

# Facsimile Printer Is Offered by RCA

## Carbon System Features Both Line and Black and White

RCA MFG. Co., Camden, announced Dec. 13 that it is ready to offer to broadcast stations on an outright sale basis its carbon printer and facsimile system which features half-tone reproductions of photographs as well as text in straight black and white. The equipment being offered, it was disclosed by H. C. Vance, manager of communication equipment and station sales of RCA, is the carbon printer system developed by Charles J. Young, RCA engineer. It reproduces the various shades of gray between the extremes of black and white on a roll of white newsprint paper 8½ inches wide at the rate of about 4,000 to 4,800 words per hour, or 65 to 75 words per minute. This speed is based upon the use of 10 point type. Use of smaller type is not recommended by RCA.

In explaining the system, Mr. Vance said a number of facsimile systems have been developed by RCA during the last decade. Some of these have been employed in commercial radio circuits for several years. As a result of this experience, the simple carbon printer system has been deemed most reliable for use in general broadcast work where the receiver-records must function in homes without skilled operators.

### Half-tone Equipment

Because reproduction of high-quality half-tone pictures is said to be especially difficult, RCA has included compensated amplifiers with the transmitting scanner, along with a complete and especially designed radio receiver chassis in the receiver-recorder units. The receiver will be available in two different chassis, one covering the standard 550 to 1600 kc. broadcast band and the other for operation in the 30 to 41 megacycle ultra-high frequency band. Either of these receiver chassis can be installed in the standard recorder cabinet.

Two designs of carbon recorders have been made by RCA, one quite elaborate which automatically cuts the paper into pages 12 inches long and deposits them in a tray; the other a more simple design which does not cut the strip of paper into pages. It is the simply designed recorder which will be placed on the market by RCA at this time. It is felt that for the purpose of initial tests by stations the apparatus in the homes should be as simple and inexpensive as is consistent with reproduction of good quality copy.

The scanner equipment includes scanner mechanism, a compensated line amplifier and a regulated power supply, together with a time clock and signal unit for timing transmission periods accurately. The equipment delivers a zero level signal to a 500 ohm line and can be located in any convenient place, such as in a news room, special studio or newspaper office. The audio output of the scanner can be used to modulate any standard broadcast transmitter.

# Samples of RCA Facsimiles

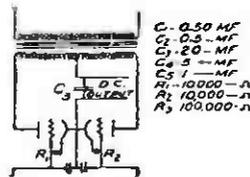


The breakdown value for the corona tube. If a voltage is impressed on the corona tube which lags in phase behind the rectifier voltage, the average current may be reduced to less than 50 per cent of its maximum value because the grid bias will then be reversed after the peak of the voltage wave. When the corona tube is supplied from a voltage 60 degrees behind the rectifier voltage as in a three-phase machine, the corona tube will reduce the average current to 7 per cent of the maximum value.

The circuit as described above will vary the excitation by definite steps and will give fluctuations in the excitation just as are produced by opening and closing the contacts of a vibrating regulator. However if a leak is placed across the grid biasing condenser of

the thyracons were too small, rectify the empty field current and their output was used for the field of an exciter.

In this case a further difficulty arose in the time



## Four Stations Are Given FCC Facsimile Grants

AUTHORITY to engage in facsimile experiments on their regular frequencies was granted WGN, Chicago; WSM, Nashville; KSD, St. Louis, and WOR, Newark, by the FCC on Dec. 8.

The grants are similar to those recently given WHO, Des Moines; WGH, Newport News; KFBK, Sacramento, and KMJ, Fresno, to test public reaction to facsimile transmission on regular broadcast channels during early morning hours. Experimental facsimile receiver attachments for the ordinary radio set are being placed in strategic locations to test reception. [See Dec. 1 issue.]

### Camel Plans Changes

R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO Co., Winston-Salem (Camel cigarettes and Prince Albert tobacco), will discontinue the *Jack Oakie College* portion of its *CBS Camel Caravan* program after Dec. 28. The half-hour *Benny Goodman's Swing School* portion of the weekly broadcast will continue from New York. *Oakie College* emanates from Hollywood. It is understood that the sponsor is considering moving the *Jack Oakie College* division to NBC intact, if favorable time can be secured. Savington Crampton, Hollywood manager of William Esty & Co. Inc., agency handling the account, was scheduled to go to New York in early Dec. to confer on future plans for the program.

## Vadscio Buys Court

MACFADDEN PUBLICATIONS Inc., New York, has sold radio rights to the title of its NBC-Red program, *True Story Court of Human Relations*, to Vadscio Sales Corp., New York, which will start on a Mutual network Jan. 9. Excerpts from editorial content of *True Story* will be used on the program. Macfadden will change the name of its own show to *A. L. Alexander's Court* and alter the format somewhat.

Mr. Alexander, originator and director of *Good Will Court*, has just been released from his contract with Standard Brands, and conducted his first program for Macfadden on Dec. 3, under the old title. Vadscio products are Quinlan cough remedy, Mavis talcum powder, Djer-Kiss and Melba cosmetics. Agency for Vadscio is Albert M. Ross Inc.; for Macfadden, Arthur Kudner Inc.

## Steel Firm on MBS

WHEELING STEEL Corp., Wheeling, W. Va., on Jan. 2 will start a half-hour Sunday afternoon institutional program featuring *Musical Steel Makers*. While the musicians are professional, all other talent is from the company's plants and offices. Show will originate at WWVA, Wheeling, where it has been broadcast locally, and will be heard on 5 Mutual stations, placed direct.

# RCA VISUAL VANS DELIVERED TO NBC

AMERICA'S first mobile television unit, consisting of two vans the size of large buses, were delivered to NBC on Dec. 12 by RCA Mfg. Co., from its Camden factory. Delivery ceremony was broadcast as part of RCA's *Magic Key* program. NBC plans to use the new equipment for experimental televising of parades, sports events, and other out-of-doors spectacles.

In one van are the synchronizing generators and rectifiers for supplying Iconscope beam voltages, amplifiers, and all the other apparatus necessary for picking up both sight and sound, as well as a control room in which engineers can see the picture as it is being broadcast and can switch from one camera to the other. These two Iconscope cameras are connected to the car by several hundred feet of coaxial cable.

The second van connected to the first by 500 feet of cable, houses the picture transmitter, to operate on a frequency of 177,000 kc., with a special directional antenna from which the pictures will be relayed by micro-wave to the transmitter in the Empire State Building for rebroadcast. Principal apparatus here is the radio frequency unit which generates the carrier wave for picture signals and the modulating apparatus for imposing picture signals on this carrier. Because of the great amount of heat generated by the large vacuum tubes in television, this van is fitted with a water cooler for the tubes and an air-conditioned unit for the engineers.

## KGAR, Tucson on CBS

KGAR, Tucson, will become a CBS outlet on Dec. 24, available as a "bonus" station for all CBS advertisers purchasing time on KOY, Phoenix. Sustaining programs of the network will also be broadcast by KGAR, fed through KOY. Both stations are members of the Arizona Network, which also includes KSUN, Lowell.

## Alsweet's List Now 40

SWIFT & Co., Chicago (Alsweet margarine), has added two Vermont stations carrying spot announcements, bringing the total list close to 40. Stations are WDEV, Waterbury, and WQDM, St. Albans. J. Walter Thompson Co., Chicago, is the agency.

KING GEORGE VI's Christmas message to the Empire will be broadcast over the combined Blue and Red Networks of the National Broadcasting Company on Christmas Day, December 25. King George will begin speaking at approximately 10 a. m. (EST) from his castle at Sandringham, just outside of London.

## Labor Pains

TECHNICIANS at WINS, New York, have signed 100% with IBEW, the union reports and announcers are being organized by A.F.A. While these unions are organizing, the station has been put on the "unfair" list by AFM Local 802 pending negotiations for a new contract, and the AFM was picketing WINS Dec. 13.