CBS Color Drum

Another type of apparatus designed to bring color television to the home TV receiver is the CBS Drum color filter. This device is comprised of nine color filters alternating in red, blue and green. The device resembles a drum 18 inches long with a 20 inch diameter.

The picture tube around which this color drum revolves is mounted stationary inside the drum by a special bracket that is attached to the axle of the drum. The lead wires and all electronic connections necessary for the operation of the picture tube are made through a hollow core in the axle of the drum filter.

The drum revolves at 960 RPM and is powered by the 1/10th hp motor mounted on the side of the drum. This motor is quite visible in photos on the reverse side. The chassis for the set is at the bottom of the cabinet. There is no special rewiring necessary because the color drum does the work of color separation of the specific red, blue and green signals sent out by the transmitter.

With this type of unit it is possible to bring color to sets of any size without greatly increasing the size of the cabinets. Most cabinets will accommodate this color drum without any change whatever because they all have some extra room at the sides of the standard TV sets. The same principles of operation of the CBS color system apply on this unit as explained in the earlier discussion of CBS system in this Color Television section. This drum control is a development to bring color TV to bigger screens without the necessity of large, cumbersome cabinets.
Closeup of the rear of a TV set with new CBS color drum. Note drive at right of drum used to drive the drum around stationary picture tube. Connections to photo tube are made through hollow shaft on axle of drum color filter.