficiently detailed information to inform the Commission of relevant developments. ABC proposes, however, modifications as to: (1) reporting of subscribers; (2) reporting of types of non-automated programming, particularly entertainment programming; and (3) reporting of information by lessees of cable facilities."

MEETING CALENDAR

APRIL

21-22—Cascade Technical Training School. Burbank, Calif. Contact Derry Cook (604) 939-1191 or Carrol Courtner (805) 252-1091.

21-24—Jerrold Technical Training Cable Television School. Sheraton Inn, Denver Airport, Denver, Colorado. For further information contact J. Lerman, Educational Coordinator, Jerrold Electronics Corp., 401 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19105.

22—New England Cable Television Association spring meeting. Bedford, N.H. For further information contact Bill Kenny, Box 293, Bradford, R.I.

30-May 1—CATV Programming Conference (NCTA). Palmer House Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact Tom Wilson, National Cable Television Association, (202) 466-8111.

MAY

1-2—New York State Cable Television Association spring meeting. Treadway Inn, Birmingham, New York. For further information contact meeting chairman, Michael J. Monahan, Auburn Cablevision Inc.

1-2—New York State Cable Television Association spring meeting. For further information contact

meeting chairman, Michael J. Monahan, Auburn Cablevision Inc.

5-7—Pennsylvania Community Antenna Television Association spring meeting. Host Farm, Lancaster, Pa. For further information contact John Rigas, President.

5-7—Vikoa CATV Technical School. Dallas, Texas. For further information contact George Gunter, Vikoa, Inc. (214) 276-1181.

10-13—Illinois-Indiana Cable Television Association Convention. Hotel St. Nicholas, Springfield, Ill. For further information contact Al Stelk, P.O. Box 871, Kankakee, Ill.

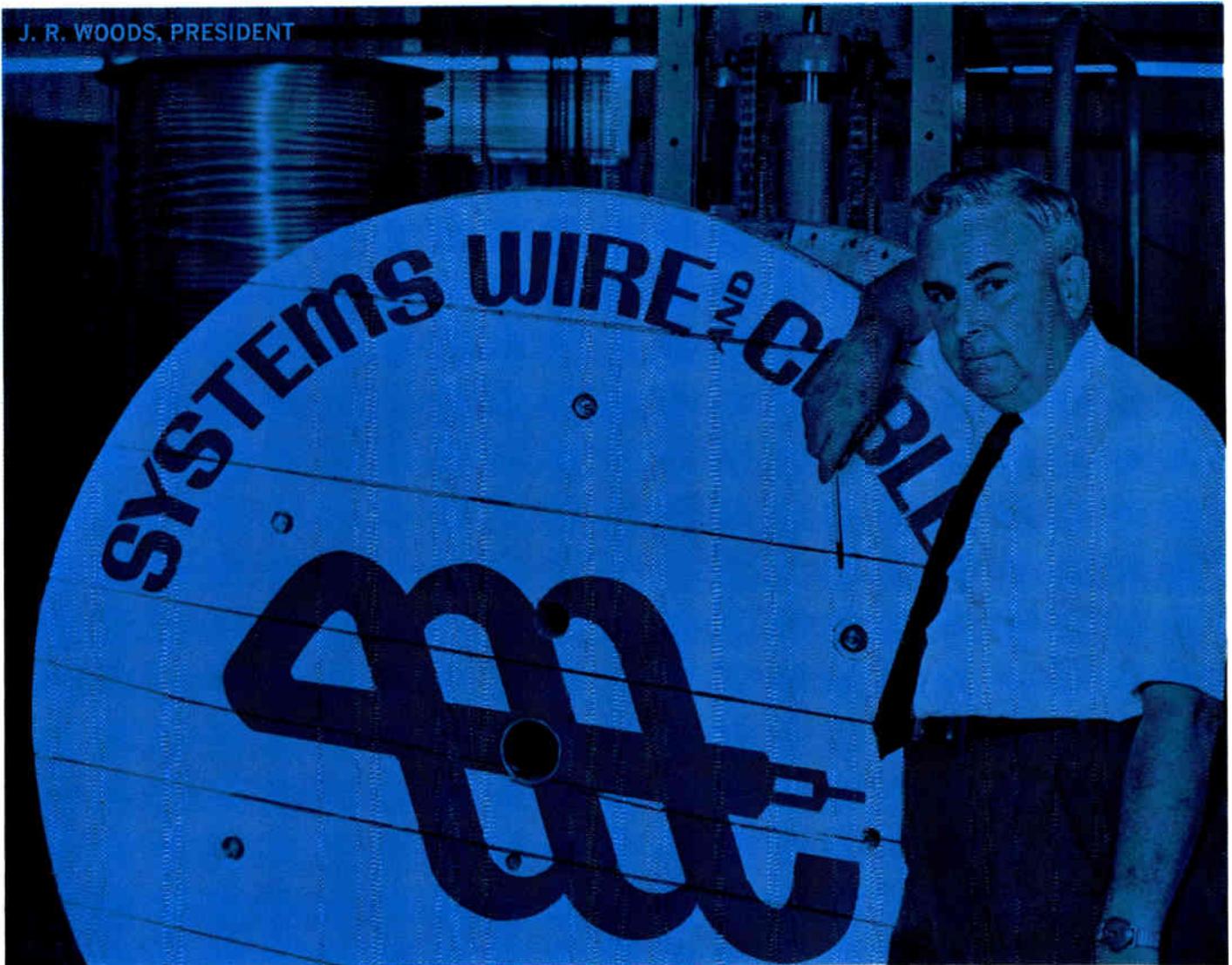
11-14—Canadian Cable Television Association 1970 Convention. Hotel Vancouver, Vancouver, British Columbia. For further information contact Paul Tree, 1010 St. Catherine St. West, Suite 1004, Montreal 100, Canada, (514) 861-4367.

13-14—Cascade Technical Training School. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. For further information contact Derry Cook (604) 939-1191 or Merrill Flynn (717) 232-4111.

19-20—Cascade Technical Training School. Lewiston, Idaho. Contact Derry Cook (604) 939-1191 or Joe Derocher (206) 564-4255.

19-21—Vikoa CATV Technical School. Atlanta, Georgia. For further information contact William McNair, 3676 Kings Park Way, Decatur, Georgia (404) 288-1887.

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Daly City CATV System Turns-On Ameco Discade

Vista Grande Cable Company, Daly City, California, CATV system, has turned on its system, the first to use the new Ameco Discade.

First reports agree that the system is all that was expected of it. Henry (Buzz) Gastman, manager of Vista Grande, says that Discade is working well and that he and the cable firm's crew are more than enthusiastic.

The Daly City installation at the present time has 50 subscribers hooked up within a two-block area. Gastman said that the five miles of plant used for the subscriber area was unusually long for that number of subscribers, but noted that the trunk run was long "in order to test the system."

Upon announcement of the Discade system in October, 1969, Ameco stressed advantages of the new system as having multi-channel capabilities and curing high ambient level of off-the-air signals at the customer's set. Gastman said that the system is "exceptional in these two areas."

Vista Grande is presently cabling 20 channels to its subscribers, of which three are duplicates from the remaining 17. The three duplications have been made to fill out the full 20 channels to prove multi-channel capacity.

Bruce Merrill, Ameco president, said that "We have now proved that the use of Discade will solve CATV problems which only it can handle. The system means a great deal to our firm and we are extremely pleased."

Gastman and Merrill, when asked if there were any specific problems with the system, said that there had been none and they anticipate none.

The system uses a multi-conductor coaxial trunkline and "area distribution centers" located at appropriate intervals throughout the area to be served. The distribution center is a switching station which supplies the desired channel to each TV receiver.

At the subscriber set, dial access selector unit is used to send control signals back to the distribution center. The same unit also converts the incoming low-frequency signal to a standard VHF channel and feeds it to the TV receiver.

Gastman said that Vista Grande has a turnkey contract from Ameco and that eventually the system plans to wire around 15,000 homes. He said the system is relatively simple in operation and has telephone service reliability.

Although nothing has been attempted as yet in the area of two-way on the system, Gastman pointed out that the live programming could be generated from any point in the system.

Rumors that Ameco is financially on the slide have arisen from Ameco stock listings during recent months and its recent sale of Ameco Cable to Phoenix Cable Company—actually Times-Wire. The new Discade success in Daly City may counter the trend.

Cox Spends \$3 Million For Lubbock, Texas, System

Cox Cable Communications, Inc. has announced that an agreement has been signed for the acquisition of Lubbock Television Cable Company, Inc., operator of the CATV system serving Lubbock, Texas. The transaction, which involves cash and assumption of debts, is for a total consideration of approximately \$3 million, according to J. Leonard Reinsch, president of Cox Cable Communications.

The Lubbock system serves about 5,000 subscribers with 11 channels of television including three stations which originate in Dallas-Ft. Worth and which are transmitted to Lubbock by microwave. Altogether, the cable plant now passes 38,000 homes out of the approximately 51,500 homes in Lubbock.

Commenting on the new acquisition, Reinsch pointed out that Lubbock was recently rated as the 17th fastest-growing city in the United States by a national survey. It has a population of 178,000. It is a key farm-production and grain center of West Texas and is the home of Texas Tech University.

Reinsch said the acquisition of the system will likely cause some reduction in consolidated earnings this year. He noted, however, that the company expects the Lubbock system to add at least 2,000 subscribers a year for each of the next three years.

The Lubbock acquisition brings to sixteen the number of CATV systems acquired by Cox Cable since the initial

public offering of the stock by the company in October, 1968.

FCC Calls for Franchises Of Unbuilt CATV Systems

Noting that it "presently lacks information regarding the location and ownership of outstanding CATV franchises for systems which are not in operation," the FCC last week ruled that copies of such franchises must be filed at the Commission within 90 days.

The FCC said that information about non-operational cable systems may be crucial to its formulation of future CATV policies, though it has filings only from operating cable systems.

Programming Conference To Center Around Exhibits

The April 30-May 1 CATV Programming Conference sponsored by NCTA at the Palmer House Hotel in Chicago now has a firm schedule that features, as NCTA put it last week, "presentations and exhibits featuring over 20 different CATV program suppliers; a panel discussion tackling the subject of advertising on cable system; and an address by President Nixon's satellite expert."

The conference, the first of its kind, amounts to NCTA's response to the FCC's new requirement that all cable systems with more than 3,500 subscribers originate programming beginning next year. As a result of that rule, which also encourages smaller systems to originate, the cable industry is under heavy pressure to plunge into the complicated world of programming. The conference is open to all NCTA members, though they must register with the organization's public relations department by April 27.

Barry Stigers, NCTA director of community services, will open the conference Thursday, April 30, with an address on "Beware of the Celluloid Tiger," after which program suppliers will make their presentations to the cable operators.

After Thursday luncheon, LVO Cable assistant general manager Greg Liptak will moderate a panel on CATV advertising. On the panel will be Denny Mitchell, Ottawa TV Cable Co., Ottawa,

Ill.; Jim Trent, TV Transmission Co., Peru, Ill.; and Bob Shannon, National Trans-Video, Inc., Glendale, Calif.

After a break for the cocktail hour, presidential aide Clay T. Whitehead, the man who headed up the White House task force that recommended domestic communications satellite policy to the FCC, will speak on "Program Diversity, the Economics of Programming and the Nixon Satellite Policy," NCTA said.

Friday will be devoted to individual visits to the booths of program suppliers, which will have an exhibit area set aside.

Copyright, Telco Problems Lead Texas Meeting Topics

About 400 cablemen were at last week's Texas CATV Association annual meeting in Dallas. Topping off the convention was a panel discussion featuring Barbara Ringer, First Registrar of Copyrights, Tom Brennan, Chief Counsel of the committee on Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights and Gary Christensen, General Counsel of NCTA. The three speakers first made presentations and then they answered questions from the audience.

Essentially, Barbara Ringer's comments were that she does not believe that the Copyright Revision Bill is going to come out of this session of Congress, and should the bill fail this session, she said, "I think the package will fall apart." She indicated that the Copyright Offices' essential position on CATV was that CATV should be carrying and paying its fair share, but the copyright device should not be used to hamper the growth of a potentially very important communications media."

She noted, "I am inclined to think it (the bill) is on the rigid side," and that was in response to remarks both before her and after her by Brennan and Christensen, who both said that they felt the bill was not rigid and had a lot of latitude.

Christensen indicated that he felt there was a wide latitude in the bill. He said that the reason NCTA supports the bill is that "It's the only game in town." Brennan had a more positive outlook on the potential successfulness of the bill.

Running concurrently with the con-

vention was the board meeting of the Mid-America CATV Association and members of that association had been invited to attend the Texas convention.

Ben Conroy Jr., E. Strat Smith and Joe Brennan, president of Associated Utilities Service Inc. (Philadelphia utility rate expert), participated in a panel discussion on the problems of increasing telco pole rates in the operating areas of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

"Local, State, Federal: Who Should Regulate CATV," a panel discussion, featured moderator Ben Conroy Jr., Ernest Gibson of the Vermont Public Service Commission, and Ed Schaffer of Foster Associates, Washington, D.C.

The association conducted a discussion on the association's own training school which is a branch of Texas A&M at College Station. Jay O'Neal, president of the Texas association, moderated. Participants were: Ed Kerlick, chief of electronics and telephone training, College of Engineering; C.E. Whitaker, head instructor, Telephone Technician Training Center, Engineering Extension Service; Dale Mathis, Communications Properties, Inc.; Jake Landrum, Commco Inc.; Don Patten, Cable-Com General; Jerry Caddy of Bryan, Texas; Chuck Swehla, Continental Transmission; and Johnny Mankin Jr., LVO Cable Inc.

An added attraction of the convention was a lecture by Professor Erwin Cory—famed TV and stage double talk artist.

Circuit Court Outlaws Ohio Cities' Franchise Fees

The U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals—an Ohio court—has ruled that it is illegal for cities to levy gross receipts taxes.

Wonderland Ventures challenged city ordinances in Fremont and Sandusky, Ohio. In a decision written by Chief Judge Harry Phillips, the three-man court upheld the cable firm. The dispute conceivably could go to the U.S. Supreme Court, and if it did, with the cable firm winning again, the foundations of the franchise bidding system could be shaken.

Judge Phillips wrote that the city

ordinances enacted by Fremont and Sandusky are illegal because they "(1) impose a gross receipts tax upon proceeds from interstate commerce in violation of the commerce clause of the constitution and (2) because they do not contain definite standards for regulation and administration."

The decision upheld a lower court ruling in favor of Wonderland Ventures, which complained about a three percent gross receipts fee charged by Sandusky and a Fremont ordinance requiring cable applicants to compute bids according to a percentage of gross receipts to be paid to the city for each 1,000 subscribers.

NCTA's 'Fishing Expedition' Gets Second FCC Refusal

The FCC last week turned down NCTA's request that it reconsider its refusal to make available to NCTA all records used in arriving at the fees proposed for cable systems.

The Commission has recommended that it charge all industries it regulates a schedule of fees that will pay the Commission's annual budget. And CATV systems with more than 200 subscribers will have to pay thirty cents per subscriber annually. NCTA asked to see what documents the fee schedule was based on; the Commission refused. Then NCTA asked the FCC to reconsider, and last week's action was a second refusal.

The Commission said that NCTA's request seemed to be "rather in the nature of a fishing expedition."

Cox Defends FCC's Actions On Distant Signal Ban

Cable operators by this time are all too aware of the CATV views held by FCC commissioner, Kenneth A. Cox, whose term on the Commission expires at the end of June. He spelled out his views in interesting fashion in a recent speech before the antitrust section of the American Bar Association.

Speaking on the topic "the role of competition in communications," Cox noted: "the argument is often made that the Commission is holding back the new competitive force of CATV in

order to protect the broadcasting industry. I suggest that the argument is without merit—that what is involved is the issue of fair competition between two industries. The Commission's entire effort has been to promote such fair competition in the hope that those who wish to subscribe to cable service can be given more diversified programming, while preserving and promoting over-the-air service

Cox said that the Commission has, against the wishes of broadcasters, encouraged CATV program originations, but "what we have not made available is

distant signals—the New York signals, for example, in Philadelphia. It is just not fair competition to do so."

FCC Opens Up Laser Link Proposal for Comments

Laser Link Corp. last week got an initial opening at the FCC for its plan for the establishment of a Filtered Pulse Width Modulation (FPWM) System by community antenna relay and LDS distribution stations operating in the 12.7-12.95 GHz band.

LDS stations are local distribution service stations, and the FCC last November established that kind of service which short-hops CATV signals over broadcast beams instead of by cable. The FCC action was at the request of TelePrompTer Corp. and Hughes Aircraft, which developed a system different from Laser Link's.

Laser Link asked that the rule be reconsidered to encompass its service. Instead the FCC last week let the LDS rule stay but opened up Laser Link's proposal to a rulemaking proceeding, with comments due by May 22.

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profile of a leader



H. LEE DRUCKMAN

Born December 3, 1926, in Long Island, New York. Attended Tulane University and Adelphi College and graduated in 1949 with a degree in Business Administration. After college, he served with the U.S. Naval Air Corps. Before entering CATV he was Sales Manager for Tele-Dynamics Corporation—manufacturer of FM/FM Telemetry for the Guided Missile Industry. In 1957 he was hired by Jerrold Electronics Corporation as Western Regional Manager which started his career in the CATV industry. Today he is president of Nation Wide Cablevision, a subsidiary of Kaufman and Broad. Married, he and his wife Susan have two boys—Gary and Carl.

Lee Druckman likes to do things in a big way. And the aggressive self-starter with a vivid imagination has unquestionably succeeded in accomplishing what he has set out to do. Last January, Lee was appointed president of Nation Wide Cablevision, the Los Angeles-based CATV subsidiary of giant home-building firm Kaufman and Broad, Inc.

The appointment capped many years of accomplishment in the CATV industry. Perhaps Lee's best-remembered effort is the founding of Trans-Video Corporation and his battles for some of the hardest-to-get franchises in the country. For five years, Lee had learned the cable business as Western Regional Manager for Jerrold. Then—when he was thoroughly grounded—he set up his own MSO, Trans-Video. As chief of Trans-Video, he went after big game.

The Southern California city of San Diego proved to be one of his most impressive victories. For many days he fought and negotiated for the CATV franchise for that city. Finally it was awarded to his firm, and he became the first cableman to tackle a three-station market. The San Diego system not only survived, it proved to be one of the most profitable systems—as well as the largest CATV system—in the United States with its 39,135 subscribers.

Lee himself proved a tough but admirable spokesman on the floor of city councils. In cities such as San Diego and Bakersfield, California, he demonstrated to the amazed onlookers that his ability to get franchises was not just a legend. When Lee sold Trans-Video with its California and Kansas systems in 1967, the growth of the firm showed up on his financial statement as a substantial holding of Cox Broadcasting stock.

He is an outspoken advocate of the “wired city concept, complete with all the exotic uses including common carrier facilities.” He thinks that the CATV industry has only scratched the surface. “90 percent of the U.S. is yet to be wired,” he says “and there is a big future in the large markets. CATV is the most exciting new communications medium since the telegraph.”

Besides his activities in cable television he raises cattle and chickens on a ranch near Tucson, Arizona. He also is a partner in two radio stations—one in Tucson and one in Phoenix. A philanthropist, Lee participates in the administration of the Boys Club of Tucson. He is also Vice President of Green Fields School in Tucson. He also gets out on the tennis courts when time allows.

The scope of Lee Druckman's enthusiasm and dedication to CATV can be measured not only by the number of subscribers that he has served with his numerous CATV systems, but also his self-assured approach to the seemingly impossible tasks which cablemen face today.

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