Homemade Color TV Set

Carl Beckman of Naperville made a color converter for his 7 inch black and white television set with odds and ends costing only $8.20. The string in his right hand controls a wooden brake which controls the speed of the motor to achieve perfect synchronization. (Story on page 1 of this section.)
BUILDS HIS OWN
TV COLOR SET
AT COST OF $8.20

BY ANTON REMENIH

The most popular man in Naper-
ville today is Carl W. Beckman,
34, the man who "made" a color
Television set with odds and ends
costing $8.20.

He is the only man in the subur-
burb, and perhaps the entire Chi-
cago area, who can watch the
Princeton-Navy football game in
color over WBKB today while re-
clining comfortably in an easy
chair at home with a glass of milk
in hand. Beckman expects a lot
of friends who haven't been around
much lately to knock on the door
and say: "Just passing by and
thought I'd say hello. How are
you, Carl, old pal?"

Beckman, assistant manager of
a roofing company in Cicero, was
inspired to convert an old 7 inch
black and white TV set to color
after reading a "how to do it"
article in a science magazine.

"Contraption Barred by Wife"
"Mine is a Rube Goldberg con-
traption," he chortled. "My wife,
Eileen, won't let me play with it
in the living room. She calls it
'The Thing' keeps it in the base-
ment. But it works.

Converting any black and white
set to color requires two basic
operations. The set must be adapted
to reduce the number of lines on
the screen from 240 to 480. Becks-
man accomplished this simply by
adding three resistors in the right
places.

The second requirement is a tri-
colored spinning disk in front of
the picture tube. Beckman bought
some red, blue, and green cel-
lophone, cut six segments, and fas-
tioned a 5 inch circle, using trans-
parent tape to hold it together.
For rigidity, he pressed the cel-
lophone circle between 1/16th inch
layers of plexiglass.

An old washing machine motor
(one-fifth horsepower) spins the
disk. The motor's natural speed
was 1,250 r. p. m. In Beckman re-
duced rotation to 1,440, the speed
required for color TV synchroniza-
tion, with a belt and pulley ar-
angement. Perfect synchroniza-
tion is achieved with a simple
hand braking device on one of the
pulleys.

Motor from Junk Heap
"Something like braking a team
of horses down hill," he said.

Here is the cost breakdown:
plexiglass, $5.50; belt, $1.40; pul-
ley, $1, and cellophane, 30 cents.
A neighbor contributed the res-
sistors. Beckman found the motor
in a junk heap.

Beckman will be able to pick up
today's Princeton-Navy game
either in black and white or color
simply by throwing a small double
pole switch.

How does Beckman's "home-
made" set work? He checked it
on INSGBS (channel 2) which
periodically is transmitting color
test patterns.

"It works fine," he said. "Col-
ors are bright. I'm delighted. My
neighbors are amazed. And my
wife is flabbergasted. She never
thought I had it in me."
TELEVISION PROGRAMS FOR TODAY

CHICAGO TELEVISION CHANNELS
WGN-TV—9  WNBT—5
WWRN—7  WBKE—4

9:15 A.M.
7—Magic Screen
4—Aces on Faces
3:30 A.M.
9—Magic Carpet
7—Jr. Circus
15—Ed McConnell
16—Movie for Kids
4—Bob Alacher

10:20 A.M.
7—A Date with Judy
4—Kiddy Showtime
11:00 A.M.
3—Feature Film
4—The Big Top
11:20 A.M.
7—Theater of Romance
5—Dizzy Dean
11:45 A.M.
9—Pre-game show
4—Pre-game show
12 NOON
5—World series
3—World series
4—Film
12:50 P.M.
4—Princeton vs. Navy
2:00 P.M.
5—Illinois vs. Wisconsin
2:30 P.M.
4—Gridiron Multiscope
2:45 P.M.
9—Powerhouse of Sports
3:00 P.M.
9—Empire Theater
4:15 P.M.
9—Post-game show
3:00 P.M.
17—Lucky 7 Ranch

SPECIAL TV EVENTS
12:30 p.m.—[4]—Football. Princeton vs. Navy. In color only.
2:00—[5]—Football. Illinois vs. Wisconsin.

4:30 P.M.
3—Nature of Things
4—Still P. M.
5—Bob Conliffe
5:00 P.M.
2—Inside story
4—Toni Kemp
5:15 P.M.
4—Western Theater
5:30 P.M.
7—Willie the Whopper
5:30 P.M.

17 WFLN—TV—HAIL THE CHAMP. Fresh, fast, free!
3—New TV show for kids and for the whole family. Popular HERB ALLEN enacts a head coach while youngster competes in sports and races, with
wires and to the fun and excitement. "Hail the Champ," presented by Charles, candy of Jelly
4:30 P.M.

3:30 P.M.
5—Television Digest
4—Mr. Wizard
5:15 P.M.
4—Patricia Bowman

6:00 P.M.
7—Pet Shop
5—Barber Boys Only
6—Chicago Playhouse
5—Hammy Kaye

8:30 P.M.
7—Range Rider
6—One Man's Family
9—Best of the Week
7:00 P.M.
9—Saturday feature
6—Whitman TV Teen club
5—All Star Revue
4—Ken Murray

8:00 P.M.
7—Leisure in Safety
6—Show of Shows
5—Faye Emerson

8:30 P.M.
7—Wrestling
6—Maywood Harness Racing
5—Show Goes On

9:00 P.M.
[4]—Crime Photographer
9:30 P.M.
[4]—WBNR—TV—REBECCA presents "MRS. & MRS. KUFF" starring Jean and Elena Rappaport, with their guest star BETTY J. KEAN

[10]—Wrestling (cont.)
[11]—Hit Parade

[10]—WRESTLING TV: "STUDGEBURGER TELE-MOVIE TIME," a picture in which mystery solved and true story of the master in the starting feature film "The Return of the Ace Man," starring Berta Lasky and John Carroll, presented by your local Studgburger dealer.

10:00 P.M.
[10]—Wrestling (cont.)
[11]—Word of Life Seagline
[12]—Grand Marquee, Ill

10:20 P.M.
[12]—Veep Playhouse

11:00 P.M.
[10]—WGN-TV—Saturday Night Movie Dale: "CONFIDENTIAL.
"lassie case—heist action! G-Men expose crook "numbers" racket in New York. See Lubitsch LOBBY,
ion. Presented by the Three Great Gloom Furniture House.

11:30 P.M.
[13]—WBNR—TV—Before Mid
ight: Mystery film. Prize jackpot.
[14]—Holiday Inn, 3641 Archer Ave.

12 MIDNIGHT
[14]—Night Owl Movies