

Crocker was released on \$20,000 bail pending trial at U.S. District Court in Newark.

NRBA debut. Progressive Radio Network, New York, is readying *Sound Advice*, 65 three-minute programs on what to look for in hi-fi/stereo receivers and amplifiers. Demo tape of projected series will be introduced at National Radio Broadcasters Association Conference in San Francisco on Sept. 19.

Covering both bases. Agreement is being finalized between Westinghouse Broadcasting Co. and KQED(TV) San Francisco for 1977 showing of Group W's *Six American Families* on both Group W and Public Broadcasting Service stations. Joint plan would have shows aired on both commercial and noncommercial television during same week. In markets with both Westinghouse and public stations, latter would delay showings for few days.

In with a bang. As its first attraction on its new series, *The Big Event*, NBC-TV will show "Earthquake" as two-part presentation on Sept. 26 (8-9:30 p.m.) and Oct. 3 (9:30-11 p.m.). NBC-TV's version of "Earthquake" will feature 22 minutes of new and original footage.

Hi-fi buy. Progressive Radio Network, New York, will introduce *Sound Advice*, radio feature concerned with "myths and complexities" confronting average audio equipment buyers, at National Radio Broadcasters Association conference in San Francisco Sept. 19-22. Network has put together sales package for radio stations to offer hi-fi advertisers including book tie-in written by series host, Dave Corry. Information and demo tape: *Eric Riback, sales manager, Box 172, Bronx, N.Y. 10451. (212) 585-2717.*

Five more for Archie. Mattel Toys, Hawthorne, Calif., has purchased *Everything's Archie*, series of 104 half-hour animated episodes assembled from eight-year run on CBS-TV, for syndication over next five years. To be syndicated on barter basis by Vitt Media International, series will be available in January, 1977. Mattel will share sponsorship with Continental Baking, division of ITT, Continental getting most of its spots in first three quarters of each year, leaving Mattel last quarter (heavy toy buying season).

Ziv active. *James Brown Future Shock* variety/dance-party show will be syndicated by Ziv International, with rights acquired everywhere but Africa. Package consists of 26 hour shows with guest stars including Dick Clark, Joe Tex, The Drifters and The Manhattans. Ziv has also purchased rights from Pathe News to *Milestones of the Century*, series of 365 short film documentaries, and *Men of Destiny*, 130 three-and-one-half-minute film biographies.

For children. Scholastic Magazines, New York, and Tower Productions, Los Angeles, have announced arrangement to produce children's programs for television. Scholastic produces magazines, textbooks and other educational material; Tower is affiliated with Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate.

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Mobile-home park operates CATV, not MATV, says FCC

Since residents pay for service, it falls under commission rules

What constitutes "payment" as the term is used in the FCC's definition of a cable television system? A lot of things.

The commission indicated as much in ordering the operator of a mobile-home park in Sarasota, Fla., to show cause why it should not be ordered to stop violating the commission's cable television rules by operating an unauthorized cable system.

Mobile Home Communities management had contended it was operating a master antenna television system for its 457 residents, not a cable system, and, therefore, was not subject to commission regulation. Mobile Homes Communities said service is provided through a single headend master antenna system and that the residents pay an installation charge of \$25 but no other direct charges.

The commission defines a cable system as one that receives television or radio signals directly or indirectly over the air and retransmits them to subscribers who pay for the service. MATV systems that serve

apartment dwellings are excluded from the definition.

But the commission said it does not exempt cable TV facilities simply because they are located within a private mobile-home park. Furthermore, the commission said, the residents of the Sarasota mobile-home park pay an installation charge.

And, it said, for the purposes of its definition of a cable system, it does not matter whether the payment is separate or combined with a general service, recreational or rental fee, whether payment is made directly or indirectly, whether the payment is in the form of a capital contribution or service fee, or whether payment is in bulk for a number of subscribers, or for an individual.

The commission said it appeared that the system was supported by fees paid by occupants of spaces in the mobile-home park. This indirect payment coupled with the admitted installation charge, the commission said, is a sufficient indication of "payment" to warrant an inquiry into whether the mobile-home park is in violation of the rules.

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Theirs and more. FCC issued public notice that cable television operators licensed for domestic satellite receive-only earth stations can serve not only their own system but nonaffiliated systems as well, in cost-sharing arrangement. Commission is planning to make ruling "in the near future" allowing cost-sharing arrangement, so long as licensee doesn't make profit. Notice was issued, FCC said, to clear up "apparent misunderstanding" in cable TV industry that cost-shared use of privately owned earth station between licensee and nonaffiliated system was either not permitted by FCC rules, or would lead to delay.

Change, please. FCC proposed changing cable television rules regarding definition of "legally qualified candidate" to match that just adopted for broadcast stations (BROADCASTING, July 26). New rule would cover anyone who has "publicly committed himself" to run as write-in and is eligible under law. Comments are due Sept. 9 with replies due Sept. 20.

It pays to be 500,000th. Two elementary school teachers from San Leandro, Calif., have received more than they expected by subscribing to Home Box Office on United Cable Television's system there. As HBO was searching for its 500,000th subscriber ("Closed Circuit" Aug. 2), the names of Lester and Carole Diehl came out of the computer. Their reward: a five-day all-expense-paid vacation in Honolulu, \$200 spending money, and a press conference and appearance in San Francisco with comedian John Byner, which will be presented on HBO in October preceding Mr. Byner's *On Location* performance.

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