

C. B. S. COLOR VIDEO FAVORED BY BOARD

But the Federal Commission
Defers Choice as It Strives
for Way to Adapt Sets

STARTS POLL OF MAKERS

Seeks to Learn if Black-White
Receivers Will Be Equipped
to Permit Switching

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
WASHINGTON, Sept. 1—The Federal Communications Commission declined today to adopt final standards for color television. It released, however, a report strongly favoring the Columbia Broadcasting Company's color television method.

The report declared that "the color systems of the Radio Corporation of America and Color Television, Inc., fell short of the Commission's criteria for a TV color system."

If a decision had to be made immediately, the report noted, the Commission would agree that the C. B. S. method met the criteria of a color TV system. The postponement of a final decision was agreed upon, however, to find a method of coordinating the C. B. S. color system with the present black and white television.

Toward this end the commission recommended the so-called "bracket standards," or one which will coordinate the current black and white standards with the proposed C. B. S. standards. This, the report suggests, could be accomplished by equipping new TV receivers with automatic or manual switches that would receive black and white telecasts but could change over instantaneously to the C. B. S. proposed method.

C. B. S. System Mechanical

The C. B. S. system is mechanical, involving the use of a motor-driven disc. R. C. A. and Color Television, Inc., offer methods based entirely on electronics.

The commission, in its report, requested manufacturers to advise whether they would provide new receivers with the suggested switches. It noted that if the commission was assured that a great majority of TV sets would be so equipped it would adopt the monochrome bracket standards as final.

On the other hand, the report noted, if the monochrome bracket standards could not be made final without a hearing, or if the response from manufacturers was insufficient, the commission would not be in a position to postpone a color decision inasmuch as a lack of decision would then aggravate increasingly the compatibility problem. Should the decision be forced immediately, the commission declared, it would adopt the C. B. S. field sequential color standards.

Should the monochrome bracket standards be adopted, the commission will postpone the color decision indefinitely and will propose that color standards be adopted on the basis of the C. B. S. system, with the same bracket standards applicable to color.

Would Invite Field Tests

In addition, field tests would be invited toward improving horizontal detail in the picture in both black-and-white and color.

Today's action by the commission does not rule out the submission of other color methods. The report specifies that proponents of color systems different from that of C. B. S. may deliver representative receivers to the commission's laboratory for test and study by Dec. 5.

Each of the three rival companies has announced that it would freely license its system to other manufacturers of broadcasting and receiving equipment on a royalty basis. It has been estimated that the royalty and patent rights would amount to as much as \$150,000,000.

The seven members of the commission voted unanimously in favor of the report generally. Commissioner Robert T. Jones dissented in part.

Divergent Reactions

Yesterday's announcement by the Federal Communications Commission was hailed by Frank Stanton, president of Columbia, as a "gratifying victory."

The Radio Corporation of America said that it was "confident" its color system eventually would be approved over all others. Dr. Allen B. Du Mont, president of Allen B. Du Mont Laboratories, Inc., said that "it looks as if the F. C. C. agrees with our premise that color is not ready for commercialization at the present time."

Mr. Stanton asserted that "we are proceeding promptly with plans for broadcasting C. B. S. color television programs to the public," adding: "We plan to be on the air with twenty hours per week of color television programs within thirty days after the commission makes its final decision."

The Radio Corporation of America would not comment on whether it would build color television sets having the Columbia system if the commission made a final decision in favor of Columbia.

Dr. Du Mont recalled his testimony at hearings in Washington, that if the commission adopted the Columbia system his company still would not build color sets until it had perfected a color tube on which it was working. He reiterated yesterday that perfection of this tube was still five to seven years away.

If the Columbia color system is finally adopted as the standard by the commission all existing receivers will be obsolete in their present form, unable to receive color broadcasts in even black and

REMAINS OF AN EARLY CORINTHIAN DYNASTY



Part of the colonnade and row of thirty-three taverns unearthed by the expedition sponsored by the American School of Classical Studies in Athens and headed by Prof. Oscar Broneer. In front of the tavern was a broad colonnade supported by seventy-one doric columns, four of which can be seen in the picture. Beyond was a row of a hundred bronze statues, but only the pedestals remain.



A jar, showing the forepart of a horse, from about 575 B. C.



Prof. Oscar Broneer
The New York Times

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white, which would be allowed by the Radio Corporation method.

Columbia color broadcasts would show up only as a blur on present receivers. To bring in the broadcast in black and white an adapter would be necessary. Nearly a year ago Columbia told the commission that the cost of such an adapter would range from \$15 to something more than \$35.

In addition to the adapter a converter would be required for existing sets to receive color programs in color. The price of the converter, Columbia told the commission, might be \$50 to \$70.

There are no late estimates on what color television receivers might sell for, but last October Columbia told the commission that a ten-inch color receiver could be made to retail for \$220.

Microwave System in Operation

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

CHICAGO, Sept. 1—The world's longest radio microwave relay system, a heavy-traffic telephone and television "super-highway" between Chicago and New York City was opened today. The Korean war caused the cancellation of a dedication ceremony and cloaked the system in wartime secrecy, officials said.

The \$12,000,000 project of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company spans 838 miles and consists of thirty-three reinforced concrete towers ranging up to 200 feet in height. Each contains amplifying equipment and supports horn-shaped antennas that beam signals like a spotlight from one tower to the next with the speed of light.

The relay system is expected to be used immediately by the four major television networks, which heretofore have shared a coaxial cable between the two cities and intermediate points. With the lead taken off the cable, networks can pipe more shows back and forth between the Midwest and the Eastern Seaboard.

In addition to several video programs, the microwave highway can carry hundreds of simultaneous two-way telephone conversations.

The principal function of the towers, spaced about twenty-five miles apart, is to lift each antenna on a line with the next, because microwave signals, light light, travel only in straight lines.

With the tremendous amplification made possible through the horn-shaped radiators developed at A. T. & T. laboratories, signals are relayed with a transmitted power of only one-half watt. Without the horns, a transmitter rated at 25,000,000 watts (now an impossibility) would be required to produce an equivalent signal.