

daily, the *Salt Lake City Tribune*, it owns the News Agency Corp., which handles the mechanical productions for both papers and operates their circulation, advertising and business offices.

Commissioner Cox noted that the *Tribune*, in addition, owns 35% of KUTV(TV), one of the remaining two VHF stations in Salt Lake City, and that the other owners of KUTV (the family of A. L. Glasmann) control KALL Salt Lake City and the Ogden (Utah) *Standard Examiner*, while members of the same family group control KLO Ogden. (He also noted that the church and members of the KUTV ownership group have interests in stations in Idaho and in CATV and microwave common carriers in the mountain states.)

The commission, in a letter to Miss Hale and Mr. Wharton, confined itself on the concentration of control question to their reference to the News Agency Corp. It noted that there are 21 such joint arrangements in 17 states and that litigation is now underway to determine their validity, then added: "If any antitrust violation is found by the courts, this will be taken into consideration by the commission." The commission also said, however, that "the over-all showing of operation in the public interest is also pertinent to our determination on the concentration issue."

The commission said "there is no indication" that the joint operation in which the two Salt Lake City papers are involved interferes with the editorial policy of either one.

The commission, which issued its decision after querying the licensee, found

no basis for faulting KSL on programming. It noted that on a controversial issue on which the Mormon Church took a position, KSL provided equal time for the opposing view and presented panel programs featuring spokesmen for both sides.

The commission also noted KSL's denial that businesses associated with the church receive favored economic treatment; such businesses are said to pay regular station rates and one of them "is presently purchasing more time on a competing station."

Commissioner Cox, in his statement, said he is "satisfied that, by most standards, the stations involved in the question of interlocking ownership have performed as well or better than most others in the broadcast industry."

Voting to renew the licenses were Chairman Rosel H. Hyde and Commissioners Robert E. Lee and James J. Wadsworth. Commissioner Robert T. Bartley did not participate and Commissioner Nicholas Johnson was absent.

FCC wants to revamp forfeitures procedures

The FCC apparently wants additional time in which it may impose forfeitures on broadcast licensees. A major element in a package of legislative proposals given preliminary approval by the commission would permit it to act within one year of a violation or within a station's license period, whichever is longer. The statute of limitations is now one year.

Commission attorneys are now studying a broad range of questions involving

forfeitures as a prelude to drafting proposed legislation. Proposals ultimately approved by the commission will be submitted to the Bureau of the Budget for possible inclusion in the legislative program the President will submit to Congress in January.

One proposal turned down by the commission is a perennial one of increasing the maximum amount of forfeiture from \$10,000 to \$50,000. This has long been urged by the staff as a means of arming the commission with a weapon that would be short of revocation or nonrenewal but still meaningful in dealing with multi-million-dollar stations.

However, the commission, reportedly, was fearful the measure would lead to controversy which could endanger chances of adoption of the proposal to extend the statute of limitations. And this one, which would increase the commission's flexibility in dealing with violations that occur early in a station's license period but are not uncovered until, say, two years later, is regarded as the more important.

Other proposals on which commission attorneys were instructed to continue working would bring additional parties and violations within the commission's authority to impose forfeitures. According to some reports CATV would be included among the services explicitly subject to commission forfeitures.

Pace relates objectives of CPB at conference

Maryland noncommercial broadcasters gathered in Baltimore last Wednesday (Oct. 9) for the Governor's Conference on Public Broadcasting and heard Frank Pace, chairman of the Corp. for Public Broadcasting, give his views on the general functions of the newly created agency.

CPB will not be just an operating entity, he said; the organization must provide leadership to the whole field of educational broadcasting, identify areas where educational television can be useful, and serve as a coordinator among all the noncommercial factions.

Mr. Pace also saw a CPB responsibility to develop young, exciting talent for educational broadcasting and to act as a collective agent to research the state of the art.

KFEQ, KLIK sale report

Some information concerning the sales of KFEQ St. Joseph and KLIK Jefferson City, both Missouri, was listed indirectly (BROADCASTING, Sept. 30). Principals of KLIK Radio 950 Inc. are Floyd B. Linn, Robert D. MacVay,

Meredith to buy 5th VHF station

Will acquire WNEM-TV from Gerity Broadcasting for reported price between \$10-12 million

Meredith Corp., Des Moines, Iowa, will purchase its fifth VHF station from Gerity Broadcasting Co. for a gross price understood to be between \$10 million and \$12 million.

The sale of WNEM-TV Bay City-Saginaw-Flint, Mich. is subject to FCC approval.

James Gerity, sole owner, will retain WNEM-FM Bay City, Mich. He will serve in an advisory capacity to WNEM-TV.

Meredith Corp. publishes *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Successful Farming*, special interest publications, and text and consumer books. It also prints

magazines and catalogues and manufactures world globes. Its broadcast properties are WHEN-AM-TV Syracuse, N. Y.; WOW-AM-FM-TV Omaha; KCMO-AM-TV and KFMU(FM), all Kansas City, Mo., and KPHO-AM-TV Phoenix.

WNEM-TV will be Meredith's first NBC affiliate. The AM and TV stations in Syracuse, Omaha and Kansas City are CBS affiliates, KPHO-TV is an independent and KPHO is an MBS affiliate.

WNEM-TV which has been on the air since 1954, is on channel 5 and has 100 kw visual.

Howard E. Stark, New York, negotiated the sale.