



CANADA

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PRIVATE TV NETWORKS FOR CANADA

During its meeting in Calgary, Alberta, in May, the Board of Broadcast Governors issued the following press release referring to television networks. The Board's purpose was to make it clear that, if in the view of the second television stations recently licensed, network arrangements would assist them to implement their plans and to provide an improved quality of service, it would be the wish of the Board to facilitate such arrangements:

"During the public hearings on second television licences, the Board has heard of conversations between applicants regarding exchange of programmes among licensees unaffiliated with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The Board is also aware of projected plans to serve second stations with programme material.

PROGRAMME EXCHANGE

"In the opinion of the Board, the production problems of individual stations can be eased and the quality of programming of second stations generally can be improved by arrangements for the exchange of programmes between them and the production of programmes for distribution among them. This service can be provided in part by the use of video tape; but other possibilities should be considered.

"Distribution of programmes by video tape does not constitute a network as defined in the regulations, and arrangements for the distribution of programmes by this means can

proceed without reference to the Board. Under the Radio (TV) Broadcasting Regulations, a network is defined as 'an organization or arrangement employing electronic connections (including connections by Hertzian waves and cables) between two or more stations for the presentation of programmes, but do not include the operation of a licensed satellite station'.

"The Board believes that, if the linking of second television stations by network on a basis which would be consistent with the provisions of The Broadcasting Act is feasible, the necessary arrangements should proceed as rapidly as possible so as to be of the maximum service to the stations which will go on the air shortly.

"Following the meeting of the Board to be held in Ottawa in the week of June 20, the Board will announce some general conditions which, in the opinion of the Board, a permanent private television network should meet.

"At a meeting in September, the Board will hear representations on these conditions and also applications which may be presented to the Board for the operation of a private network, subject to such conditions as the Board may prescribe in keeping with the purposes of the Broadcasting Act.

"Applications for the establishment of a private television network must be received by the Board not later than August 1, 1960, if they are to be heard at the meeting in September."

(Over)