

committee, group will include William F. Baker, president, Group W Television, New York; Wilson Wearn, president, Multimedia Broadcasting Co., Cincinnati; Stanley W. McKenzie, president, Seguin Broadcasting Co., Seguin, Tex., and Wade Hargrove, executive director, general counsel, North Carolina Association of Broadcasters. Earl R. Stanley, attorney, Dow, Lohnes & Albertson, Washington, and president, Federal Communications Bar Association, will serve ex officio. NAB executive committee members are Fritts; Mark Smith, president, KLAS-TV Las Vegas; Cullie Tarleton, senior vice president, Jefferson-Pilot Broadcasting Co., Charlotte, N.C.; Gert H.W. Schmidt, vice president, Harte-Hanks Communications, Jacksonville, Fla.; William L. Stakelin, executive vice president, Bluegrass Broadcasting Co., Orlando, Fla.; Donald Wear, vice president, CBS, Washington, and Thomas E. Bolger, president, Forward Communications Corp., Madison, Wis. Group plans to meet for first time sometime next week.

After several days of convention-going in Las Vegas, members of **National Cable Television Association** board of directors met last Thursday. They **voted to support retention of FCC's network-cable crossownership prohibition and authorized executive committee to take action in Boulder II case** if necessary. Randall Tobias, AT&T VP, residential marketing and sales, told board AT&T had no intention of entering traditional cable business and would go along with legislation saying so. Make up of board changed during week. John Saeman, vice chairman and chief executive officer, Daniels & Associates, took over chairmanship. Trygve Myhren, American Television and Communications, and Amos Hostetter, Continental Cablevision (former chairman), were elected at-large members; Kenneth Gunter, Rogers UA Cablesystems, and John Goddard, Viacom Communications, were re-elected at-large members. E.B. Chester, Tar River Cable TV, and John Evans, ARTEC Associates, were elected district members, and Larry DeGeorge, Times Fiber Cable Communications, and Bob Johnson, Black Entertainment Television, were voted associate members. DeGeorge beat out Ted Turner for his spot.

Ed Asner, star of CBS-TV series "Lou Grant," last Monday (May 3) **claimed** one of show's long-time sponsors, **Kimberly-Clark, has discontinued advertising on program to protest Asner's political statements.** Asner, who came under fire last February after presenting check for \$25,000 to group sending medical supplies to guerrillas in El Salvador, made remark in taping of syndicated *Donahue* talk show at KNBC(TV) Los Angeles. Screen Actors Guild president said his secretary had contacted Kimberly-Clark as private citizen and company had confirmed its cancellation was direct response to Asner's political activities. CBS-TV officials said Kimberly-Clark has had exactly two commercial spots (both 30's) in *Lou Grant* in past six months (Feb. 25, March 1), that no other spots were scheduled and that Kimberly-Clark neither withdrew nor could ask to be released. As for CBS's dropping of *Grant* show, they said decision was based solely on ratings and had nothing to do with Kimberly-Clark or with Asner's political views. At Kimberly-Clark, spokesman did not use word "cancel" or "withdraw," but said company "did not renew" its advertising in *Grant* and declined further comment.

New Jersey's reporters' shield law has been given sweeping interpretation by that state's supreme court, at least in cases involving libel suits. **Court, in two cases decided last week, held that shield law, designed to protect anonymity of sources of news stories, protects reporters and publications involved in libel suits against forced disclosure not only of confidential sources but also of "editorial processes" leading to publication.**

Johnny Carson heads group of entertainers including **Neil Simon, Paul Anka, David Letterman, Joan Rivers** and Los Angeles and Las Vegas businessmen who bought **KLKK-TV Albu-**

querque, N.M., for \$2,875,000 plus \$834,000 for assumption of certain programing broadcast rights, subject to FCC approval. Seller is owned by Eddie L. Pena, who earlier tried to sell station and programing rights for \$4.1 million to Malcom I. Glazer before deal collapsed (BROADCASTING, Feb. 22). Pena assumed control of KLKK-TV four years ago when he bought 52% for \$4,971 (BROADCASTING, June 12, 1978) and has since then gradually bought remainder of stock. Earlier, buyer Glazer had letter of intent to buy KLKK-TV but parties pulled away after definitive purchase agreement could not be reached. Carson also is 27% owner in licensee of KVUU-TV Las Vegas. KLKK-TV is independent on channel 23 with 933 kw visual, 93.3 kw aural and antenna 4,130 feet above average terrain.

Robert M. Bennett, president of Boston Broadcasters Inc., operator of WCVB-TV Boston, will become **senior vice president, television broadcasting and production, Metromedia.** Move takes effect on closing of sale of WCVB-TV to Metromedia, at \$220 million, largest station purchase in history. Bennett had earlier served 19 years with Metromedia before departing company in 1971 to become general manager of WCVB-TV. He will relinquish that post "reluctantly" in moving to Metromedia. There Bennett will serve as new fourth person in office of president, which includes chairman John Kluge and senior vice presidents George Duncan and Stuart Subotnick. Bennett is to remain headquartered in Boston, from which he will supervise Metromedia's Television Division, BBI Productions and Metromedia Producers Corp.'s syndication activities.



Bennett



Servodidio

Pat Servodidio, vice president and general manager of RKO General's WNAC-TV Boston, scheduled for takeover by New England Television Corp. (BROADCASTING, April 26), has been **named president of RKO General Television, New York,** in charge of RKO's television operations. He succeeds Robert Glaser, who left RKO in April to join Viacom (BROADCASTING, March 8).

Sheldon Cooper, president-general manager of WGN-TV Chicago, has been **named president** of commonly owned **Tribune Productions Inc.,** new subsidiary of Tribune Company Broadcasting involved in programing for broadcasting, cable and new technologies. **Robert K. King, senior vice president, Capital Cities Communications, succeeds Cooper at WGN-TV,** according to last Friday's (May 7) announcement by James C. Dowdle, president and chief executive officer, Tribune Company Broadcasting. King also is immediate past chairman of NAB's television board. Appointments are effective June 1.

Michigan Association of Broadcasters held annual **congressional dinner in Washington** at Madison hotel last Thursday (May 6), with some 200 in attendance, including some 25 members of Senate and House. MAB president, Todd Holmes, WNEB-TV Bay City, and immediate past president, Ken McDonald Jr., WSAM(AM) Saginaw, presented outstanding citizen award (painting of classic 1954 Corvette) to Governor William G. Milliken in videotaped ceremony that was played back at dinner.