

Synod, St. Louis.

He also urged the religious broadcasters to "get into the mainstream of the growth" in order to reach the expanding population around the world.

Dr. Ralph Neighbour, producer of the *Morning Sunshine Hour* broadcasts from Elyria, Ohio, praised radio as a medium of spreading the gospel.

This was the largest meeting ever held by the NRB, with 174 members registered for the convention and the largest audience for any one session at 207 (the FCC luncheon, see page 55).

Charles M. Stone, manager of the radio code of the National Association of Broadcasters, drew parallels between the broadcasters who adhere to the codes and the religious broadcasters.

He reported a survey conducted by the NAB on religious programing. The survey showed:

- 74% of broadcasters present live broadcasts of church services,
- 33% present delayed broadcasts of church services,
- 88% present ministers or other representatives of churches in studio broadcasts,
- 94% present special programs of a religious nature, and
- 69% broadcast programs, while not specifically of a religious nature, that do have religious application.

And he urged the religious broadcasters to join with the commercial stations in fighting for the maintenance of broadcasting as "an instrument of free expression in the true tradition of American democracy."

The only new officer for the association is Dr. Roberts, who was named secretary, succeeding Dr. Bartlett Peterson of the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Mo. Dr. Peterson had served as secretary for six consecutive terms.

Re-elected to fill their posts were: Dr. Bertermann, president; Dr. Thomas F. Zimmerman, general superintendent, Assemblies of God, Springfield, first vice president; Rev. Willis Mayfield, manager of radio division, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, second vice president, and Rev. Stanley N. Whitcanack, producer of *Showers of Blessings*, Church of the Nazarene, Kansas City, Mo., treasurer.

NBC to divert funds to other sports events

NBC-TV will drop its Sunday afternoon *Sports in Action* series on June 5. The series presents an anthology of sports events.

Carl Lindemann Jr., NBC Sports vice president, said the move did not signify either a sports cutback or lack of interest. He said the money allocated

to the series, an estimated \$2.5 million in rights to various events, would be used more productively for top sports events for the network.

He said the network might seek broader avenues for certain attractions that have appeared in the series, such as several outstanding track and swimming and diving meets held in this country and figure skating competitions in Europe. He indicated that for the most part, however, rights to various events in the series, broadly lumped together as sports, were overpriced.

N.J. announcer beaten unconscious on the air

An announcer for WTTM Trenton, N. J., was beaten into unconsciousness by assailants while he was conducting a telephone-interview program late last Wednesday night (Jan. 26).

The broadcaster, Robert Goldman, attributed the attack to persons who had previously called in to object violently to some of the political opinions expressed on his weeknight *Open Mike* program by himself and his guests. In recent weeks he has voiced opposition to the war in Vietnam and has also attacked the John Birch Society and the Ku Klux Klan.

Before passing out, Mr. Goldman cried: "I can't get up. Won't someone please help me? Someone please help." Trenton police responded to the first of an estimated 2,000 phone calls they received from listeners.

Mr. Goldman was taken to a nearby hospital, treated briefly, and returned to WTTM to make a special half-hour broadcast at 1 a.m. (WTTM usually goes off the air at midnight). Mr. Goldman appeared on several special programs the next day (Jan. 27), and was back on the air that evening with his show.

Mr. Goldman, who was alone in the studio at the time, said he did not recognize his attackers.

Station owner Herbert Scott offered a \$500 reward for information leading to the conviction of the attackers.

Senator Harrison A. Williams (D-N. J.) later commented in Washington: "There is no excuse for this vicious criminal action." He said that the attack was more than just a fight with a broadcaster with whom a listener disagreed. "It's an attack on the basic fiber of American life," he explained.

Senator Clifford P. Case (R-N. J.) said that the act was "an intolerable thing." He added: "I don't know what he [Goldman] said, and I don't know him, but anybody who would attack someone in this fashion for whatever reason, including the unpopularity of one's views, is intolerable. . . ."

Comic book company sets up TV arm

To cope with increasing traffic along the comic-book-to-TV-program route, National Periodical Publications, New York, has formed a department for development and production of its properties for TV.



Mr. Ducovny

Allen Ducovny, former producer-director for NPP's *Superman* radio series and more recently a vice president in charge of radio and TV at D'Arcy Advertising Co., has been elected vice president of the department. Mr. Ducovny will handle business for the first property exchange, *Batman*, now an ABC-TV program series, and will act as executive producer for an animated color series, *The New Adventures of Superman*, for CBS-TV next fall. Another NPP property, *The Adventures of Aquaman*, is being planned for syndication in color by Superman TV Corp., the NPP distribution subsidiary.

Film sales . . .

Girl Talk (ABC Films): WFIL-TV Philadelphia and WBNF-TV Binghamton, N.Y. Now in 49 markets.

Bold Journey (Banner Films): WJKS-TV Jacksonville, Fla., and KCTO (TV) Denver.

Tarzan Features (Banner Films): KPIX(TV) San Francisco; WDIO-TV Duluth, Minn.; WNEM-TV Bay City-Saginaw, Mich.; WGHP-TV High Point, N.C.

The March of Time (Wolper Productions Inc.): KLAS-TV Las Vegas; KOLO-TV Reno; KLZ-TV Denver; KETV (TV) Omaha; WFRV(TV) Green Bay, Wis., WIRL-TV Peoria, Ill., and WFGA-TV Jacksonville, Fla.

Dodo-The Kid From Outer Space (Embassy): KQVR-TV Sacramento, Calif.

Sons of Hercules (Embassy): WFTV (TV) Orlando, Fla.

Adventure 26 (Embassy): WCAU-TV Philadelphia.

Volume 8 (Seven Arts): WMAR-TV Baltimore; WAII-TV Atlanta; WGHP-TV Greensboro, N.C.; WKTV(TV) Utica, N.Y.; KHOL-TV Kearney, Neb.; WLEX-TV Lexington, Ky.; KMED(TV) Medford,