

man will "be respected by your viewers because he's going to be worthy of that respect." And, he added, ratings will rise.

The three-day (Sept. 17-19) annual meeting (BROADCASTING, Sept. 22) attracted 40 exhibitors (which paid \$19,000 for the privilege) and 625 registrants. It elected Wayne Vriesman, KWGN-TV Denver, vice-president and president-elect; Tom Peterson, KWWL-TV Waterloo, Iowa, and Mike Parke, KFI(AM) Los Angeles, directors-at-large. John Salisbury, KSL-AM-FM Portland, Ore., assumed the presidency and Mr. Vriesman will take over at the association's next conference in December 1976, in Miami.

### NIS count up to 50

NBC Radio's News and Information Service reached the 50-affiliate mark with the announcement that WTUU(AM) Toledo, Ohio, and WTXL(AM) Springfield, Mass., have become subscribers. Earlier this month, NIS signed WEAN(AM) Providence, R.I., which will switch from contemporary format to all news, effective in October. Also, KQV(AM) Pittsburgh will change to all news and NIS next month, dropping its middle-of-the-road programming. NIS's other major-market signing in September was WRNL(AM) Richmond, Va., which changed from middle of the road to all news.



**Fleet-footed filming.** ABC's owned KGO-TV San Francisco was credited with exclusive coverage of the capture by the FBI of Symbionese Liberation Army fugitives William (top) and Emily Harris, shortly before the similar apprehending of Patty Hearst. The film footage was used on the ABC News with Harry Reasoner newscast that night (Thursday, Sept. 18).

### Journalism Briefs

**Ward's winners.** Two television and one radio winners were among those receiving awards from Montgomery Ward Foundation for excellence in consumer reporting in various media. John Stossel, WCBS-TV New York, received \$1,000 and W. Vincent Clews, Maryland Center for Public Broadcasting, was given \$100 in TV category. Fred Wilcox, KCBS(AM) San Francisco, won \$1,000 radio award. Awards were presented in Sept. 25 ceremony at National Press Club, Washington, which cooperates in competition.

**Making it official.** In practice, networks report, there has been no problem getting U.S. correspondents in and out of Moscow on assignment—or even on vacations. But

Soviets have announced readiness "in principle" to ease travel restrictions by granting newspeople multiple exit-entry visas. Details of reciprocal agreement are being worked out—taken as indication of Soviet effort to fulfill Helsinki agreement.

**On camera.** Problems at Cook county jail were underlined when man serving two concurrent sentences for petty theft and robbery was mistakenly let free after first sentence expired. WBBM-TV Chicago responded to man's call for interview, in which he talked about problems in penal system. After TV appearance, man went into hiding from authorities.

**New base.** All Media Radio News Bureau has moved to 68 Post Street, San Francisco 94104; (415) 982-1441.

## Broadcasters vote yes, cable no on FM microwave for TV translators

Broadcasters, in their comments at the FCC last week, favored the commission's proposal to allow TV translators to use FM microwave for bringing in the signals of the originating station. But they should be allowed it only if there is no interference to the originating station, said the broadcast groups.

Cable interests filing, however, saw the new technology as increased and unfair competition to CATV.

The proposal originated with the National Translator Association, which says the change to FM microwave will result in improved picture retransmission, particularly color signals. Translators have been receiving their signals via AM microwave or off the air. These signals are amplified and converted to another unused frequency. There is no processing of the video base band. But using FM microwave involves video and audio signals, which would have to be modulated to provide normal RF input to the translator.

The Association of Maximum Service Telecasters favored the proposal. But, it said, the use of FM microwave would require costlier equipment (\$15,000, according to an A.D. Ring analysis) and require more stringent monitoring rules. AMST urged the commission not to disallow the present translator methods.

The National Cable Television Association said the move to FM microwave would "exacerbate" the problem of unattended translators interfering with TV stations and other translators. Allowing signal modulation by translators would change their role into one of "slaved satellite broadcasting transmitters," using up TV channels that could be used for regular broadcast service, said NCTA.

Sixty-nine cable operators filing a joint comment said FM microwave would siphon subscribers from cable if translators were allowed to bring in distant signals on FM microwave relay hops.

On the other hand, the New York State Commission on CATV favored the proposal. It said that many translator signals are of poor quality. The state commission would only allow FM microwave at attended translator operations, however.

### Technical Briefs

**Chosen.** International Video Corp., Sunnysvale, Calif., has been selected by Pan American Sports Organization to provide video-tape recording equipment and cameras for 1975 Pan American Games in Mexico City, Oct. 12-26. IVC said it is leasing six IVC-9000 video-tape consoles, plus three IVC-7000 color TV cameras and one IVC-7000P portable

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