

CAB MARKS 50th ANNIVERSARY

The Canadian Association of Broadcasters marked its 50th anniversary with its 1976 convention, held April 25-27 at the Chateau Laurier hotel in Ottawa.

As **BROADCAST EQUIPMENT TODAY** goes to press, scheduled events are:

Sunday: Reception hosted by the chairman, Allan Waters, president of CHUM Limited, and CAB president Dr. Pierre Camu.

Monday: Addresses by Hon. Jeanne Sauve, Minister of Communications, and Harry Boyle, chairman of the CRTC; tributes to private broadcasting by CBC president A. Johnson, NAB president Vince Wasilewski, and former CRTC chairman Pierre Juneau. This year, the Quarter Century Club festivities were open to all, with dinner, dancing and a musical review of the past 50 years presented by Guido Basso's orchestra, with Bill Walker as M.C.

Tuesday: Sessions included the annual meeting of TvB and three concurrent meet-

ings on *The Future of Broadcasting*. The first Annual Awards Luncheon was held and the convention concluded with an evening reception, hosted by CAPAC, the 50th Anniversary Dinner, honoring past presidents and chairman of CAB, with entertainment by the "National Press and Allied Workers Jazz Band Inc."

Radio in Canada 50 years ago? It was in its infancy—but quite a few of those early "coffee pot" operations have grown up to become the distinguished "senior citizens" of Canadian broadcasting today. For example . . .

There's **CFCF** Montreal, which claims to be the very first, in 1919.

Records show that 10 of the stations begun in 1922 are still with us: **CKMO** (now **CFUN**) Vancouver, **CFAC** and **CFCN** Calgary, **CJCA** Edmonton, **CHAB** Moose Jaw, **CKCK** Regina, **CKCO** Ham-

ilton, **CFRC** Kingston, **CFPL** London and **CKAC** Montreal. It was J. N. Cartier of **CKAC** who was CAB's first president.

In 1923, **CJVI** Victoria, **CFQC** Saskatoon, **CKPC** Brantford and **CFNB** Fredericton made their first squawks.

The next year welcomed **CBO** and **CKOY** Ottawa, **CFCY** Charlottetown and **VOWR** St. John's, Nfld.

And the year that CAB was formed also marked the beginning for **CJOR** Vancouver, **CJOC** Lethbridge, **CKRM** Regina, **CFJR** Brockville, **CFCO** Chatham, **CKCL** (now **CKEY**) Toronto, **CKNX** Wingham, **CHRC** and **CKCV** Quebec, and **CHNS** Halifax. To all—a happy 50th!

Of course, many other stations went on the air in those early days of easy licences. But quite a few owners decided that the new-fangled medium really didn't have much of a future . . . and eventually sent back to the Department of Transport that priceless piece of paper, their licence!

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The 26th annual conference of the Western Association of Broadcasters Engineering section (WABE) takes place May 3-5 at the Hotel Bessborough, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The agenda:

Monday, May 3

9:00 a.m.—"What you always wanted to know about digital and were afraid to ask". The seminar on Digital Electronics is open to any registered delegate and will be conducted by Wayne J. Gedlaman of the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, Calgary. Gedlaman, who is senior instructor in SAIT's Broadcast Electronic Technology program, has prepared an extensive package of reference materials to be supplied to each delegate attending the seminar. The objective is to give enough information to participants to enable them to "troubleshoot" to make repairs. Discussion during the six-hour seminar features two examples of digital applications which are common to both radio and television operations—cart machines and remote control clock devices.

12:00 noon—Lunch, courtesy of Ampex.

1:00 p.m.—Seminar (to 4:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, May 4

Morning session:

- Greetings from WAB president Gary Miles
- ORTO Technical Facilities (speaker TBA)
- How to Digitize Video—Stan Busby,

Ampex

Afternoon session:

Operational Amplifiers and Linear Integrated Circuits—Prof. G. Sparks, Develcon Electronics

Wednesday, May 5

Morning session:

- Ground Receiver Stations for ANIK—Bill Postler, S.E.D. Systems
- Sideband Energy in AM Transmission—Will Mitchell, Continental Electronics
- Antenna Structures on the CN Tower—Hellmut Berger, CFTO-TV
- WABE Business Meeting

12:00—Lunch

Afternoon session

As **BROADCAST EQUIPMENT TODAY** goes to press, papers chairman Ken Fisher of **CKOM** Radio and this year's committee have not yet finalized the papers for this session.

Coffee breaks throughout WABE are courtesy of McCurdy Radio.

Annual Banquet—Wednesday evening

Exhibits

Exhibits chairman Del Polowick of **CFQC-TV** expects some 60 exhibitors to participate and reports that the variety and quality of products to be displayed are particularly good for this year's show.

Watch for a complete report on WABE in the July/August issue of **BROADCAST EQUIPMENT TODAY**, along with publication of selected papers in future issues.

NAB REPORT

“WHAT TO DO UNTIL THE DOCTOR COMES”

“First aid” for keeping a station on the air when trouble develops was outlined by Pete Burke, chief engineer of WQUA Moline, Ill. Among his suggestions:

- Give the patient fresh air. Make sure cooling intakes are not restricted and that exhaust ducts run straight from the transmitter where possible. Exhaust fans should be provided with an interlock so that any failure will not be allowed to cause potentially disastrous heat build-up.
- Supply clean AC. If you use 3-phase power, insist that the power company provide closed delta or Y connections, never open delta. Each leg on any power feed should be fitted with surge protectors. Power supply problems can be broken down into three parts: transformer, rectifier, filter. He recommended replacing mercury vapor rectifiers with solid state.
- Keep accurate records of your transmitter's performance, including calculation of efficiency, and of vital parts for quick repair or replacement. A good barometer of tube aging is the amount of drive required to maintain output. Monitor the final filament voltage and maintain it slightly below manufacturer's ratings for as long as possible to extend the life of the tubes. Use your “proof of performance”: investigate any drop in performance.
- Return monitors to the factory every couple of years for recalibration. Meters are just another component, as susceptible to failure as any other piece of equipment, yet must be dependable to monitor transmitter performance.
- Over-maintenance in some areas can do more harm than good; tube rotation, for instance, probably does more to reduce socket length than it does to increase tube life.



At NAB, David LaFrenais of M.S.C. Electronics and Gene Sudol of A.E.L. proudly display one of 11 FM transmitters sold to Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Burke recommended that: a card be posted near the transmitter listing all the normal parameters; a transistor radio be used to check whether the oscillator is operating properly; and use of a relay to “memorize” what is happening when intermittent problems occur in transmitter control circuits.

In regard to the last point, a test relay should be placed across the control circuit at some convenient point, then latched closed with a reset button. If the relay remains closed when trouble occurs he said, the problem is past the point where the relay was installed. The relay should be connected downstream from the first point and this step-by-step analysis should continue until the problem is isolated.

“Develop a logical approach to solving transmitter problems,” he said, noting that the cause is almost always a faulty component. “Don’t allow yourself to rationalize that a component is probably okay just because it’s located in a spot that’s hard to reach.”

If the transmitter worked before, it will work again: define the problem and know what you’re looking for, advised Burke. “The meters were put there for just that purpose—to let you diagnose the problem even before you open the doors of the transmitter.”

Above all, he urged, use any improvisation to keep a signal on the air, even when the transmitter is down: shorting across a bad winding will permit continual operation of the plate transformer; an automobile storage battery can be used to replace a filament transformer that has burned out; usable filter chokes that have shorted to the casing can be kept going by insulating the case from the ground with a couple of two by fours or “even a stack of old operating logs.” Nine times out of 10, the engineer can improvise when a spare component isn’t at hand.

Finally, Burke said, “What do we do if the antenna tower comes crashing down?” Any length of wire can be made to radiate something, so have a couple hundred feet handy, just in case. As for FM, the exciter can feed directly into a dipole to get some sort of signal on the air. “Even 10 watts can do a lot.” If the transmitter is out in the country, it might be better to take the exciter back into town and put up a temporary dipole.

His point: be able to administer first aid before you call the doctor. “Do whatever you can to get some sort of signal on the air.”

AM STEREO REPORT: 5 SYSTEMS SO FAR

Harold Kassens, chairman of the National AM Stereo Committee, told engineers attending NAB that his report was premature. However, he conceded, AM Stereo is “a very interesting subject and you’re going to hear a lot more about it.”

The committee, composed of representatives of the Electronic Industries Association (EIA), the National Radio Broadcasters Association (NRBA), NAB and IEEE, has the support of the U.S. Federal Communications Commission. It expects to present its reports to the FCC in about one year.

Before then, its studies will attempt to determine the basic channel requirements from a sound reproduction standpoint; through appropriate field tests, clarify the technical issues between the possible systems which meet these requirements; and determine AM signal specifications, based upon these field tests.

To achieve this, four panels have been set up by the committee:

1. *Systems Specifications*—a supervisory panel to develop broadcast standards for AM Stereo. It will analyze the various systems submitted.
2. *Transmission Systems*—to study the feasibility of the proposed methods of transmission, how they adapt to existing transmitters, monitoring, and connection circuits between origination point and transmitter.
3. *Receiving Systems*—to study the performance both of existing mono receivers when tuned to AM Stereo, and of the proposed receivers designed for AM Stereo when tuned to either stereo or mono broadcasts.
4. *Field Test Panel*—to develop the field test procedures for evaluating each system.

So far, Kassens reported, four companies have presented proposals: Conn Associates, an independent sideband system; RCA, AM and FM modulation of the carrier; Motorola, a system similar to that proposed by Philco in 1960; and two systems from Sansui.

Within the next few months, the committee will set a cutoff date for further systems to be considered.

A mathematical definition of each system will be determined and attention will have to be given to such questions as the effects of skywave transmission and directional pattern on the AM Stereo signal. “Hopefully,” concluded Kassens, “we’ll find out all the answers.”

Ottawa Update

NEW FACILITIES FOR CFRA/CFMO

CFRA and CFMO-FM, The CHUM Limited stations in Canada's capital city, have re-located in modern new facilities.

The stations now occupy the second floor of a new building which is part of a complex

adjacent to the former location. With 13,000 square feet, it is functional and efficient in design, and boasts the most advanced broadcast equipment.

Chief engineer George Roach believes

that some of the novel aspects of the installation are its sound proofing (an expressway runs nearby), centralized switching facilities and cartridge storage.



CFRA and CFMO-FM Ottawa are now housed on second floor of new building, foreground, next door to former location. High-rise building in background, part of same complex, provides antenna site for STL and mobile communications. Photo on right shows newsroom, with "work stations" in background.



CFRA production studio is equipped with Auditronics 4-channel console, McCurdy turntables. At right is cartridge storage unit in CFRA master control.

The CFRA facilities include master control and two production control rooms, all with on-air capability. There are three voice studios and two smaller studios for news and sports reports. CFMO also has master control and two production control rooms, with one production studio and one booth. All studios are of "floating" construction. Switching equipment, by Dynair, and reverb units are located in a central control room.

News is a vital aspect of Ottawa's leading radio stations, and a large newsroom is located between the CFRA and CFMO studios, with immediate access to announce booths of each. Canadian Press and Broadcast News services are provided by three new compact, quiet teletype machines, and BN Voice reports are recorded automatically. CFRA/CFMO also carry CCNS—The Canadian Contemporary News System—another arm of the CHUM organization. The newsroom has three "work stations" where newsmen assemble and edit their reports on tape with up to 20 sources available.

A somewhat unique approach is used by the stations to indicate when a studio is on-air. Instead of the traditional red light over the door, a white light is used with red doors. The entire door appears to light up, when the mike switch is turned on.

Production areas have access to outside windows, so that announcers are always aware of current weather conditions. And to avoid another problem area where inconsistent information has sometimes been known to be broadcast . . . the new CFRA/CFMO operation has a master time-clock/temperature system. This enables personnel throughout the production area to co-ordinate programming with complete accuracy.

All production is done on reel-to-reel tape, and to ensure quality control, is transferred to carts using only one cart machine. This means that any substandard performance can be readily traced and corrected.

Attention has been given to another problem which is on the increase in today's radio. Production people tend to demand

very high sound levels, and tests have established that as a result they gradually experience a selective deafness during their working shift. The solution: new lightweight sound-through headphones which produce feedback when turned too high.

Equipment in the new facility includes Auditronics four-channel consoles, McCurdy turntables, Ampex tape recorders and Aristocart and ITC cart machines. Auxiliary equipment is from Moseley, Gates and Audiopak. The four-track board is completely solid state with "pull-out" modules for easy maintenance.

The antenna for the STL to the Camp Fortune FM transmitter site and for mobile communications is atop an adjacent 14-storey building in the new complex.

Other features of the installation: cable trays in the ceiling crawl-space areas which allow for ready access to and re-routing of cables; two completely separate auxiliary units to provide emergency power; and an automatic security system which is pre-set to open and close the various parts of the building as required at different times.



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Circle #1 on Reader Service Card

Automatic Transmitter Transfer Control

CKGL-FM's Solution

by Paul Firminger

Paul Firminger is chief engineer for Great-lakes Broadcasting stations CHYM and CKGL-FM in Kitchener, Ont. In this article, he describes the automatic transmitter transfer system recently installed for CKGL-FM, a fast-growing country & western music operation in the highly competitive south-central Ontario market.

Should our CKGL-FM on-air transmitter fail, a quick change to the alternate is a must.

As monitoring of the off-air signal by staff at our automated studios was not practical, it was agreed that the transmitter site should be automated. Priorities were listed, then came the task of researching and deciding which equipment, if any, would meet all the necessary requirements.

In the past, stations often put together their own transfer system using cam, mounting an assortment of micro switches around the perimeter. Upon loss of RF or plate voltage, this motor was activated, operating the micro switches, which in turn

operated the interface relay circuits, in turn activating the appropriate transmitter. This approach was considered, but quickly rejected.

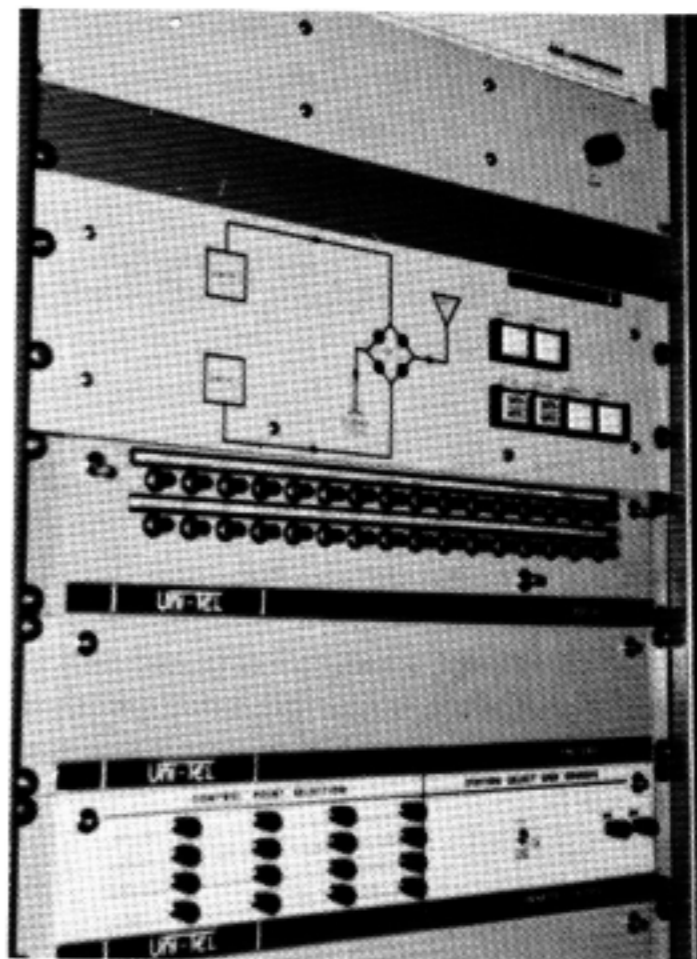
We then proceeded to look at the equipment available—at the time, very limited, although we understand there are now several similar units on the market.

CKGL-FM purchased a 377D-2 automatic transmitter control system from Collins Radio in Dallas, Texas. A brief description of the equipment and our summary is as follows:

The 377D-2 automatic transfer control system is intended to perform monitoring and control functions for an AM or FM transmitter system, consisting of two independent transmitters. Transmitters need not be of the same type or power.

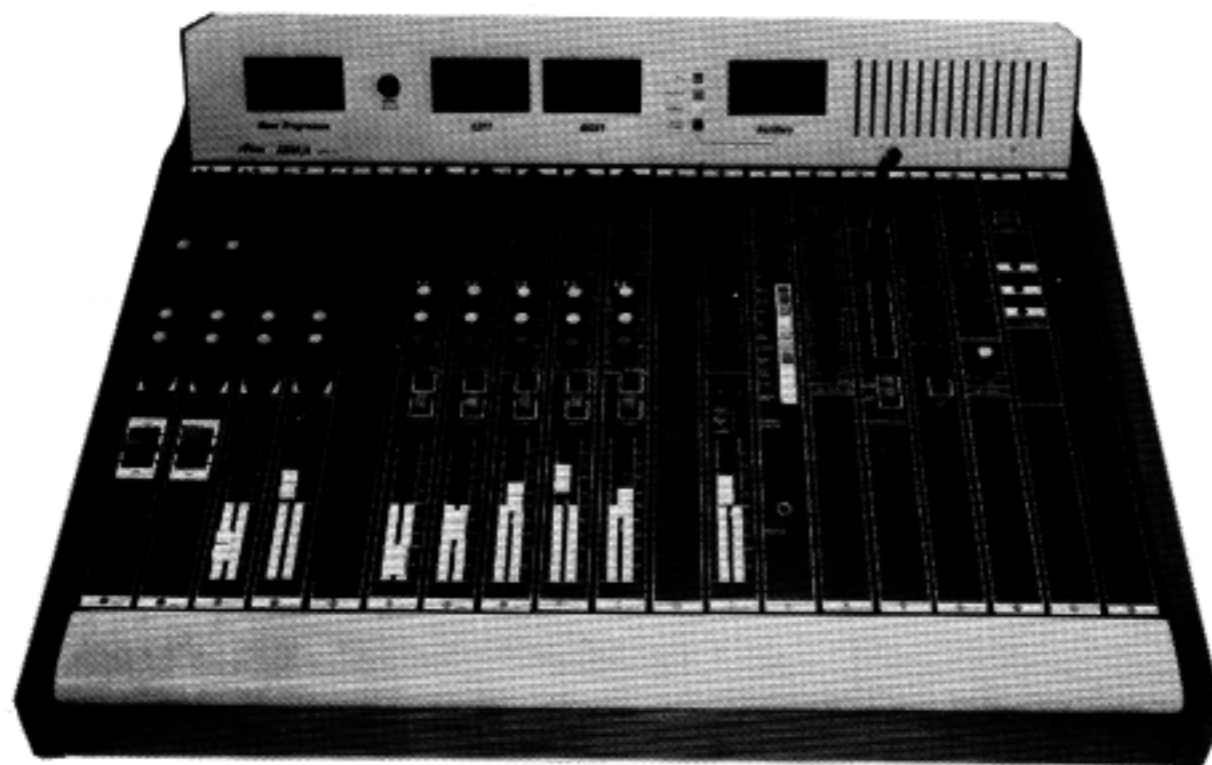
In the event of low power output or outright failure of the transmitter on the air, the control system will automatically transfer the alternate or standby transmitter to air.

The control system was designed for AM



CKGL-FM Kitchener, Ont., photo shows Collins 377D-2 transmitter transfer (above) with Unitel remote control unit.

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or FM use with only the interface relay panel having to be specified for AM or FM. The main control unit consists of a printed circuit logic board which is pre-programmed and contained within the control unit main chassis, with control push buttons located on the front panel. A set of four light-emitting diodes in a flow chart arrangement provides visual indication of the transmitter operation.

All connections are located on the rear panel on Jones terminals with the RF sampling outputs from each transmitter connected by a BNC connector. All control and status indications are 28-volt circuits requiring only a momentary closure. Power is derived from the 28-volt control systems of the associate transmitter or a suitable 28-volt power supply capable of supplying at least 2 amps. A rechargeable battery system consisting of four small nicades is included to provide power for the logic system in the event of a power failure. All the control functions of the transmitter, such as interlocks, plate on/off, are furnished as dry contacts for ease of interface to any transmitter. For our installation we had to make slight changes in the configuration of the plate on/plate off relay contacts and this was simply done by switching connections on the back of the relays. There are a number of spare contacts available which are not brought out to the rear terminals but could be used for various purposes. We found the entire unit interfaced very simply to our

remote control system, giving us transmitter control either in an automatic or manual configuration, as well as manual transmitter transfer.

The principal operation is fairly straightforward, using IC circuitry for comparisons, and triggering as well as common transistors for relay switching. Everything seems to be well thought out, even to the point of the dummy load temperature interlock, which is automatically switched to the appropriate transmitter interlocks.

In summary, the logic card provides all pre-programmed logic for the system. The logic card itself is a masterpiece of ingenuity and packaging, and is very well laid out using a minimum number of transistors on various types.

CKGL-FM has had the unit in operation now since the beginning of January and we have tested it in various situations. It has performed flawlessly on each occasion.

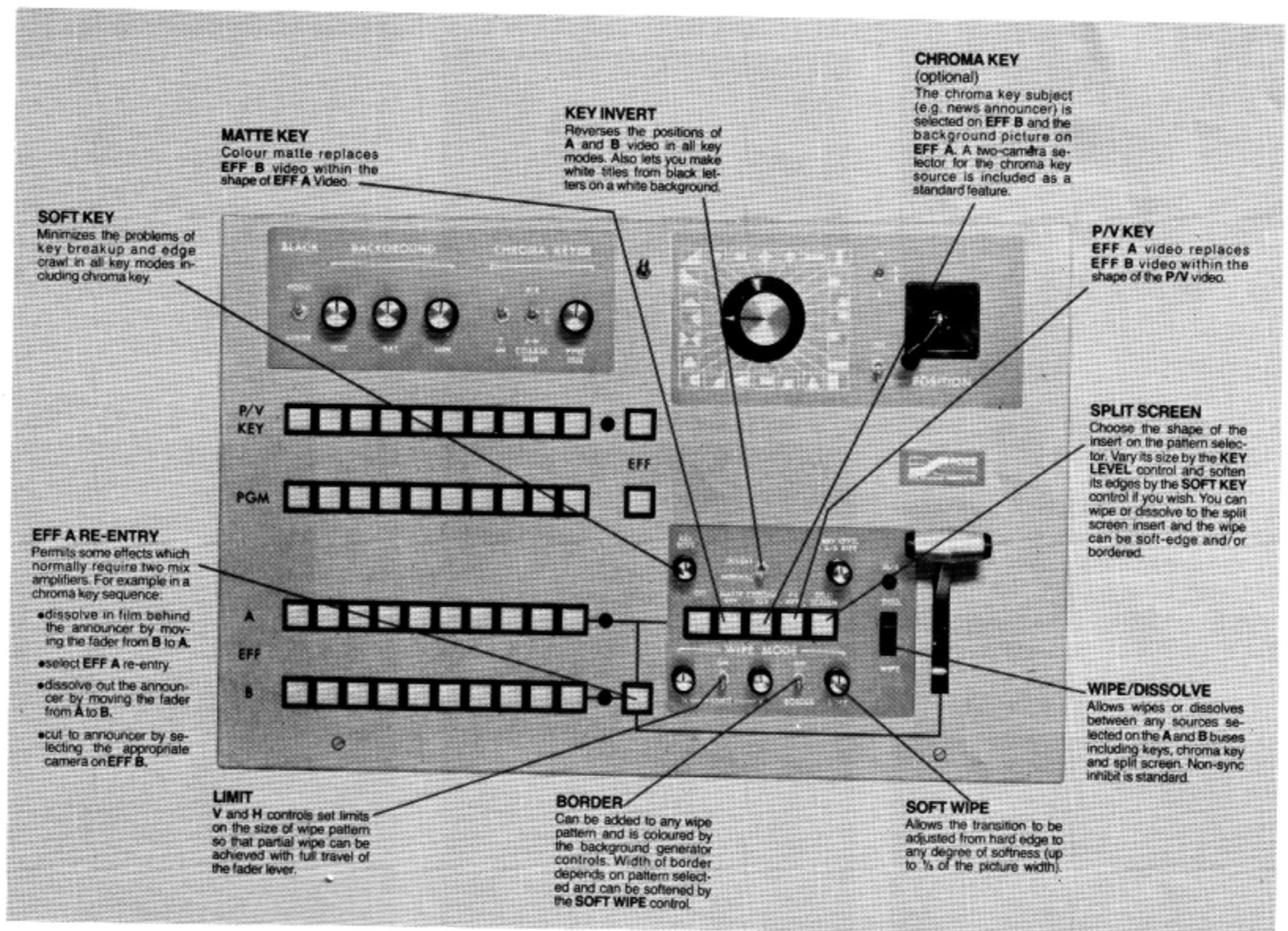
Although the unit is a fairly new piece of equipment and instruction manuals were not

available, Collins Radio provided thorough backup information during installation. The unit interfaced without a hitch to our RCA and Collins transmitters, as well as our Unitel remote control system, with only two additional interface relays required to match our Unitel remote control.

CKGL-FM's AM operation, CHYM, is contemplating a facility change and we plan to install the same type of system for automatic control of our two AM transmitters.

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directions

A review of current policies and decisions of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission

MONTREAL HEARING

The Montreal public hearing of the CRTC was held commencing March 30 at the Sheraton Mount Royal Hotel. Among the items on the agenda:

- Applications for FM radio stations as follows:

Montreal (French)

- Claude Boulard and Gilles Talbot, representing a company to be incorporated, for 100,000 watts on 107.3 MHz.
- CKAC Ltee for 59,000 watts on 93.5;
- Radio C.H.A.R. Inc. for 51,000 watts on 107.3;
- Stereo Laval Inc. for 100,000 watts on 93.5, with SCMO;

Longueuil, Quebec (French)

- Pierre Dulude, representing a company to be incorporated, for 10,000 watts on 101.5;
- Stephane Venne, representing a company to be incorporated, for 100,000 watts on 93.5.

Ste-Adele (French)

- Colette Chabot, representing a company to be incorporated, for 50,000 watts on 99.5;

Montreal (English)

- David Ruskin, representing a company to be incorporated, for 100,000 watts on 98.5, with SCMO;
- CBC, to amend its licence for CBM-FM from 95.1 to 93.5 MHz;

Jonquiere, Quebec (French)

- Radio Communautaire de Jonquiere Inc. for 423 watts on 93.7;

Trois-Rivieres (French)

- CBC, for 4,326 watts on 100.1, to rebroadcast AM programming from CBF Montreal.

The CBC also requested use of SCMO (Subsidiary communications multiplex operation) to provide an emergency AM program feed, if required, on CBF-FM and CBM-FM Montreal, CBJ-FM Chicoutimi and CBV-FM Quebec City.

- Application for a French-language AM radio station at Gaspé, Quebec, 1,000 watts (day), 250 watts (night) on 1450 kHz, by La Compagnie Gaspésienne de Radiodiffusion (CHNC), New Carlisle.

- Application for the transfer of effective control of the Maclean-Hunter group of companies from Hunco Limited and D.F. Hunter to Maclean-Hunter Holdings Ltd.

- Application by Louis Paquin, representing a company to be incorporated, to acquire CKBM Montmagny from Radio Alleghans, Inc.

- The application of CFCF Montreal for a power increase to 50,000 watts (night) was withdrawn.

- Doug Smith Radio Productions Inc. requested a temporary network from July 5 to August 1, 1976, to broadcast the Olympic Games to a coast-to-coast network of 36 AM and FM stations, with others to be added.

- Telmed Ltee seeks changes in its French radio network for the Expos baseball games now to be carried on 14 stations in Quebec.

- CKAC Ltee applied to expand programming on the 7-station Telemedia news network to include additional categories.

- Applications by the CBC to establish French language TV rebroadcasters at Barrie (7,000 watts on channel 55) and Penetanguishene (11,300 watts on ch. 34), Ontario.

- Cable television applications proposed new systems at Gentilly, (by Decibel Inc. and Aubert Poisson), Tring Junction (by Louise-Marie Nadeau), and Ste-Emilie de l'Energie, Quebec (by Fernand Rondeau); and changes of ownership of existing systems at Lac Carre, L'Annonciation and Mont-Joli, Que. Various systems in the province applied to add the educational TV service of Radio-Quebec on uniform distribution channel 8.

HALIFAX HEARINGS

April 12th was the date for a Halifax hearing, held at the Lord Nelson Hotel. Its agenda included that originally planned for Moncton, N.B., on the same date. Highlights:

- Applications for a new FM station in Halifax by CJCH (100,000 watts on 100.1) and David Ruskin, representing a company to be incorporated (100,000 watts on 103.5 with SCMO).

- Power increases were requested by CJCH Halifax, to 25,000 watts (day and night); CJCB-FM Sydney, N.S., to 61,000 watts; and CFBC St. John, N.B., to 50,000 watts (day and night).

New Brunswick

- David Ruskin, representing a company to be incorporated, for FM at Saint John, (100,000 watts on 99.7 with SCMO).

- Island Radio Broadcasting, Moncton for 24,600 watts on 95.7.

- Capital City Broadcasting (9,600 watts on 98.1) and Outreach Radio (4,750 watts on 98.1) for Fredericton FM.

- James W. Ross, representing a company to be incorporated, for an AM station at Fredericton, 10,000 watts day, 1,000 watts night, on 1400 kHz.

Newfoundland

- Newfoundland Broadcasting Co., St. John's, applied for nine FM outlets in the province:

St. John's—100,000 watts on 93.7

Argentia—3,650 watts on 95.5

Marystown—31,330 watts on 96.3

Bonavista—28,580 watts on 92.1

Gander—4,000 watts on 94.1

Rattling Brook—3,430 watts on 95.9

Corner Brook—30,620 watts on 92.3

Stephenville—4,270 watts on 94.3

Red Rocks—1,120 watts on 92.7

- David Ruskin applied for an FM outlet in St. John's for the proposed all-news FM network, Canadian News Radio. It would operate on 101.9 MHz with a power of 100,000 watts, with SCMO.

- Colonial Broadcasting System requested a new AM station at Corner Brook, 10,000 watts on 850 kHz, and a power increase for CHCM Marystown to 10,000 watts, day and night.

- The CBC applied for a new AM station at Bonavista Bay, 10,000 watts on 750 kHz, and low power TV rebroadcasters to serve nine communities in Newfoundland, under its Accelerated Coverage Plan.

Prince Edward Island

- The CBC also applied to establish local studios for CBC-FM Charlottetown, increasing power to 93,500 watts with a change of transmitter site.

Cable Television

- Tri-Town Cable T.V., Bridgewater, N.S., Able Cablevision, Liverpool, N.S., and Kings County Cable, Sussex, N.B., requested changes in service, including the deletion of WMED-TV Calais, Maine, and the addition of WLBZ-TV Bangor, Maine.

- City Cablevision, Fredericton, would delete WLBZ-TV, adding WEMT-TV Bangor.

- Edmundston Cablevision Ltd. would increase its service area to include St. Jacques, N.B.

- Applications for changes in ownership involved Windsor Cable TV Ltd. which seeks to acquire the assets of A. G. Hawbolt, licensee for the Windsor, N.S., area; and Eastern Cablevision Ltd., which would sell the Truro-Bible Hill, N.S. system to a company to be incorporated, represented by Stuart P. Rath.

WINNIPEG HEARING

The hearing scheduled for May 3 at the Winnipeg Inn will include the following applications:

- Harvey F. Davidson seeks AM stations at Brandon (10,000 watts on 1570 kHz), Virden (250 watts on 1490) and Neepawa (100 watts on 1400).

- CKX Brandon—a power increase to 50,000 watts day, 10,000 night.

- CHUM (Manitoba) Ltd. would change the frequency of CFRW Winnipeg from 1470 to 1290 kHz, remaining at 10 kw, and move CHIQ-FM from 94.3 to 96.7 MHz, increasing power from 6,500 to 100,000 watts with a change of antenna site. Different programming for CHIQ-FM is also requested.

- A Winnipeg outlet for the Agra-backed all-news FM network, represented by David Ruskin—it would be 100,000 watts on 96.7, with SCMO.

- The CBC plans English FM stations in Brandon (100,000 watts on 97.9), Baldy Lake (95,000 watts on 105.3), Fairford (11,800 watts on 104.3), Fisher Branch (5,400 watts on 95.7) and Jackhead (33,000 watts on 92.7); TV rebroadcasters at Fairford (2,000 watts on channel 7) and Jackhead (3,400 watts on channel 5); and studio facilities at CBL5, Sioux Lookout, Ont.

- For Sarnia, Ont., Dancy Broadcasting has applied for a change of frequency from 1250 to 1110 kHz for CKJD, increasing daytime power to 10,000 watts.

- Radio O.B. Ltd. has applied for a network to link CJOB-FM Winnipeg, CJRL Kenora, CKDR Dryden and CFOB Fort Frances during the early morning hours from 12:05 a.m. to 5:30 a.m.

- MTV Limited seeks a power increase for CKYA-TV Arborg from 1,940 to 31,000 watts, with a change of transmitter site to Fisher Branch, Man.

Cable TV Applications

- New cable systems are requested for

Brandon (Grand Valley Cablevision, Winnipeg Videon and J. W. Potter); Selkirk (Winnipeg Videon and James R. Whall); and Portage LaPrairie.

- Greater Winnipeg Cablevision seeks a one dollar increase in monthly rates and the addition of KGFE-TV Grand Forks, N.D.

- CESM-TV Thompson, Man. has applied to establish a recording site to receive and tape the signals of CKND-TV Winnipeg and three U.S. stations.

EDMONTON HEARING

Postponed to May 6 at the Edmonton Plaza, this hearing includes the following bids:

New FM stations

- David Ruskin, representing a company to be incorporated, Canadian News Radio, seeks 64,000 watts on 105.9 in Edmonton and 74,000 watts on 103.1 MHz in Calgary.

- Other Calgary applications come from CFCN, for 74,000 watts on 92.1, and CFAC, for 74,000 watts on 103.1.

- The Alberta educational network ACCESS plans to add rebroadcasters at Peace River, 96.3, and Grande Prairie, 99.7, both 100,000 watts.

- CBC FM stations are planned for Lethbridge, 100,000 watts on 100.1 (English) and 1,660 watts on 104.3 (French); Regina, 100,000 watts on 96.9; and Calgary, 10,000 watts on 103.9 (French AM service). Rebroadcasters for the English AM service are to be established at Fort Radium (82 watts on 105.1), Fond du Lac (779 watts on 100.1) and Stony Rapids-Black Lake (1,360 watts on 93.3).

AM Radio Stations

- Dinosaur Broadcasting seeks a power increase for CJDV Drumheller to 10 kw day and a new station at Stettler, Alta., on 1400 kHz with 1 kw day/250 watts night.

- St. Albert Broadcasting plans a 10 kw station on 1070 kHz at St. Albert.

- Yellowhead Broadcasting (CJYR Edson) has applied for 50-watt rebroadcasters at Grande Cache (1230), Hinton (1230) and Whitecourt (1400).

- In Edmonton, both CHQT and CJCA seek a power increase to 50,000 watts; the latter with a change of antenna site.

- CFCN Calgary requests a change in its daytime pattern.

- And there's a transfer of control of E.K. Radio of Cranbrook and Fernie, B.C., and

Kootenay Broadcasting, Trail, B.C.—but it's all in the (Houle) family.

Television

- Another controversial proposal from the CBC: French TV for those bilingual western towns of Calgary (2590 watts on ch. 16) and Lethbridge (620 watts on ch. 23)!

- Low power CBC-TV rebroadcasters (English) are planned for Fond du Lac, Stony Rapids—Black Lake, and Ford Bay.

- Armadale Communications (CKCK-TV Regina) has applied for a rebroadcaster at Swift Current, 13,000 watts on ch. 12.

- And the "Muskeg Club" wants a low-power station at Mildred Lake to rebroadcast CBXT Edmonton.

Cable

- The Edmonton systems, QCTV and Capital Cable, applied to add NBC-TV. If approved, the Calgary systems could be expected to follow suit.

- Morgan Anderson of Kamloops, B.C., and Mid-Alta Cable both seek to establish a new system in Camrose and Wetaskawin.

- George Kushner and K. M. Greentree are applicants for a new system in the Brooks area.

- Calgary Cable would increase its service area, and various systems would increase monthly rates to \$9.00.

DECISIONS

- An AM station has been approved for Espanola, Ont., to be operated on 930 kHz, 10 kw, by Algonquin Radio-TV. There is to be at least 20 hours weekly of local programming, with access by community groups.

- The Teslin (Yukon) Community Association's "pirate" television station has been legitimized, the CRTC expecting "the necessary contractual arrangements" to be made.

- CBC LPRT's in Labrador City, Nfld., are to increase power to 1 kw day/250 watts night. CBDQ (English) moves from 610 to 1490; CBDP (French) remains at 1240.

- CBC TV rebroadcasters have been approved for six Newfoundland Communities.

- In renewing the licence of CKSH-TV Sherbrooke, Que., the CRTC called for improved quality of local programming.

- Also in Sherbrooke, the licence of CKTS was renewed, but with a CRTC admonition to provide "balanced programming" as the

directions

only English radio station in the region, with a substantial increase in CBC programs.

- Another Telemedia station, CKCV Quebec, was renewed, with the CRTC calling for better local news service.

- In renewing French CBC licences in northeastern Ontario, the commission noted that the CBC planned improved TV service for the Timmins and Sudbury areas.

- The radio news network licences of the **Telemedia** and **Radiomutuel** groups in Quebec were renewed, but the CRTC advised both to subscribe to Broadcast News and said that centralizing the news function at the Montreal flagship station "should make it possible for each affiliate to assign the staff necessary to produce a more adequate local and regional information service".

- In renewing the TVA network, the CRTC told the Montreal and Quebec City outlets to allocate funds to expand TVA with service to the Rimouski and Abitibi regions a priority.

- The James Bay Broadcasting Corp has been licensed for an English and Cree station, 50 watts on 1450 kHz.

- In renewing CBC licences in Quebec, the CRTC called for action on a long-promised power increase for CBV Quebec, and also for an increase for CBJ Chicoutimi to 50 kw. A long-awaited English CBC-TV station was licensed at Chicoutimi, 10 kw on channel 58.

- A power increase to 10 kw was approved for CHGB La Pocatiere, Que.

- Toronto's CITY-TV was renewed with the advice that it retain its local orientation despite the wider coverage to result from its move to the CN Tower.

Quebec FM's Denied

All three applications for a new FM station in Quebec City have been denied. The CRTC criticized those of CJRP and CKCV as failing to reflect the spirit of the FM Policy, despite their resources and many years experience in broadcasting. The third

applicant, Rene Fortin, "demonstrated a serious endeavour to arrive at a new and distinctive programming concept" but lacked "sufficient financial and human resources".

Cable Television

- Microwaving of U.S. signals by cable systems in the Ottawa area from distant head-ends has been approved. Skyline, Ottawa, Laurentian and Videotron are to co-operate on "Solv Signals Limited", the company which will provide the microwave facilities. All licensees in the Ottawa region are to provide for the deletion of commercials from U.S. signals, reporting to the CRTC every six months on their progress. The signals of Montreal stations may also be microwaved on a temporary, experimental basis.

- A change of ownership affecting a number of cable systems owned by North West Community Video Ltd./Express Cable Television Ltd. in British Columbia has been denied. The CRTC ruled that the proposed capitalization involved "almost total reliance on debt" and it was not satisfied that the source of funds was in accordance with the 80% Canadian ownership laws.

- The licence of Victoria Cablevision Ltd. is being renewed on a month-to-month basis, pending a CRTC appeal to the court ruling that ordered it to hear a competing application before renewing the present licence. (See BET, March/April issue.)

FM CLOSED CIRCUIT SERVICES ON CABLE

The CRTC has extended the time limit for carriage of closed circuit audio services to **March 1, 1977**. As of that date, all such services carried by cable television systems must be provided by licensed broadcasters.

This extension, says the commission, will allow the orderly development of alternatives to existing ethnic and student programming which has been carried for some time on various cable systems.

Postscripts . . .

- Call letters for the new Vancouver station are CKVU-TV.

- Budget problems at the CRTC resulted in staff cuts numbering close to 30 in one recent two-week period.



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