
MEDIA

Television

Obscenity Penalty

CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex. (AP)—A television corporation was fined \$4,000 Tuesday after pleading guilty to federal obscenity charges stemming from a closed circuit telecast of the New York stage play "Oh! Calcutta" last September.

U.S. District Judge Owen Cox dismissed charges, however, against the president and three other officials of Colormedia Corp., who were named in the indictment last May.

It alleged the closed circuit transmission violated an 1873 law forbidding transport of obscene matter by common carrier in interstate transport.

The indictment, announced by Attorney General John N. Mitchell last May, characterized "Oh! Calcutta" as "obscene, lewd, lascivious and filthy."

At the time, the government said the charge did not permit to local showings of the play, only to interstate transportation.

Colormedia, which handled the taping and transmission of the controversial Broadway show on Sept. 28, 1970, could have been fined a maximum of \$5,000. The show was transmitted to cities across the nation.