

dustries Inc., Des Plaines, Ill., has introduced new flying-spot cathode-ray tube for use in color-slide scanners. Rank says it has 30-second warm-up time, 10db increase in signal-to-noise ratio and 100% increase in tube life.

**Cutting up.** Tapecaster TCM, Rockville, Md., producer of broadcast and CATV cartridge tape equipment has announced new and inexpensive device for locating splice in endless loop cartridge tape. TCM model SL-1 splice locator costs \$75. 12326 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Md.

**Has Dolby.** Advent Corp. has announced availability of model 202 stereo cassette player incorporating Dolby system of noise reduction, as well as special playback equalization switch to permit use of ferrite or chromium oxide tapes. With frequency range of 30 hz to 15,000 hz, plus or minus 2 db, machine uses standard 1 3/4-ips speed, contains fully automatic shut-off at end of reel. Device is consumer product that is capable of being used for over-the-air broadcast, according to manufacturer. Price is \$129.95. 195 Albany Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02139.

**The 500.** Slide projector that can hold up to 500 standard (2x2 inch) slides, that changes slides in half second, and that has two, 1,200-w tungsten halogen lamps, providing for virtually instantaneous lamp replacement, is to be announced soon by Spindler & Sauppe Inc. Called Selectroslide 900, unit delivers 3,500-lumen output with f/2.5 lens. Provision also is made for rear-screen projection. Late this year, film-chain version is due. Price is not yet set but is in neighborhood of \$1,400. 13034 Satcoy Street, North Hollywood, Calif. 91605.

## 8 Chicago TV's reject Sears plan

**Say switch of antennas to new building is not satisfactory long-term solution to interference problem**

Sears, Roebuck & Co. is encountering opposition from most of Chicago's television stations in its attempt to soften the potential effect of its new 110-story headquarters on TV reception in that city.

Seven broadcast operators representing eight of Chicago's 10 TV stations, joined last week in a statement criticizing Sears's latest proposal as "neither a temporary nor a long-term answer" to the problems that may be posed by the Sears tower.

Sears has proposed to reinforce its tower to permit the installation of 350-foot antennas on top, and has asked the Federal Aviation Administration to approve the plan (BROADCASTING, May 1). Two Chicago TV stations, WLS-TV and WCUI-TV, joined in that petition to FAA and would move to the Sears building if it's approved. The others are now situated atop the John Hancock building—which the Sears tower will surpass as the city's tallest.

Representatives of those stations said

last week that the Sears assertions concerning possible effect on reception have not been tested by station consultants; that raising of the present height maximum, as requested of FAA by Sears, would only lead to another taller structure and another request some time in the future; that the stations now on the Hancock building have each made a "substantial financial investment" and committed themselves to a long-term lease at that location; and that the use of translators to ameliorate potential problems, as proposed by Sears, is "not a practical solution."

Additionally, the stations said: "We believe the question of television reception in Chicago is of extreme, but equal importance to each station. Any solution that is beneficial to some, but not equally to all, cannot properly respond to the public interest."

The broadcasters proposed an alternative solution. They urged Sears to reduce the height of its building by 250 feet and proceed with its already announced plans to use special treatment of the upper floors to lessen the problem of reflection.

Joining in the statement were the licensees of WBBM-TV, WMAQ-TV, WGN-TV, WFLD(TV), WCFL-TV, WSNS(TV) and commonly licensed noncommercial stations WTTW(TV) and WXXW(TV).

## Betty Boop in color

Feature House, New York, a TV program distributor, claimed last week that a new film process will enable it to release to TV shortly 100 Betty Boop cartoons in color, though they were originally produced in black and white.

A Feature House spokesman said a new company, Color Systems Inc., New York, has developed a film process that converts old black-and-white film to color. The Betty Boop cartoons were produced in the 1930's by Max Fleischer and released theatrically by Paramount.

The principals in Color Systems Inc. are veteran program executive Eliot Hyman and Donald Klauber, who are board chairman and president, respectively, of Feature House.

## Hughes gets new life in argument with AT&T

The FCC has opened the door for further litigation in a lengthy proceeding involving a complaint and request for damages against AT&T by Hughes Sports Network over the phone company's tariff policies.

The commission granted the HSN appeal of an FCC review board 1970 decision in 1970 that dismissed HSN's pleading for damages totaling \$140,419.50 from AT&T (BROADCASTING, Sept. 7, 1970). The review board had ruled that while AT&T's tariffs for part-time users of its TV interchange channel service were "unjust, unreasonable and discriminatory"—and therefore illegal—there was no basis for awarding HSN monetary relief. HSN sought the recovery of five-eighths of the total amount charged it by

AT&T in 1964-65, claiming that while it was only using the service about three hours a day, it was being charged for the full eight hours—minimum AT&T charge for service at that time.

On appeal, HSN had argued that it is entitled to reparation because the rates had been determined illegal. The commission agreed. It ruled, however, that the amount of damages to be assessed still must be decided, and remanded the case back to the hearing examiner for further deliberation.

## Programing power to the people

**Quadrant Communications puts hopes for new source of children's shows in cable-less, sound-sync film system**

A lightweight super-8mm synchronous sound-filming system, said to offer high-quality performance at low cost, has been developed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology scientists and will be the centerpiece of a new approach to children's TV programing by Quadrant Communications Inc.

Quadrant is a new organization formed by Jeremy Gury, formerly deputy chairman of the board in charge of creative services for Ted Bates & Co. and still a creative consultant to the agency. Mr. Gury is chief stockholder and executive director (there is no president or chairman) of Quadrant, in which MIT also has an ownership interest.

Quadrant has the exclusive franchise for distribution and sale of the new cable-less sync system and in addition will use it in a fellowship program to encourage student filmmakers to produce for children's television.

The new camera with its associated audio gear is expected to sell for approximately \$1,500, according to Mr. Gury, as compared with about \$12,000 for a standard hand-held Bolex with sound. Although he plans to use it first in association with universities to expand programing for children, Mr. Gury also sees widespread uses for the system in television news and other TV programing and in a variety of educational, scientific, medical and other contexts.

The hardware, in Quadrant's description of it, "is so lightweight, so simple to use, so inexpensive, yet so versatile in its adaptability to video tape, video cassettes, video disks, 16mm and 35mm film, that it will change the whole ethos of filmmaking."

The system was built to specifications developed by Richard Leacock, the noted film documentarian, who is now professor of cinema at MIT. It is said to use available equipment with minor modifications and quartz crystals providing the controls that eliminate the need for an umbilical cord connecting the camera (a standard Nizo in the prototypes) with the sound recorder (a Sony cassette recorder). Thus camera and recorder can operate at widely separated points and