

COLOR COMMITTEE FORMED FOR VIDEO

Radio Makers Seek to Set Up Basic Operation Standards and Extend Telecasting

Plans for the formation of a National Television System Committee were announced yesterday by the Radio Manufacturers Association. Purposes of the group will be to attain industry-wide agreement on technical developments needed for the expansion of television to all sections of the country and for the establishment of basic standards which will bring color television to reality.

The committee proposes to cooperate closely with the Federal Communications Commission, which will resume hearings in February on color television and later upon the extension of television service to new sections of the country and to areas that are inadequately covered at present. The committee will make regular reports to the commission and will be available for the study of special problems.

Dr. W. G. Baker, vice president of the electronics department of General Electric Company and director of the R. M. A.'s engineering department, will be chairman of the new committee. Donald G. Fink, editor of Electronics, and David B. Smith, vice president in charge of engineering and research of Philco Corporation, are vice chairmen. Leading authorities from qualified technical societies, from broadcasting companies and from member and non-member companies in the manufacturing field will be invited to participate.

Concerted Action Needed

Raymond C. Cosgrove, president of the R. M. A., said in creating the committee that while color television is not yet ready for commercial application, laboratory development has progressed to the point where pooling of information and concerted action from all sources is essential for creation of standards which will eventually bring it out of the laboratory and controlled broadcast stage and into the home.

"Television manufacturers are eager to present color to the public just as soon as research and field testing have made it practical for broadcasting and home use—but not before," he emphasized. "In the meantime, it is believed that the committee will be able to assemble the data necessary to letting all sections of the

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country enjoy the benefits of television, and not just selected areas."

Appointment of the group follows a meeting in New York of the R. M. A.'s television committee, headed by Max F. Balcom, vice president of Sylvania Electric Products, Inc. The new committee, it was agreed, would be charged with assembling technical data on the allocation of channels in the unused ultra-high frequencies; procedures which will enable the FCC to lift its present "freeze" on very-high frequency allocations, and basic standards for the future development of a commercially practicable color television system.