

ing 12 months delay due to objections and questions regarding overlap, of WKNB-AM-TV New Britain, Conn. NBC paid \$600,000 for the stations; the tv operating on ch. 30. In 1955 NBC acquired its first uhf when it bought ch. 17 WBUF (TV) Buffalo, N. Y., for \$312,500. During the year, NBC exchanged its WTAM-AM-FM and WNBK (TV) Cleveland, Ohio, for Westinghouse Broadcasting Co.'s KYW and WPTZ (TV) Philadelphia. WBC also received \$3 million. The Philadelphia stations are now WRCV-AM-TV, and are the subject of a Dept. of Justice civil suit against RCA-NBC for conspiracy to violate the antitrust laws. The government claims that RCA-NBC threatened to withdraw NBC affiliations from WBC stations in order to pressure WBC to agree to the Cleveland-Philadelphia swap.

CBS got its second uhf—ch. 18 WGTH-TV (now WHCT [TV] Hartford, Conn.)—for \$650,000. CBS's other uhf is ch. 19 WXIX (TV) Milwaukee, which it acquired from Bartell brothers in 1954 for \$350,000—plus paying \$650,000 to Lou Poller for buying out ch. 25 WCAN-TV Milwaukee studio space and equipment.

J. H. Whitney & Co. (whose major owner John H. [Jock] Whitney was last week named ambassador to the Court of St. James), paid \$10 million for WISH-AM-TV Indianapolis and WANE and WINT (TV) Fort Wayne-Waterloo, Ind., and earlier in the year paid \$3.75 million for a 90% interest in KGUL-TV Galveston-Houston, Tex. The Whitney interests own 90% of KOTV (TV) Tulsa, Okla., and have varying interests in community tv systems in the West. Earlier in the year, owners of the WISH properties paid \$800,000 for ch. 5 WINT and surrendered their cp for uhf in Fort Wayne.

Newcomer Transcontinent Tv Corp., comprising upstate New York financial interests who have major interests in WGR-AM-TV Buffalo, N. Y., among others, plunged into broadcasting with the \$5 million purchase of WHAM-AM-TV and WHFM (FM) Rochester, N. Y., and the \$800,000 purchase of WSVA-AM-FM-TV Harrisonburg, Va. (with ownership shared with Hamilton Shea, former NBC executive). After receiving FCC approval for its Rochester purchase, Transcontinent sold off the am and fm outlets for \$500,000, changed the ch. 5 call letters to WROC-TV. Trancontinent now is half-owned by General Railway Signal Corp., Rochester, N. Y.

A group of west coast businessmen, including Albert Zugsmith, Arthur B. Hogan, Frank Oxarart, Richard C. Simonton, Jack Burnett, and Richard Feldman, acquired two radio and one tv properties during the year. A segment of the group paid \$150,000 for KITO San Bernardino, and \$100,000 for KBMI and KSHO-TV Henderson-Las Vegas, Nev. Mr. Hogan bought KFOX Long Beach, Calif., for \$536,000. The group, in varying combinations, owns KULA-AM-TV Honolulu and KRKD Los Angeles.

Triangle Publications Inc. (*Philadelphia Inquirer*-Annenberg) reached out across a couple of state lines and bought WNHC-AM-FM-TV New Haven, Conn., for \$5.4 million. The year before it had paid \$3 million for WBNF-AM-TV Binghamton, N. Y., and \$3.5 million for WFBG-AM-TV Al-

toona, Pa. It owns WFIL-AM-FM-TV Philadelphia and 50% of WHGB Harrisburg, Pa.

Philadelphia Bulletin (WCAU-AM-FM-TV Philadelphia) this year moved outward from the Quaker City; it bought ch. 22 WGBI-TV Scranton, Pa., for \$650,000.

Gannett newspapers bought WINR-AM-TV Binghamton, N. Y., paying \$165,000 for the properties. Gannett owns WDAN-AM-TV Danville, Ill.; WENY Elmira, 85% of WHEC-AM-TV Rochester, and 49% of WHDL-AM-FM Olean, all N. Y.

The year saw two tv film entities enter the station ownership field. A group headed by Sy Weintraub, president of Flamingo Pictures, paid \$1.5 million for KEYD-AM-TV Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn. It then sold the am outlet for \$100,000 and changed the ch. 9 call letters to KMGM-TV—after which it entered into a lease-interest deal with Loew's Inc. for the MGM backlog in



FORMAL transfer of WIND Chicago to Westinghouse Broadcasting Co. took place Dec. 21, with ceremonies involving Donald H. McGannon (r), WBC president, and Ralph L. Atlas, formerly president of WIND Inc., which sold the station. Mr. Atlas continues as general manager [B•T, Dec. 24]. The price of \$5.3 million is highest ever paid for a radio property.

return for the movie firm getting 25% interest in the station. Later in the year, Guild Films (Reub Kaufman, president) paid \$695,000 for WMAM and WMBV-TV Marinette-Green Bay, Wis.

Loew's Inc. has gained 25% interests in following stations: KTTV (TV) Los Angeles, KTVR (TV) Denver, and KMGM-TV Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn. The only figures which were made public in these transactions was the \$1,650,000 Loew's paid for its quarter-interest in KTTV, in exchange for \$4 million leasing of the MGM films.

Steinman interests expanded during the year by acquiring ch. 36 WRAC-TV Williamsport, Pa., for \$125,000. Steinman owns WGAL-AM-FM-TV Lancaster, WLEV-TV Bethlehem, WKBO Harrisburg, WORK York, WRAW Reading, and WEST-AM-FM Easton, all Pa., and WDEL-AM-FM Wilmington, Del.

Hudson Valley Broadcasting Co. extended its broadcasting province by buying

ch. 19 WMGT (TV) Pittsfield, Mass., for \$379,000. Hudson Valley already owns WROW-WCDA (TV) Albany and WCDB (TV) Hagaman, both New York.

WSTV Inc. paid \$760,000 for KSWM-AM-TV Joplin, Mo., while its \$250,000 purchase of WBLK-AM-TV Clarksburg and WPAR-AM-FM Parkersburg, both W. Va., is in hearing status, under attack by *Clarksburg Exponent*. The Laux-Berkman interests own WPIT Pittsburgh, and WBMS Boston.

Plough Inc., Memphis Tenn., pharmaceutical house (Mexsana, St. Joseph's aspirin, Nujol), added to its holdings by buying two radio properties during 1956. It paid \$600,000 for WCAO-AM-FM Baltimore, Md., and \$450,000 for WCOP Boston, adding these outlets to already owned WMPM Memphis, Tenn., and WJJD Chicago, Ill.

Sen. Lyndon Johnson's family extended its holdings in Texas stations by acquiring a 50% interest in KRGV-TV Weslaco, Tex., for \$5,000 and a loan of \$140,000. It secured an option to acquire 50% of KRGV Weslaco by lending the am station \$103,000. LBJ Co. (for Ladybird Johnson, wife of Sen. Johnson owns KTBC-AM-FM-TV Austin and 29% of KWTX-AM-TV Waco, Tex.

RKO Teleradio Pictures Inc. stepped into a hornet's nest when it paid \$400,000 for good music outlets WGMS-AM-FM Washington, D. C. Litigation by a WGMS minority stockholder resulted in an FCC order requiring the stations to be returned to the original owners while a protest hearing takes place. FCC approval of the RKO buy has been stayed, pending the outcome of the protest proceeding. RKO owns WOR-AM-FM-TV New York, WNAC-AM-FM-TV Boston, KHJ-AM-FM-TV Los Angeles, WHBQ-AM-TV Memphis, WEAT-AM-TV West Palm Beach, and KFRC San Francisco.

Todd Storz' \$850,000 purchase of WQAM Miami, Fla., almost became a *cause celebre*. The Commission after a knock-down go-round on the question of its jurisdiction over programs finally approved the purchase. Nub of the question was Mr. Storz' promotional activities to get people to listen to his stations. Storz stations include KOWH Omaha, WTIK New Orleans, WHB Kansas City and WDGY Minneapolis-St. Paul.

Cowles Broadcasting Co. widened its ownership when it bought WHTN-AM-TV Huntington, W. Va., for \$635,000. It already owned KRNT Des Moines, Iowa; WNAX Yankton, S. D.; KTVT (TV) Sioux City, Iowa, and 60% of KRNT-TV Des Moines. The Minneapolis Star & Tribune Co., controlled by members of the Cowles family, owns 47% of WCCO-AM-TV Minneapolis-St. Paul and 80% of ch. 12 KTVH (TV) Hutchinson (Wichita), Kan.

WKY Radiophone Co. (WKY-AM-TV Oklahoma City), which in 1955 paid \$570,000 for WSFA-AM-TV Montgomery, Ala., continued in 1956 to acquire eastern properties; it paid \$3.5 million for ch. 13 WTVT (TV) Tampa, Fla. It also sold WSFA for \$175,000.

In New Orleans, WDSU-AM-FM-TV expanded its territorial ownership by acquiring 51% of WDAM-TV Hattiesburg, Miss., paying \$51,000. WDSU already owns 58%