

Commonwealth pioneers fiber optic phone system



FIRST CALL-Commonwealth Telephone Company President William J. Umphred places the first call over the fiber optic system to Alex Mercure, assistant secretary of agriculture of rural development, who received the call in Washington, D.C. Observing the call are, left to right: Alan C. Walker, product and marketing manager, Farion Electric; Kenneth P. Ray, vice president and director of transmission operations, ITT Transmission Division; Richard L. Allen, staff engineer, National Telephone Cooperative Association; Umphred; William L. Bird, chief, engineering branch, Northeast Area-Telephone, Rural Electrification Administration; and Donald C. Smathers, vice president-Engineering, Commonwealth Telephone Company.

Commonwealth Telephone Company's field application of one of the first T-3 fiber optic systems in the United States was placed into operation recently. The fiber cable will initially carry 480 voice and data transmissions over a 13 and a half mile span of cable between Wellsboro and Mansfield, located in Northcentral Pennsylvania.

Work on the \$409,000 project began in October of last year when the underground and aerial portions of the cable were installed using much the same tech-

niques as conventional copper cable installation. This project is funded in part by a research grant from the United States Department of Agriculture's Electrification Administration.

During the past winter Commonwealth personnel monitored the cable to determine effects of temperature change, wind, ice and frost. This system is part of the network carrying all long distance calls from Tioga County to destinations throughout the United States. It has the ability to carry 672 simul-

taneous conversations over two glass fibers the size of human hairs.

Fiber optic technology has its roots in 19th Century England with the discovery by physicist John Tyndall that light was guided along an arc by a stream of water. Simple glass fibers were first used for image transmission in the 1930's and the technology continued to flourish during the 1960's.

The rapid growth of communications in the

1970's brought with it a host of new applications for conventional fiber optic assemblies. Today, fiber optic communications is the growing area of communications technology.

Among the advantages of fiber optic transmission are noise immunity, safety and security. Transmission, or the carrying of voice and data messages over fiber optics eliminates the need for isolation protection in a high voltage area. They are also not

susceptible to electromagnetic or radio frequency interference. They do not act as antennae for lighting, nor do they pick up surges from nearby lightning flashes.

"Fiber optic technology is expected to facilitate the company's entry into the provision of broad band services including cable television, electronic mail and shopping and banking by telephone," William J. Umphred, president of the company, added.

PUC okays phone stock transfer

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) approved an application made by Commonwealth Telephone Company to transfer all outstanding common stock of Commonwealth Telephone Company to Commonwealth Telephone Enterprises, Inc.

Commenting on the PUC's action, Andrew J. Sordani, III, Commonwealth Board Chairman noted, "The PUC's decision marks an important step in Commonwealth's efforts to establish a holding company structure." Sordani went on to state that consummation of the transaction is subject to the

obtaining of certain rulings from the Internal Revenue Service and the satisfaction of certain other conditions which the company fully expects to satisfy.

"Commonwealth Telephone Company believes the holding company organizational structure to be the most effective corporate form in which to diversify and meet competition in the communications field and to participate in the rapid growth which is expected for the communications industry," Sordani noted.

Upon receipt of all required approvals, a date will be set to finalize establishment of the holding company.

ONLY YESTERDAY

Utilities sold

50 years ago-June 22, 1929
Dallas-Shavertown Water Companies sold to Inland Utilities Corporation as part of big public utility merger.

Fernbrook's new baseball team swamps Demunds 17-2.

Married-Ruth Elizabeth Turn and George J. Reynolds; Louise Scorey and Emmett A. Small; Peg Oberts and William LaBar; Katherine Jane Knarr and Therace L. Knarr.

Now playing at local theatres-"A Woman of Affairs", John Gilbert, Greta Garbo, Himmler Theatre.

You could get-Butter 52 cents lb.; coffee 39 cents lb.; mayonnaise 9 cents jar; strawberries 8-oz. can 9 cents; dill pickles 24 cents qt.; muffets 12 cents pkg.

40 years ago-June 16, 1939
German Mike Fieger, his American-born wife and two children, without so much as an "Auf Wiedersehen" to friends and neighbors, left Hillside last Wednesday night to return to the land of his birth, Germany.

Two 10-horse-power motors on a temporary pump burned out this week when Dallas Water Company attempted to check the flow on its new 365-foot deep well on Center Hill Road.

Engaged-Ellanor Machell to William A. Brickel; Helen Himmler to Alva A. Eggleston; Onnolee Sunderland and J. Karl Wolfe.

Now playing at local theatres-"Dodge City", Errol Flynn, Olivia DeHavilland, Himmler Theatre.

Deaths-Joshua Rood, Dallas.

You could get-Pork loins 12 1/2 cents lb.; skinless franks 16 cents lb.; sugar 10 lbs. 47 cents; coffee 2 lbs. 47 cents; bread 2 lvs., 15 cents; eggs 2 doz. 37 cents; fig bars 2 lbs. 15 cents; potatoes 29 cents peck; carrots 5 cents beh.; iceberg lettuce 2 hds. 15 cents; tomatoes 2 lbs. 19 cents.

30 years ago-June 17, 1949
Auction workers sort and store nine truckloads of merchandise in Risley's barn.

Engaged-Helen Irene Stookey to Thomas C. Ide; Wilma Jacqueline Rowlands to Bert Fennell, Jr.; Charlotte Jones to Robert Oley.

Married-Ethelwyn Williams and Thomas E. Hontz; Betty Klopko and Howard Shook; Sarah Jane Wright and Thomas Calhoun.

Deaths-Miss Blanche Mosier, Kunkle; Edward Metzger, Shavertown; Nicholas Cave, Dallas.

Anniversary-Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Hadsall, 50 years.

Now playing at local theatres-"Phantom of the Opera", Nelson Eddy, Lon Chaney, Shaver Theatre; "Nocturne", Star-Lite Theatre; "Let Us Live", Maureen O'Sullivan, Henry Fonda, Ralph Bellamy, Sandy Beach Theatre; "The Kissing Bandit", Frank Sinatra, Himmler Theatre.

You could get-Hams 55 cents lb.; veal roast 55 cents lb.; sharp cheese 21 cents pkg.; margarine 2 lbs. 41 cents; tomato catsup 18 cents bot.; coffee 44 cents lb.; rye bread 15 cents lf.; frozen whole strawberries 39 cents lb. pkg.; frozen mixed fruit 39 cents pkg.; cranberry sauce 35 cents can; pineapples 19 cents each; Bing cherries 29 cents lb.; celery 19 cents beh.

20 years ago-June 18, 1959
Dallas Post becomes new member of audit bureau of circulation.

Dr. Irving Berger is elected president of Dallas Lions Club.

Dallas Borough sixth grade students went to Philadelphia on a class trip Mrs. Raymon R. Hedden entertains members of the library auction antiques committee.

Engaged-Jane Lohman to Donald Hinkle; Irene

Rose Maransky to Robert E. Lamoreaux; Lavonna Sue Anderson to Leon Whitesell; Mildred Mae Katchmar to Robert Stanley Scruitsky.

Married-Joyce Elaine Husted and Lewis B. Thomas, Jr.; Carol June Bennett and Gary Gunther Bligh.

Deaths-Andrew Bittenbender, former Dallas resident; John Klasek, Lake Silkworth; Ralph M. Wildoner, Hunlock Creek.

You could get-Legs of lamb 59 cents lb.; shrimp 79 cents lb.; smoked picnics 29 cents lb.; Seaside limas 10 cans \$1. sliced American cheese 2 8-oz. pkgs. 49 cents; eggs 2 doz. 33 cents; Italian dressing 8-oz. bot. 37 cents; cantaloupe 19 cents each; 10 years ago-June 19, 1969

School director Andrew Kozemchak urged that the school district take a hard line policy with Trucksville Theatre; "Let Us Live", Maureen O'Sullivan, Henry Fonda, Ralph Bellamy, Sandy Beach Theatre; "The Kissing Bandit", Frank Sinatra, Himmler Theatre.

Engaged-Carol Dunger to Michael Robert Devlin. Married-Arline M. Covert to James A. Wertman; Karen Walk and Robert L. Brown.

Deaths-Peter F. Roushey, Dallas; Mrs. Mary H. Williams, Shavertown; Charles J. Mulligan, Trucksville; Charles A. Grifed, Trucksville.

Dallas Twp. awards contract for ballfield

Sullivan Park Construction Company, Exeter, was awarded a contract in the amount of \$14,600 to construct a baseball field in Kunkle by the Dallas Township supervisors at their regular meeting last week. The supervisors also agreed to hold completion of the bleachers, infield and outfield fences, the concession stands until additional funds are available. A backstop for \$885 is included through a grant from the Luzerne County Community

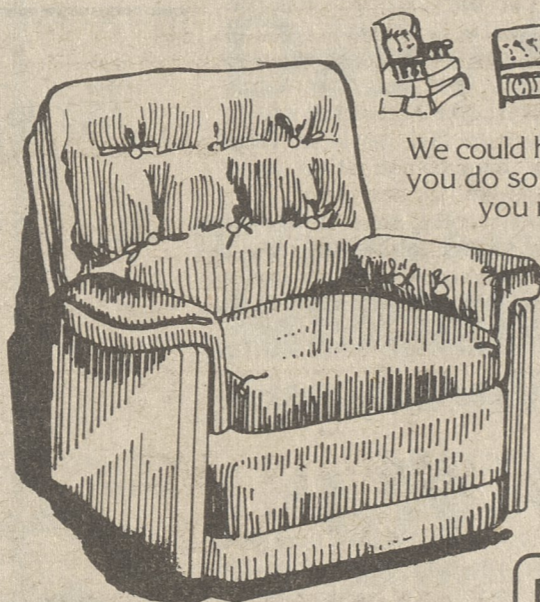
Development Program. Police chief Carl Miers indicated in his report that the CETA-employed police officers are in their seventh week of a 12-week course at the Northeast Police Training Center. The officers will graduate July 6.

Miers also stated that there were 242 incidents reported to the police during the month of May.

The supervisors will hold their bi-monthly meeting, June 18, followed by the planning commission meeting.

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Choice Boneless Bottom ROUND ROAST lb. \$2.09	Kraft Parkay Quarters MARGARINE ... 1-lb. 53¢
Choice Boneless RUMP ROAST lb. \$2.19	Grape JELLY ... 2-lb. 89¢
Dish Detergent DAWN ... 22-oz. btl. 89¢	32-oz. MIRACLE WHIP ... \$1.29
Johnson's SCRUNGE ... pkg. of 2's 2/\$1.00	Deli Specials
Liquid Cleanser COMET ... 14-oz. cnt. 2/79¢	Wilson Sliced CHOPPED HAM lb. \$1.59
Liquid Detergent DOVE ... 32-oz. btl. \$1.09	Wilson's Sliced COOKED HAM lb. \$1.89
Assorted Napkins VIVA ... size 140 2/\$1.09	Frozen Specials
PRODUCE	Table Treat SANDWICH STEAKS ... 32-oz. \$4.69
California BROCCOLI ... bunch 79¢	Birds Eye PEAS ... 10-oz. pkg. 2/79¢
California PLUMS ... 2 lbs. \$1.00	Birds Eye CUT CORN ... 10-oz. pkg. 2/79
MacIntosh APPLES ... 3 lb. bag 99¢	Welch's White GRAPE JUICE ... 24-oz. btl. 75¢
California LETTUCE ... head 39¢	Nabisco Premium CRACKERS ... 1-lb. 57¢
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