MINOW RESIGNS: HENRY APPOINTED CHAIRMAN

Newton Minow has announced his resignation as chairman of the FCC, effective June 1. President Kennedy has announced the appointment of E. William Henry as chairman to replace Minow. Henry, 34-year-old Memphis attorney was appointed to the FCC last September by the President. At the time of his appointment to the Commission Henry indicated that he felt there is room for improvement in television programming and that it is up to the industry to provide it. However, he added that the government should act if the industry doesn't.

Asst. Attorney General Lee Loevinger has been appointed by President Kennedy to fill the vacancy on the FCC created by the resignation of Minow. Loevinger has been in charge of the antitrust division of the Justice Dept. Loevinger, an expert on corporate law, was formerly a lecturer in business law at the University of Minnesota.

STATUS OF ETV FACILITIES ACT

The Senate-House conference committee on the omnibus 1963 supplemental appropriations bill (which includes funds for the ETV facilities act) has agreed on a deficiency appropriation of $1,500,000 to implement the ETV bill, and the supplemental appropriations measure is at the White House awaiting signature as this is written (May 16).

The $1,500,000 agreed to by the conference committee includes $40,000 for administration of the act. This will require a reduction in the size of the proposed staff which, while not necessarily harmful for the balance of fiscal 1963, will make it more difficult to enlarge the staff again to the desired size in the appropriation of fiscal 1964.

The 1964 appropriation has had hearings before both the House and Senate committees, and the House committee has reported it out favorably at $5,000,000 (HEW had requested $7,000,000). The Senate committee has not yet reported, but the general reaction at the time of the hearings was favorable and no difficulty is foreseen.

EDUCATIONAL STATIONS EXEMPT FROM NEW LICENSE FEES

On May 8, the FCC announced that a schedule of fees for the filing of applications in most of its licensing activities will become effective January 1, 1964. However, such fees will not apply to noncommercial educational applications by tax exempt organizations. Thus, as the NAEB had requested, this exemption applies to educational stations whether they operate on reserved or non-reserved frequencies. The fees are expected to bring in about $3.8 million a year which, under law, must be turned over to the U.S. Treasury.
It was erroneously reported in the Washington Report for March 15 (Vol IV, No. 5) that a petition seeking the addition of 1 VHF and 4 UHF channels for ETV use in Pennsylvania had been filed by the Pennsylvania ETV Network Study. Actually, this petition was filed at the request of, and on behalf of, the Pennsylvania Dept. of Public Instruction.

The state ETV plan for Penn., framed by the Dept. of Public Instruction, is the result of ten years of local initiative, careful engineering, and educational surveys and studies. The Ford Fdn. supported, one-year ETV Network Study was of considerable help in formulating the overall state plan, but was not the sole force as the earlier story in the Washington Report might have indicated.

The FCC has granted a petition by the State of Kansas Com. on Education of the Legislative Council, and extended from April 22 to June 24, time to file opposition to petition by Tulsa B/cg. Co., for reconsideration of Nov. 8, 1962 Report & Order in Docket 13860 which assigned Ch. #8 to Hutchinson, Kans.

FCC PROPOSES NEW UHF ETV CHANNELS FOR PUERTO RICO & VIRGIN ISLANDS

FCC has announced proposed rule making to add following reserved UHF channels:
Puerto Rico - Aguadilla #33, Caguas #59, Fajardo #41, Ponce #27, San Juan #75, Utuado #71;
Virgin Islands - Charlotte Amalie #24, Christiansted #22. In the same action, the Commission proposes the addition of 19 non-reserved channels in Puerto Rico (deleting three already assigned) and four in the Virgin Islands.

VINCENNES UNIV. ENTERS CATV FIELD

Vincennes (Indiana) Univ. will construct and operate two community antenna systems (in Vincennes and Washington, Ind.) as a means of financing an ETV station. A consulting firm retained by the University two years ago to explore the economic feasibility of operating a commercial UHF station (with a substantial portion of programming in ETV), recommended that while operation of a UHF station would be uneconomical, the University could enter the CATV field since Vincennes area was suitable for such a development. The Univ. has petitioned FCC to reallocate Ch. 52 to Vincennes and reserve it for ETV. Ch. 52 was formerly assigned to Princeton, Ind., operated commercially for less than a year, and is now inoperative, and its equipment has been donated to the University.

MISCELLANEOUS FCC ACTIONS

Granted (May 1) CP to WCDR-FM, Cedarville (Ohio) College to change frequency to 90.1 mc.

Granted (May 6) CP to the Univ. of Maine for a new non-commercial ETV station on Ch. 10; ERP 299 kw visual and 149.5 kw aural; antenna height 1090 ft.

Granted (May 6) CP to WNTT(FM), Winnetka (Ill.) Bd. of Bd., CP to install a new antenna.

On May 6 waived Sec. 3.613 of the rules and granted mod. of CP to KLKN (TV), Southwest Texas ETV Council, to change studio location to Univ. of Texas campus, Austin, Texas.

Granted (May 7) CP to Central Michigan Univ., Mt. Pleasant, for a new non-commercial ETV station on Ch. #14; ERP 14.8 kw visual and 8.5 kw aural; antenna height 530 ft.

Granted (May 9) CP to WMBI-FM, Moody Bible Inst. of Chicago, to install new antenna and increase ERP to 50 kw.