Idahoans oppose powers above 50 kw

The Idaho Broadcasters Assn. went on record as being "unalterably opposed" to power authorizations in excess of 50 kw for clear channel radio stations at its annual convention late in July (Broadcasting, July 23). A resolution expressing this sentiment and directed toward both the FCC and Congress was adopted by the convention.

A second resolution urged the FCC to simplify the proposed new programming forms and that they be resubmitted for further comments before they are adopted. IBA also asked that the FCC adopt separate forms for radio and tv.

NAB President LeRoy Collins, who spoke at the convention, was given a "vote of endorsement and approval for his ringing challenge to the broadcast industry ..." by the Idaho association. FCC Commissioner Frederick W. Ford, another speaker, was praised for the "leadership that he is providing in Washington in making and administering the rules and regulations that govern the broadcast business."

Henry Fletcher, general manager of KSEI Pocatello, was elected IBA president succeeding Duane Wolfe of KCID Co., headed by Mr. Cohan, California broadcaster, has won the right to install a community TV system in Salinas, Calif., and the unincorporated areas of Monterey County. The Salinas city council last week approved the franchise award to the Cohan group, but included several provisions suggested by the FCC earlier this summer, one that the catv system should not duplicate the local TV station.

The award was made to Mr. Cohan on the basis he offered service at the lowest cost to the public of any of the three final bidders. The others were the Jerrold Corp. and H&B American, both multiple catv operators.

Mr. Cohan owns and operates KSBW-AM-FM-TV Salinas-Monterey; KVEC and KSBY-TV San Luis Obispo, and KNGS Hanford, all California.

Outlet Co. revenues up

Net broadcasting revenues and miscellaneous income of the Outlet Co., Providence, R. I., department store which owns WJAR-AM-FM-TV there, were $646,501 in the quarter ended April 28, compared to $543,717 for the same 1961 quarter.

Total earnings in the fiscal quarter were $4,211,692 compared to $4,194,314 last year. Net earnings after estimated federal income taxes were $239,074 (48 cents per share) compared with $200,386 (48 cents per share) for the same period last year.

Sidetracked

WHK Cleveland newsman Milo Townes put the city's transit board on the right track in suggesting how to save money in expanding the city's rapid transit system. The board is debating costly extensions of its rail lines, but is considering a switch to Mr. Townes' suggestion that it use a network of existing but little-used railroad tracks instead. WHK is getting up a promotion of its own to sell the idea: the station is planning to bring diesel-powered rail buses to Cleveland and run them on the railroad tracks as a demonstration.