

television today

The Paper Everyone In TV Reads

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'Destroying tv's national character' PLEA FOR COMMON MARKET

Brett award for Francis Coleman

NEW holder of the Leonard Brett Award presented to the ATV producer or director for a consistently high standard of work — is Francis Coleman, and also produced the three documentary programmes featuring the builders and architects of the Victorian era: "Steam and Stained Glass", with John Betjeman. The trophy, which is awarded twice a year, was founded in memory of Leonard Darke Brett, an ATV Executive Producer who died in 1959. Coleman—born in Canada—previously worked for CBC and for Granada.

Souvenir

Lew Grade—Deputy Managing Director of ATV—presented the award, a bronze plaque featuring two hands, at a reception held in London last Friday. Francis Coleman will hold the plaque for six months and he also receives a cheque for £25 and a souvenir tankard.

Judges for the Brett Award are the Executive Production Council of ATV and any kind of programme has the chance of obtaining the award.

ATV say a trophy could be won by a Director of an ad mag or the Producer of a full-scale light entertainment show.

The "Ici la France" series has been networked on ITV's Schools Programmes.

SAFEGUARDS

THE Federation of Film Unions has endorsed a statement of principle urging that if Britain joins the Common Market the safeguards necessary for the tv industries and film production be secured.

Approved at the Brussels conference of Trade Unions and Professional Organisations, the statement of principle was endorsed unanimously by the Federation.

It read: "The application of the principles of the Treaty of Rome to film production and tv would risk destroying their national character and thus expose them to domination from which they had been protected to some extent by national aid laws and may at the same time also prove to be detrimental to tv and films and in the non-contracting countries; the participating organisations will therefore make immediate representations to all appropriate trade union, governmental organisations in order to secure the safeguards which are necessary."

Commenting this week on the dangers to tv if Britain enters the EEC without adequate safeguards to the film and tv industries, secretary of the Federation—George Elvin—said programmes were at present predominantly British and presumably under exist-

ing conditions European tv programmes and films would be deemed to be British.

This would expose Britain to many "glorified international" programmes of inferior quality.

As he understood it, the tv and film industries had similar fears about the Common Market.

On films, he said: "If protective measures were abolished in Britain's dealings within the European Community, America would almost certainly claim under GATT that she is breaching that Agreement to maintain similar protective measures against her."

"Whilst expressing no opinion on Britain's entry, or not, into the Common Market which each affiliated Trade Union will determine for itself we are united in insisting that it would be disastrous if steps are not taken to maintain existing aids to film production and protection through their industrial agreements and other existing measures to all those engaged in making Britain's films."

ATV open up on Summer Variety

ATV's light entertainment production section is now working at full blast with the recording of new shows for transmission this summer.

A new Morecambe and Wise series of nine programmes will begin on Saturday, June 30; a new Lonnie Donnegan series has been taped for transmission from July 6 to August 10; and Bernard Delfont's Sunday Show from the Prince of Wales Theatre will replace "Val Parnell's Sunday Night at the London Palladium", the last performance of which will be shown on June 24.

The Morecambe and Wise series has been recorded on similar lines to their last

series with sketches in each show and guest appearances by singers and trad bands. Among the guests who will be appearing in the nine programmes are Kenny Ball, Acker Bilk, Teddy Johnson, Pearl Carr, the Kaye Sisters, and the Beverley Sisters.

The Bernard Delfont shows will start on July 1 and run through to the autumn. The first will be a taped Chipperfield Circus programme and this will be followed by a Tommy Steele show on July 8.



The story — "The Yellow Pill" — has been dramatised for tv by Leon Griffiths.

Musicians' dispute over tv commercials

THE Musicians' Union will meet the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising and the Association of Specialized Film Producers today in a bid to settle the dispute over fees paid to musicians playing music for tv commercials.

Assistant general secretary of the Musicians' Union (Mr. T. Anstey) is hopeful that agreement will be reached although no fees have been mentioned so far in the dispute.

"We have been trying to get better conditions for the people who play the music for the commercial tv advertisements for six years now," he said. "Actors who do jingles get paid a fee which covers 10 performances. After that they get paid varying amounts for each block of 10."

However, musicians only get paid a single fee at present, he explained. The jingle could then be repeated as many times as the advertiser liked but the musician would receive no additional fee.

"The minimum fee is £6 for not more than three minutes of music," said Mr. Anstey.

The union has instructed its members not to accept contracts after the end of this month unless agreement is reached in today's negotiations.

From STV to CBC

JOHN BOWIE DICKSON, assistant chief engineer at Scottish Television Ltd. in Glasgow, is leaving this week to take up an appointment with C.B.C. in Canada. He will be based on Montreal.

BBC-tv have exclusive Isle of Man TT coverage

BBC-tv will screen exclusively the highlights of the 1962 Isle of Man TT races soon with a team of 30 cameramen, sound recordists, race-readers, and secretaries.

The film will be flown from the Isle of Man to Manchester daily. All the filming will be handled by North Region staff, and will be transmitted from Manchester.

Commentators are Murray Walker and George Carr, with Victor Bernard as the interviewer. The TT team will be headed by North Region producer Alan Hart.

AUSTRALIANS IN NEW A-R PLAY

ON June 26th A-R transmits "Lean Liberty", written by Alan Seymour, set in Australia, and concerned with tolerance of opinion. The author, the director Raymond Menmuir, and Bruce Stewart, who plays the lead, are all Australians.

Bruce Stewart has done plenty of acting on the stage and radio before coming to England, but in the last few years has concentrated on writing.

His tv plays include "Shadow of a Pale Horse" and "The Watchmen of Saul". He has also written a new play, "The Sin Shifter", scheduled for ABC-tv, and the book for a musical version of G. K. Chesterton's "The Man Who Was Thursday".

world's first regular public high-definition television.

In 1954 he received the Faraday Medal for his work in television. He is a director of E.M.I.

He now favours the adoption of the Continental 625-line system.

Honours for tv men

ISAAC SHOENBERG—'shy pioneer of tv'—has been given a Knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Another award went to BBC-tv's Director, Kenneth Adam, now a C.B.E.

Shoenberg was born in Pinsk, Russia, in 1880, settled in England in 1914.

He led a team of scientists and engineers who developed the 405-line electronic system used by the BBC in 1936 for the

Television comes to Sierra Leone

JACK HARDY, a director and general manager of Scottish Television Ltd., has flown to Freetown to launch television in the new independent country of Sierra Leone.

New stations will provide news and current affairs, adult educational and schools programmes, and live entertainment, using the talent of the countries concerned.

Special

Scottish Television technical staff have designed the Sierra Leone station, as well as arranging for Pye to supply the equipment to special specifications.

There will be three studios in the projected single-storey building—one for production, and a second for presentation, and

the other for education subjects. The cost is estimated to be in the region of £60,000.

The transmitter is located at the village of Aberdeen, eight miles out from Freetown.

It is expected that, when Sierra Leone goes on the air in the early autumn, transmissions will last for three-and-a-half hours a day for a start.

Sierra Leone became independent in April 1961, and is the third of the United Kingdom's West African territories to have home rule after Ghana, and the Federation of Nigeria.