

## STATIONS IN THE NEWS

### NEW TELEVISION REBROADCASTERS PLANNED

The CRTC has approved a rebroadcaster at Courtenay, B.C., for **CKVU-TV Vancouver**. It will operate on ch. 5, 9.8 kW ERP. In Ontario, **CFMT-TV Toronto** has applied for channel 60 in Ottawa, with 573 kW ERP. **CHEX-TV Peterborough** has filed for new parameters, channel 22, 2445 watts ERP, for an Oshawa rebroadcaster approved last year.

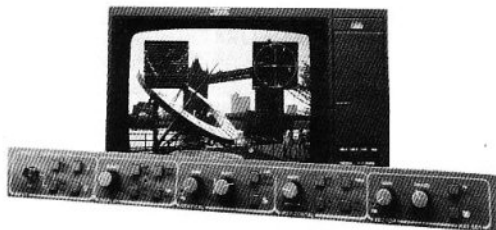
**TWO AMs SEEK MOVE TO FM:** Standard Radio has applied for 106.9 MHz, 84 kW ERP, in Ottawa. The FM would replace CJSB on 540 AM and overcome "severe technical problems". At Port-Cartier, Québec, CIPC — now 1 kW on 710 — would move to 7.4 kW on 99.1... *Other radio action at the CRTC:* Transfer of **CFNB Fredericton** has been approved from Radio Atlantic to John F. Eddy. VP/GM for the past 3-1/2 years, Eddy remains president of Radio Atlantic, which also owns stations in Bathurst and Truro. CFNB is currently marking "70 years of great radio" — 1923 to 1993... Hearings are scheduled for June 16 and July 7 in Hull. Upcoming applications: CHUM Limited for purchase of **CKKW/CFCA-FM Kitchener**; London Communications (Jack Schoone, Irving Zucker) for purchase of **CKOC/CKLH-FM Hamilton** and **CJBK/CJBX-FM London**... After a brief fling as CKMO, 'Oldies 1150' is again CKOC. Except for the past year or so, it was CKOC since 1922 and listeners wanted the historic call letters back!... Local investors want to buy **CKLY Lindsay, ON**. It's been in receivership for a year... In Ottawa, Don Crockford (Algonquin College) has applied for a low-power campus instructional FM on 96.9... A tourist information FM has been approved, 8w on 91.9, originating at **CJRN Niagara Falls**. CJRN was also permitted to continue programming its sister station, **CKEY-FM Fort Erie** from Niagara Falls; plans to build new studios at Fort Erie have been folded.

**Health Concerns at CBC Toronto Broadcast Centre:** The Globe and Mail has reported unexplained sickness is affecting some employees in the new CBC building in Toronto. Three non-CBC workers have applied for disability assistance after doing installation work in the \$380 million project, and many CBC staff have complained of fatigue and other ailments. The prime suspect is carpeting which emits 10 chemicals. About 2000 employees have been moved into the centre, with another 1000 still to come from other locations... *Speaking of CBC:* The Radio network now has a 15-minute news report at 10pm M-F. A lot more changes will come by fall...

**History of CFRC Kingston:** A new book by Professor Arthur E. Zimmerman documents the history of radio at Queen's University. The focus is on 71-year-old CFRC, "the first C-call in Eastern Ontario, a pioneer campus station, tenth oldest surviving station in the country... The first documented broadcast from the Queen's campus was on April 28, 1902." *In the Shadow of the Shield* is available from 204-670 Sir John A. Macdonald Blvd., Kingston, ON, K7M 1A3, tel. (613) 542-1789.

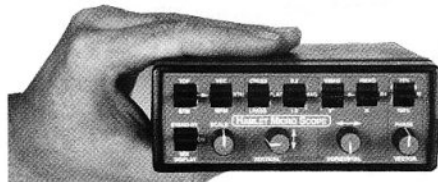
**CKGL/CHYM-FM Kitchener** had the grand opening of its renovated studios on May 17; Key Radio says they're among "the most technically advanced broadcasting facilities in North America." (See story page 9)... Shaw Radio's **CHAY-FM Barrie** is in brand new facilities, where its 'Open House Wednesdays' attracted 1500 visitors... (Watch for story in BT)

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## Don Fawcett

Don Fawcett, who with his wife Lois was known across Canada for his warmth and good-humored love of life, died April 26 at Eisenhower Medical Centre in Rancho Mirage, Cal. He was 62. He was in Palm Springs when he caught what is thought to have been influenza A strain. It should not have been serious but it progressed to viral pneumonia. Said Lois, in mourning but with her unquenchable spirit: "At least he did it in style. He died in a hospital that even had valet parking."

Don was born in Maple Creek, Sask. His dad was a banker. They moved to Grande Prairie then Kenora and he started in broadcasting there at the age of 12. He worked in Winnipeg, Vancouver, Montreal, Quebec and Fort Frances before he and Lois bought CJRL - Kenora, CKDR - Dryden and CFOB - Fort Francis, in 1971. Six rebroadcasters were added.

Don leaves his wife and two sons Scott and Howard and a daughter-in-law, Colleen. Scott is VP/sales for Fawcett Broadcasting and manager of CFOB; Howard is VP/programming.

\* \* \*

**CJYM Rosetown**, in a farming region of Saskatchewan, has for six years run unusual and highly successful promotions to reward farmers who are loyal listeners. This year the station gave away \$156,000 of farm products -- everything to put in 100 acres of crop, from fertilizer to any necessary mechanical work on the farmer's vehicles, including a vacation when the work is done. The award went to a woman who's listened for 26 years to the station. CJYM is one of Canada's successful rural stations. Why? PD George Leith says its marketing includes publishing a magazine that goes to 10,000 farmers six times a year. It sends a monthly shopping guide to everyone in the area and produces a trade fair in each of the two main communities it serves, Rosetown and Kindersley. George would be happy to talk to you.

**CHMG St. Albert** has computerized its sales force with laptops using a program written by an Edmonton company. Sales people come in just once a week for a meeting, says GM **Doug Shillington**. They carry a mini printer that writes orders that are signed by the client then faxed in or dropped off. The traffic manager takes it from there. Doug says he will probably be able to reduce his office space dramatically.

**Peter Deys** of ITV Edmonton says there's been good community response to ITV's 6 a.m. newscast. It's a 90-minute package aptly called *First News* and anchored by **Chris Durham** and **Lorraine Mansbridge** with **Gord Whitehead** doing weather, traffic and business news. It's faster than *Canada AM* with more news content and two-minute features in place of lengthier interviews.

Was it a tree, a strange-looking satellite dish, was it an alien sitting on the roof at CKIQ Kelowna, over the office of GM **Walter Gray**? It was a 15-foot cut-out palm tree. Morning host **John Jackson** auctioned it for \$1,750 and CKIQ sent the money to the B.C. Children's Hospital. Somehow, before the tree found its right place at a new hotel, it reappeared in the front yard of CHBC-TV weatherman **Mike Robert**. Mike denied he'd stolen it. Maybe it was an alien after all.

More good deeds in B.C. C-FAX presented a \$31,000 truck to Victoria's Mustard Seed Food Bank. The money came from C-FAX's Santas Anonymous which collects about \$300,000 annually. **Mel Cooper**, president, said C-FAX learned that the food bank frequently had to turn down offers of food because there was no way to transport it. Also from C-FAX came a song

from morning host **Barry Bowman** that's not likely to be played elsewhere. It's about Victoria's untreated sewage. One line goes: Please do not poo-poo our treatment of do-do.

I'm not sure whether HMV Canada's survey of shoppers is good news or bad news for broadcasters. As reported in *Marketing*, HMV asked shoppers their preference between Sony's Mini-Disc and the Philips/Panasonic Digital Compact Cassette. The vote showed consumers tired of new technologies that demand they again upgrade their equipment and music libraries. Noted *Marketing*: While the technology treadmill is spinning as fast as ever, some of the consuming mice seem to be jumping off.

BN is testing Sony's MD system. If the recorders work well in the hard news world, they'll replace expensive and delicate cassette recorders... **John MacLeod**, "restructured" from Telesat, has started a JRM Enterprises in Vancouver, a satellite broadcasting company focussing on radio in the West. If you've ever met him, you'll know he's a super person... **Lou Roskin**, fabled "Uncle Lou" who co-founded CHQT Edmonton, now owned by Shaw Radio, is operating as a consultant, Roskin Communications. He spent some time recently working on an application but won't tell me yet who's applying for what.

**Dave Charles**, president of Joint Communications, got a fast and spirited letter from **Brian Antonson**, associate dean of broadcast communications at BCIT, following my April column. Brian took exception to Dave saying broadcasting has a terrible training system. Brian wrote: "I think a proven track record of turning out hundreds and hundreds of people who have achieved successful careers in our industry refutes your contention that we have a terrible training system ... Multiply our successes by the 20 or so schools providing similar training in Canada and we're talking about thousands and thousands of successful careers."

After the letter, Dave was still biting about some broadcast schools and felt schools should have more stringent entry tests. But he said some are very good.

The Vancouver Sun stuck its neck out with a feature about the demise of radio news and **J.J. Richards**, much-decorated ND at CFUN Vancouver, cut it off. The paper showed a picture of J.J. sitting alone in his newsroom and called him a news director with no troops to direct. J.J. came back fast with a rebuttal that individually named his 13 news people from legendary **Annis Stukus** to two part-timers. Said J.J.: "The article that sparked this angry rebuttal was written, I can only assume, to illustrate how dramatically radio news coverage has changed in the past decade and a half. It may have changed, but it hasn't died, it has just shifted gears, matured, and become more consumer oriented."

**Rod Schween** has moved from promotions to PD at CKEK Cranbrook, succeeding **Renee Ross**. He also moved from mornings to afternoons... My favorite song title as harvested by BN Business Manager Michelle Poulin from *The Globe and Mail*: *Get your Tongue Out of My Mouth, Because I'm Kissing You Goodbye*... And a tabloid reported that a Wisconsin inventor has patented a musical condom... Didn't say whether it was instrumental or vocal...

*Fairbridge covers Canada: Send your news to Jerry in care of Broadcast News Ltd., 36 King Street East, Toronto, ON, M5C 2L9, (416) 364-3172; or FAX 364-8896.*

## ATLANTIC AIRWAVES

Wright Retires: After an on-air absence of many weeks, **Dave Wright**, longtime news anchor for ATV's 6pm news package, announced 'partial retirement'. The reason, he told a Halifax columnist, is "acute depression". Wright, 65, plans to retire to Barrie, ON, where he'll continue to provide taped features for the CHUM Group. Probably the best-known TV face in Atlantic Canada, Wright suffered a heart attack several years ago while working at a Boston TV station; he returned to ATV Halifax to take life a bit easier, and has praise for CHUM officials for their consideration. Steve Murphy, former *Live at Five* anchor who's been filling in for Dave, will be his permanent replacement... Moncton's **Michael LeBlanc** returned to work as associate producer of CBC Radio's *Main Street* following surgery... Two employees have been relieved of their duties at CIGO Port Hawkesbury, NS. News editor **Theresa Blackburn** and DJ **Lionel Slade** were let go amid rumors that three unidentified employees were seeking to buy CIGO... CHFX-FM Halifax morning host **Ken Packham** was seeking the Progressive Conservative nomination in the newly-created provincial riding of Dartmouth-Cole Harbour... After many years in the Moncton newsroom, CBC-TV's **Andre Veniot** is now in Fredericton. The veteran newsman is the author of two highly-regarded books dealing with the story of New Brunswick baddie **Alan Legere**... After Dalhousie University's CKDU Halifax completed a successful fund-raising campaign, all donors of \$25 or more were entered in a draw. Top prize went to **Ann Manicom**, who received a trip for two to London, England. CKDU has already received 85% of the pledges... **Cable TV Activity**: If the CRTC approves, **Cable Service Ltd.** of Moncton will be sold to Saint-John based **Fundy Cable**. The sale would give Fundy most of NB's cable subscribers... **Dartmouth Cable** has changed its name to **Access Cable Television Ltd.** The idea is to better reflect the role of cable in the interactive, mega-channel future.

No further word on the possible buy-out of Irving-owned MITV. Global TV execs recently toured the network's facilities in Halifax and Saint John, and reportedly liked what they saw. In Halifax, MITV is based in spacious quarters once occupied by the short-lived regional Star Channel... CBC Halifax pro-

ducer **John Nowlan** is pleased as punch that the *Street Cents* move to prime time has resulted in ratings going through the roof. The new shows are better than ever and attracting bushels of mail. Originally designed for the younger audience, the consumer advice show now attracts viewers of all ages... *ATV on Your Side*, **Yvonne Colbert's** new daily consumer feature, is attracting huge response. Although most letters and 'phone calls deal with unsatisfactory products or services, many seek redress from government agencies. Yvonne is enjoying the show and is usually able to help. Obviously it's filling a real need...

*Editor's Note: Atlantic Airwaves is now a team effort by father John Porteous and daughter Sandra Porteous. (A BT first!) Sandra has been increasingly busy with her work in Halifax and called on dad to assist. Says John: "Kids! You raise them, teach them, try to set an example, and what do they do? SUCCEED. Talk about gratitude."*

*Sandra's beat is NS and NF. She's at 7 Centre Street, Bedford, NS, B4A 2B3; Tel (902) 835-1485. John's beat is NB and PEI. He's at 110 Pleasant St., Moncton, NB, E1A 2V2; Tel (506) 857-8133 or FAX 852-9564.*

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## PEOPLE

**Jim Sward** will take over on July 1 as president/ CEO of Global Communications and president/COO of Canadian operations of CanWest Global. He succeeds **David Mintz**, who will continue to be involved with special projects for CanWest. Sward, 48, joined Rogers Radio as president in 1977, moving over to Cantel in 1989... Three VPs have been named at Shaw Cablesystems: **Roger Welsh** (Sales & Advertising); **Thomas Cloghesy** (Operations, Southern Alberta and Manitoba); and **Peter Bissonnette** (Operations, B.C. and Ontario)... **Don Shafer** has been appointed senior VP, Radio Group, at Pelmorex Broadcasting's head office in Mississauga, ON. He previously headed Westcom's CHOG/CILQ-FM Toronto... News anchor **Thalia Assuras** of *Canada AM* has left CTV to join ABC in New York. Before joining CTV in March/92, she was with Global TV... Newsman **Ed Bradley** may also be joining ABC; his contract with CBS expires next January... Another CBS personality, **Connie Chung**, was given co-anchor status with **Dan Rather** as of June 1... CBC took the TV and Radio awards presented by the Canadian Science Writers Assn. in Halifax June 4: Among those honored was **Michael Colton** of CBC Radio... Environment Canada presented its first-ever Award of Excellence for weather broadcasting to **Bob McIntyre** and **Allison Annesley** of CKVR-TV Barrie... TVOntario named **Rudy Buttignol**, an independent producer, as commissioning editor of documentaries. He will develop and assign more than 40 independent productions during the next three years... **Seanna Collins** has left CHED Edmonton after six years, the last four as co-host of the morning show. She moves to CFRN-TV to succeed

**Terry Lynne Meyer** as host of *Day By Day*, an hour-long program about entertainment and other happenings in the Alberta capital... In Calgary, **Dale O'Hara**, ND at CFCN-TV, is recovering after a minor heart attack... CKOV Kelowna has signed **Barrie Clark** for another two years on his popular 9-11am talk show... Two broadcast journalists were among six who won \$15,000 Asia Pacific Foundation travelling fellowships, which will take them to Asia for two months. They are **Christopher Grosskurth** of CBC Radio and **Julie Miville-Dechene** of Radio-Canada...

After 46 years with CBC Radio, **Alan Maitland** retires (again) at the end of June. He joined CBO Ottawa in 1947 and since 1974 has been co-host of *As It Happens*. He officially retired eight years ago at age 65, but continued on contract... CBC Radio host **Peter Togni** moved from Calgary to Toronto to take over *Stereo Morning* on the national FM net... And **Bob Kerr**, host of CBC Stereo's *Off the Record*, celebrated his 75th birthday on April 16. A *Globe* and Mail article by Vancouver writer and broadcaster **Bill Richardson** paid tribute to Kerr, who started in radio in 1947 at CFCN Calgary. He's been with CBC Radio 33 years and **Susan Englebert**, head of Radio Music, says "We love him and he can just stay for as long as he likes"...

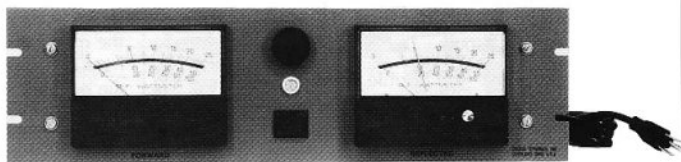
*Speaking Out:* The CBC handed a five-day suspension to **Jim McLean**, producer of the Saskatchewan edition of *Newshour*. After the federal budget cut CBC's budget 10%, McLean told the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix that some staffers hoped a new government would be voted in soon... At a Windsor (ON) conference of school administrators, CBC-TV news anchor **Peter Mansbridge** said education is a top priority with many Canadians, but the news media have failed to cover the subject thoroughly and should examine such questions as why eight per cent of high school graduates cannot read basic text. The other burning issue on the minds of Canadians, said Mansbridge, is crime...

More criticism of the media comes from Ryerson journalism instructor **Marjorie Nichol**. She told the Canadian Assn. of Journalists that news media must acknowledge that they are a power elite and report on media activities as critically as they report on politics and business... In a session on how reporters are manipulated by political parties, **Patrick Gosage**, who handled PR for former PMs Pierre Trudeau and John Turner, said "TV reporters are easier to spin than print reporters... they don't ask embarrassing questions"...

### In Memoriam

Veteran B.C. newsman **Erwin Swangard** died at age 84. The one-time ND at CJOR Vancouver became president of the Pacific National Exhibition and Swangard Stadium in Burnaby is named in his honor. He leaves his wife and three sons.

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