

KCOP (TV), WMTV (TV) ARE SOLD

SALES of KCOP (TV) Los Angeles to Kenyon Brown-Bing Crosby group and of uhf WMTV (TV) Madison, Wis., to principals associated in the ownership and management of WTVJ (TV) Miami, Fla., were reported last week.

Brown-Crosby Group Pays \$4 Million for Los Angeles TV

KCOP (TV) Los Angeles, ch. 13 independent, has been sold by Copley Press Inc. to a group comprising Kenyon Brown, Harry L. (Bing) Crosby, George L. Coleman and Joseph A. Thomas [B•T, April 8]. The \$4 million sale was announced last week by Jack Heintz, KCOP vice president-general manager.

The buyers, except Mr. Thomas, already own KFEQ-AM-TV St. Joseph, Mo. (KFEQ-TV is ch. 2, CBS affiliated), which they bought in 1955 for \$550,000 from Barton Pitts. Mr. Brown also owns outright KWFT Wichita Falls and KLYN Amarillo, Tex.; 50% of KANS Wichita, Kan.; 49% of KBYE Oklahoma City, Okla., and 33½% of KGLC Miami, Okla. Film star Bing Crosby and Mr. Coleman each own 6% of KGLC. Mr. Thomas is a senior partner in

the New York investment banking firm of Lehman Bros.

KCOP went on the air as KLAC-TV in 1948. It was owned then by Mrs. Dorothy Schiff Sonnenborn (*New York Post*). The ch. 13 station was sold to Copley Press in



CONSUMMATING the sale of KCOP (TV) Los Angeles (l to r): seated, Jack Heintz, KCOP vice president-general manager; Kenyon Brown, member of purchasing group; standing, Ray Hamilton, Hamilton, Stubblefield, Twining & Assoc. (broker), and Paul A. O'Bryan, attorney.

1954 for \$1,375,000. Copley Press owns a chain of newspapers in California and Illinois.

It is understood Mr. Brown will move to Los Angeles as principal executive officer of KCOP after the sale is approved by the FCC. Application for transfer will be processed and filed with the Commission shortly.

Except for Mr. Heintz, there are no staff changes planned. Negotiations were handled by station brokers Hamilton, Stubblefield, Twining & Assoc.

Bartell Stations Sell WMTV (TV) To WTVJ (TV) Group for \$550,000

THE Bartell Stations have sold WMTV (TV), ch. 33, Madison, Wis., to WMTV Inc. for \$550,000. WMTV Inc. is owned by Wometco Television & Theatre Co., Lee Ruwitch and Gordon Sherman. Wometco is permittee of WTVJ (TV) Miami, Fla., and 20% owner of WFGA-TV Jacksonville, Fla. Mitchell Wolfson and Sidney Meyer control Wometco, Mr. Ruwitch is executive vice president-general manager of WTVJ and Mr. Sherman is president of WMAV Springfield, Ill.

Last summer WIBA Madison was negotiating to merge with WMTV. The merger fell through. WIBA is owned by the *Capital Times* and *Wisconsin State Journal*.

During the last five weeks the Bartell Stations have made three other changes. WAPL Appleton, Wis., was sold to Connie Forster and associates for \$100,000 [B•T, May 6]. Bartell bought WBMS Boston, Mass., from Jack N. Berkman for \$200,000 [B•T, May 13]. Gordon Broadcasting Co. (WSAI-AM-FM Cincinnati, Ohio) sold WILD Birmingham, Ala., to Bartell for more than \$300,000. These transactions are awaiting FCC approval.

Bartell now retains, in addition to the recently acquired properties, WOKY Milwaukee. WAKE Atlanta, KCBQ San Diego and KRUX Phoenix.

J. B. Fuqua has purchased 35% of WJBF-TV, ch. 6, Augusta, Ga., from Martin Theatres of Georgia Inc. for \$300,000. Mr. Fuqua also bought 6% from Donald M. Kelly. The Martin group obtained their interest for about \$130,000, in a merger of competing applications, for ch. 6 in 1953. Martin operates WDAK-TV Columbus, Ga. Mr. Fuqua, formerly a 59% stockholder, is now sole owner of the station.

Joseph E. McNaughton and family have sold the construction permit for ch. 9 KDHS (TV) Aberdeen, S. D., to North Dakota Broadcasting Co. for \$2,447 for out-of-pocket expenses spent securing the cp. North Dakota owns KCJB-AM-TV Minot, KXJB-TV Valley City, KBMB-TV Bismarck and KSJB Jamestown, all N. D. The McNaughtons operate WCRA Effingham, WRMN Elgin, both Ill., and KXGI Fort Madison, Iowa.

WSPD-TV Paducah Goes on Air

WSPD-TV Paducah, Ky., took to the air last Tuesday on ch. 6 as an NBC-TV interconnected affiliated. The station received its grant last Nov. 14. It is operated by Pa-

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