Edwards for \$325,000. Mr. Danner is a Nashville businessman whose interests include a shopping center, a restaurant, a real estate business and a manufacturer of electronic systems. Mr. Edwards has 20% interest in KAAY(AM) Little Rock, Ark. WDVH is a daytimer on 980 kc with 5 kw.

- WDBL-AM-FM Springfield, Tenn.: Sold by Mrs. Hoyte Bell and William N. Locke to W. J. Webster Jr. for \$235,-000. Mr. Webster owns wyfy-fm Columbia, Tenn. WDBL(AM) is a daytimer on 1590 kc with 1 kw; wdbl-fm is on 94.3 mc with 3 kw and an antenna 215 feet above average terrain.
- WXOX(AM) Bay City, Mich.: Sold by Patrick J. Trahan and others to Philip W. Agree and Edwin Schreiber for \$210,000. Sellers own wstr-AM-FM and 80% of Michigan CATV Inc. both Sturgis, Mich. Mr. Agree owns a furniture manufacturing firm and has interest in a mechanical contracting company and a trailer park. Mr. Schreiber has interest in an investment company and an electrical supplies firm. Wxox is a daytimer on 1250 kc with 1 kw.

Turner, Rice merger gets FCC blessing

The merger of Atlanta-based broadcasters Turner Communications Corp. and Rice Broadcasting Co. was approved last week by the FCC. Through the transaction, valued at an estimated \$3 million, group-owner Turner has acquired its first TV station—Rice's WJRJ-TV Atlanta.

Turner President James Roddey said that about 1.2-million shares of Rice stock would be issued to Turner at the exchange rate of about three-and-a-half Rice shares for each Turner share. Rice will change its name to Turner Communications and the merger will result in the present Turner stockholders owning about 77% of the surviving corporation. The merged corporation will have about 1.6-million shares outstanding, he said.

Principals of publicly held Rice Broadcasting include Jack M. Rice, chairman of the board, and W. Robert McKinsey, president. R. E. Turner III, who controls Turner, will be chairman of the board of the merged corporation and own 48.2% of its stock; Mr. Rice will have 6.8% interest.

Turner owns wGow(AM) Chattanooga and recently acquired wTMA-AM-FM Charleston, S.C., and wMBR(AM) Jacksonville, Fla., from Charles E. Smith in a deal aggregating about \$1.5 million (BROADCASTING, Dec. 8). Mr. Smith will own 7.7% of the new corporation.

In approving the transfer of control of WJRJ-TV by a unanimous vote, the commission waived its three-year hold-

ing rule since the Rice group was able to show that the channel-17 independent has had substantial losses since it went on the air in September 1967. For the nine months ended Sept. 30, Rice had a loss of \$303,399 or 84 cents per share on revenues of \$586,711. In 1968 it had a loss of \$287,381 or \$1.36 per share on revenues of \$262,810.

Capital Cities splits radio-TV, print divisions

Capital Cities Broadcasting Corp., New York, announced last week separation of its operations into a broadcast division and a publishing division.

Joseph P. Dougherty, who has been in charge of all radio and television stations operated by the company, was named president of Capital Cities Broadcast Division. Stations in the division are: WTEN-TV and WROW-AM-FM Albany, N.Y.; WPRO-AM-FM Providence, R.I.; WTVD(TV) Durham, N.C.; WPAT-AM-FM Paterson, N.J.; WKBW-AM-TV Buffalo, N. Y.; WJR-AM-FM Detroit; WSAZ-AM-TV Huntington, W. Va.; KPOL-AM-FM Los Angeles; and KTRK-TV Houston.

Heading the new Capital Cities Publishing Division as president will be Daniel B. Burke, who rose to executive vice president of Capital Cities after having served in executive posi-

tions with wten-tv and wjr-AM-fm. The division includes Pontiac Press Co. and Fairchild Publications which merged with Capital Cities in May 1968. The publications are: Women's Wear Daily, Home Furnishings Daily, Daily News Record, Footwear, Supermarket News, Electronic News, Metalworking News and Men's Wear.

Mr. Dougherty and Mr. Burke will continue to report to Thomas J. Murphy, president and chief executive officer, Capital Cities Broadcasting Corp.

WAPI-TV to become full-time NBC-TV

WAPI-TV Birmingham, Ala., and NBC-TV have signed an affiliation agreement. A formal announcement last week by the network and station said the VHF outlet (ch. 13) will become a full-time primary affiliate of NBC on May 31.

At present, and until the end of May, WAPI-TV programs both NBC and CBS-TV (about equally in all day parts). CBS officials said CBS-TV had no plans in the Birmingham market.

The new agreement by NBC and WAPI-TV was announced by Donald J. Mercer, NBC vice president, station relations, and E. R. Vadeboncoeur, president, Newhouse Broadcasting Corp., the station owner.

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