

Poole buying WPRO-TV for \$16.5 million

OPENS WAY FOR CAPITAL CITIES KTRK-TV ACQUISITION

Capital Cities Broadcasting signed Friday (Feb. 24) for sale of WPRO-TV Providence, R. I., to John B. Poole, Detroit attorney-broadcaster, for \$16.5 million (CLOSED CIRCUIT, Jan. 9). Sale is in anticipation of Capital Cities' proposed acquisition of KTRK-TV Houston for \$21.3 million (BROADCASTING, Nov. 21, 1966), since company already owns FCC limit of five VHF stations. Both sales are subject to FCC approval.

Mr. Poole is president and principal

owner of WJRT-TV Flint, Mich. Capital Cities, represented in negotiations by Howard Stark, is retaining WPRO radio (neither is it acquiring KTRH, KTRK-TV's radio affiliate). WPRO-TV is on channel 12.

Other Capital Cities TV stations are WTEN(TV) Albany and WKBW-TV Buffalo, N. Y., WTVD(TV) Durham, N. C. and WSAZ-TV Huntington, W. Va., all VHF and one UHF, WDCD(TV) Adams, Mass.

ASCAP members eye \$38 million melon

Members of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will benefit from \$38,374,584 in net revenues garnered by licensing organization in 1966.

Financial figures were released at ASCAP's West Coast membership meeting in Los Angeles.

Record monetary melon for ASCAP writers and publishers comes as result of all-time high gross revenues of \$46,-580,626 and comparative all-time low expenses of \$3,829,621. Although ASCAP does not identify income from TV-radio, it is generally understood broadcasting accounts for 85% of take.

Addressing meeting, ASCAP President Stanley Adams vehemently attacked rival Broadcast Music Inc. organization. Among other charges, he said BMI's broadcast survey system is "the greatest invitation to payola that exists anywhere."

Hawaii-Japan by Lani Bird

ABC International said Friday (Feb. 24) that ABC-TV affiliate KHVH-TV Honolulu broadcast over five-day span special programs live via Lani Bird satellite to NET in Tokyo for daily *Norio Kijima Morning Show*. which usually originates in Tokyo. Programs originated as remotes from various locations in Hawaii. Hawaii-Japan telecasts were conceived by Kenichiri Matsuoko, executive vice president of NET. Pickups from various landmarks in Hawaii were sent Sun.-Thurs., 1:30-

2:30 p.m., Hawaiian time, and received in Japan, Monday-Friday, 8:30-9:30 a.m. (one day lost in crossing international dateline).

'Full and open' access sought in Speck trial

Voice of broadcasters was heard Friday (Feb. 24) protesting restrictions placed on news coverage of Illinois murder trail.

National Association of Broadcasters President Vincent Wasilewski added his voice to chorus of protests from print media on coverage of Richard Speck trial in Peoria (see page 82). Speck is charged with murder of eight Chicago nurses last summer.

Mr. Wasilewski said several modifications of original court order "fall far short" of TV-radio objections. "The very right of the accused to a fair trial," he added, "is more likely to be served by public knowledge than by secrecy." Deploring court imposed restrictions, he said, "nothing less than full and open access, subject only to reasonable ground rules to preserve dignity and decorum within the courtroom" will be acceptable to TV-radio.

Earnings are up

Columbia Pictures has achieved comfortable increase in earnings for first six months of current fiscal year, it was reported Friday (Feb. 24) by A. Schneider, president. Columbia Pictures owns 89% of Screen Gems Inc., TV film syndicator and group broadcast owner (KCPX-AM-FM-TV Salt Lake City, WVUE[TV] New Orleans, and WAPA-TV

San Juan and WOLE-TV Aguadilla, both Puerto Rico).

For six months ended Dec. 31, 1966:

	1966	1965
Earnings per share	\$0.66	\$0.18
Income	1,370,000	443,000

Beefing up schedule with documentaries

ABC is announcing today (Feb. 27) new weekly TV series of six one-hour documentaries, all in color, as summer replacement for *ABC Stage 67* in Thursday, 10-11 p.m. EDT period. Six other shows selected from past ABC News-produced telecasts will be shown. Episodes start June 1 under overall title of *Summer Focus*.

ABC News will also produce six new shows. As announced by Thomas D. Wolf, ABC vice president and director of TV and documentary programs, first in series will be "The Young Drug Users," new exploration of teenage drug addiction. Five other new documentaries are "These Crazy Americans" (humorous foibles in this country); "Take a Deep Deadly Breath" on air pollution in major world cities; "Southern Accents: Northern Ghettos" on migration north of Negroes; two political specials based on political conventions to be held next year.

Reruns include, among others, "I

High Cotton

Station representation made *Congressional Record* last week. Rep. T. R. Kupferman (R-N. Y.) in remarks inserted in *Record* appendix, paid tribute to Edward Petry & Co. Inc. for its trade ad campaign demonstrating extent to which its TV station list, in cooperation with Advertising Council, had donated public service time for such efforts as mental retardation, forest fire prevention, Red Cross, Community Chest and other projects.

Inserted in *Record* was list of 37 TV stations repped by Petry, along with statement on campaign crediting Martin L. Nierman, Petry president, as its inspiration, with execution by Robert L. Hutton Jr., Petry promotion and advertising vice president, and Wesley Advertising, Petry agency.