EDWIN H. COLPITTS, 77, retired vice-president of Bell Telephone Laboratories and inventor of the Colpitts oscillator circuit, died on March 6. Dr. Colpitts held 24 patents and was noted for his work with magnetic coils, his efforts in adapting electron tubes for

long-distance telephone circuits, and his studies of capacity unbalance between adjacent telephone-line pairs.

Dr. Colpitts' telephone work began in 1899 when he joined the American Bell Telephone Company. He worked with the Armed Forces in both World Wars.

A. ATWATER KENT, at one time world's largest manufacturer of radio receivers, died in California March 4, at the age of 75. Atwater Kent's original radios were perhaps the only broadcast receivers ever to use "breadboard" mounting. Beautifully finished components were mounted above the board, and the wiring was carried in grooves on its underside. Turning to more conventional sets, he stepped his production up to a peak of 6,000 receivers a day, selling $60,000,000 worth of sets in 1929.

DR. HARVEY RENTSCHLER, retired director of the Westinghouse experimental laboratory at Bloomfield, N. J., died March 23 at his home in East Orange, N. J.

Dr. Rentschler had carried on experimental work with lamps and electronic tubes since 1917, when he joined the Westinghouse staff. Before that he had been a professor of physics at the University of Missouri for nine years.

He was the author of numerous contributions to scientific publications, chiefly on electronic tubes and electric lamps, and was the holder of more than 100 patents, most of them in those two fields.

Possibly Dr. Rentschler's best-known invention is the Sterilamp, the ultraviolet light that destroys bacteria in the air. Less well known, but even more spectacular, was his feat of refining the first uranium used in the development of the atomic bomb.

OBSOLESCENCE OF TV SETS will not be a problem, said Wayne Coy, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission last month. The statement was believed to be a reply to the many rumors that present television receivers would be useless in the near future if u.h.f. channels are adopted.

"The Commission would not be taking the time to revise the standards for the presently available service," said Mr. Coy, "if it had in mind eliminating in the near future the use of these channels for television service.

"I think this question of obsolescence of television receivers is something of a tempest in a teapot. I do not think that anyone buying a television set today has had a fraud perpetrated on them. I can assure them that wherever a television signal is available from a v.h.f. transmitter, their sets will render them fine service for many years and can be converted to render fine service for them if ultra-high frequencies are utilized. . ."

TELEVISION ANTIQUES are already in existence, it appears. Last month's National Antiques Show at Madison Square Garden in New York featured American items of every description—pre-revolutionary pottery, Pennsylvania Dutch cupboards, 19th century ball gowns, to mention a few items.

Right in the middle of the show, occupying its own small spot, was a 1938 RCA television receiver, one of the first commercial models made. Without radio or phonograph and able to tune only five channels, the 1938 set sold 11 years ago for $850, almost twice what a modern combination instrument would cost on today's market.

WINDOW TV ANTENNAS may become more widespread in New York City as the result of a ruling in Bronx Supreme Court last month. Joseph Einson, a tenant in an apartment house, was in court with landlord D. Greenstein, Inc., to determine whether Mr. Einson's window antenna—objected to by the landlord—should remain. Justice Eugene L. Brisach ruled that it might remain, provided the tenant obtained liability insurance ranging from $10,000 to $20,000 to protect the landlord in case of any accident attributable to the antenna.

WWVH is the call of the new Bureau of Standards station recently established on the Hawaiian island of Maui. Time and frequency standards are being broadcast experimentally on 5, 10, and 15 mc. As with WWV, the Bureau's main station in Beltsville, Md., WWVH is modulated with a standard 440-cycle A, as well as audio pulses at accurate 1-second intervals. The audio tone starts at the hour and continues for 4 minutes, followed by 1 minute of silence; this sequence is repeated throughout the hour. Greenwich Mean Time is given in code every 5 minutes. All transmissions are interrupted for about 4 minutes on the hour and half-hour and for about 30 minutes at 0700 and 1900 GMT.