

closed circuit.

MUST-BUY OUT • CBS-TV affiliates were thrown in tizzy by network's closed-circuit announcement Thanksgiving Eve that effective March 1 network would go to "minimum buy" base in lieu of "must-buy" which would have effect of shifting basic network buy from minimum specified stations to minimum dollars or unspecified stations. Must-buy, along with option time, was condemned in Barrow Network Study Report, now before FCC. ABC-TV uses "minimum buy" dollar base. CBS-TV affiliate spokesmen at Barrow hearing supported must-buy on ground that it gives affiliates in smaller markets opportunity to pitch for business.

Hassle over option time report by FCC Network Study staff (page 71) has one commissioner thinking aloud—along these lines: "Be damned if I'll be a party to ripping up industry. That's not to say nothing should be done about option time. Maybe deleting half-hour at night to allow for local, non-network programming . . . but by God, that's all!"

BOUNDARY DISPUTE • Clarification of areas of responsibility between NAB and Radio Advertising Bureau was purpose of hitherto unreported session in New York, Friday, Nov. 21, of elected officials of both groups with their paid executive heads—Harold E. Fellows, president, and John F. Meagher, radio vice president, of NAB and Kevin B. Sweeney, president of RAB. Triggering session was exclusion by U. S. Census Bureau of radio count in 1960 census. Also debated was RAB's practice of holding its own regional meetings rather than participating in NAB area sessions. Session, described as harmonious, also cited fact that many radio stations belong to one organization and not other, prompting demands for service foreign from each.

While Television Bureau of Advertising was not directly involved in unprecedented session, broadcast executives did suggest there should be greater liaison among all three organizations, each operating with approximately \$1 million annual budget. Present, aside from paid executives, were following broadcasters serving on NAB and RAB boards, or both: Kenyon Brown, KCOP-TV Los Angeles, who also owns several radio stations; Arthur Hull Hayes, president, CBS Radio; John S. Hayes, president, Washington Post Broadcast division (WTOP-AM-TV Washington, WJXT (TV) Jacksonville); Alex Keese, WFAA-AM-TV Dallas; Allen M. Woodall, WDAK Columbus, Ga., and J. Frank Jarnan, WDNC Durham.

PASADENA SALE • Contract for acquisition of KXLA Pasadena from Loyal K. King, president-general manager and chief owner, by Donald R. Cooke, national

station representative, for \$900,000 (minus net quick assets of about \$250,000) has been negotiated, with transfer application probably to be filed with FCC this week. Purchaser is 1110 Broadcasting Co. (KXLA operates on 1110 kc with 10 kw but holds cp for 50 kw). Jack Kent Cooke, brother of Donald R. Cooke, negotiated transaction and holds seven year option to acquire stock. Jack Cooke is Canadian citizen and owner of CKEY Toronto, along with Toronto ball club and Frybrooke Ltd., magazine publishers, and would not exercise option unless he became U. S. citizen.

Plans of some tv broadcasters to put local musical programs into syndication via videotape have been brought up short by notice from Harry Fox, trustee and agent for major music publishers, that they will have to pay synchronization rights for all music they use. These rights, not covered by BMI or ASCAP public performance licenses, have no set scale but are matter for individual negotiation. Price suggested to one broadcaster-syndicator was \$25 per song per station, or \$125 per song for unlimited distribution.

YEAS AND NAYS • While rumblings of further defections continue in wake of WJR Detroit's decision to drop CBS Radio because of network's new "Program Consolidation Plan," officials are hoping for best—and apparently are getting some encouragement to do so. Of nine stations which voted against plan at convention (WJR was one), KFRE Fresno understand to have dispatched signed contract, and among eight which abstained from voting, WLAC Nashville and WFPG Atlantic City have signed, and WBRY Waterbury, Conn.; KOIN Portland; WBIG Greensboro, N. C., and WBEN Buffalo reportedly have indicated they'll go along. Other abstainers and dissenters not yet heard from, according to network sources, but they say such group owners as Storer, Corinthian and Meredith have indicated they'll accept.

It can now be told how CBS-TV arranged affiliation with ch. 3 WTIC-TV Hartford, television companion of WTIC-AM, one of NBC's oldest affiliates. When CBS decided to scrap its owned uhf in Hartford, WHCT on ch. 18, Frank Stanton, CBS president, phoned Paul W. Morency, WTIC president, to ask if Mr. Morency would see him that day. They met at Hartford airport. Deal was made so fast that Dr. Stanton flew back to New York on same commercial plane that had taken him to Hartford. Plane had been on ground only long enough to unload, load and prepare for takeoff.

NETWORK BOOST • Decision of Todd Storz, one of nation's top independent ra-

dio operators, to affiliate KOMA Oklahoma City with NBC Radio (see page 69) is being hailed—even at rival networks. Said one non-NBC network official: "This strikes me as one of the most significant developments in a long time. It gives network radio important recognition from an important spokesman for a concept—independent operation—that has seemed almost uniformly hostile to network radio in the past. It's a good thing for networks and I'm glad it happened, even though it didn't happen to us." Conversely, report is current that Hearst-owned WBAL Baltimore may go independent by first of year, after affiliation with NBC from start.

FCC general counsel's office prepared to give Commission an opinion this week on whether and how it should handle Pittsborough ch. 4 case—now that House Legislative Oversight Committee has spread bribe charges far and wide. Best bet is that staff will urge Commission to investigate—as it has in all ex parte cases publicized on Capitol Hill before.

ADVICE WANTED • If broadcasters have any ideas on how radio spectrum should be managed or administered, they should send them to Telecommunications Advisory Committee, c/o Office of Civilian & Defense Mobilization, Washington 25, D. C. That is retort of one member of committee who bridled at reports broadcasters are uneasy because they aren't represented on committee. Committee is looking for ideas from all segments of telecommunications industry, he emphasized.

FCC's "overemphasis" on broadcasting has caught eye of President's Telecommunications Advisory Committee, appointed two weeks ago to recommend clean up of radio spectrum management and administration [GOVERNMENT, Nov. 24]. Interest became apparent when committee discovered that out of about 65 items on last week's FCC agenda, 60 were on broadcast matters.

CBS TO ABC • Look for announcement soon that Peter and Mary show, starring Peter Lind Hayes and Mary Healy, is moving—with sponsorship by A. E. Staley Mfg. Co. intact—from CBS Radio to ABC Radio. Negotiations have been in progress several months, stemming to considerable extent from fact that since Peter Lind Hayes Show, with Miss Healy as frequent guest, started on ABC-TV (Mon.-Fri., 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) they've been in competition with themselves. Radio show, now on 12:05-15 p.m. Monday through Friday, is slated to move to 10-10:30 a.m., also across board, upon transfer to ABC Radio in January. Agency for Staley (starches, syrups) is Erwin Wasey, Ruthrauff & Ryan, New York.