

Government to stop telephone monopoly

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government Wednesday accused the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. of monopolizing telecommunications service and equipment in the United States and asked a federal court to order the firm to sell off major subsidiaries.

The Justice Department made the charge in a civil anti-trust suit filed in U.S. District Court here.

AT&T, the world's largest privately owned corporation, was accused of violating the Sherman Act through a variety of tactics to squelch competition.

Western Electric Co., Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of AT&T, and Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., owned equally by AT&T and Western Electric, also were named defendants.

The announcement came shortly after the Securities and Exchange Commission announced suspension of all trading in AT&T stock. The commission made the suspension effective as of 3 p.m. Wednesday and until 10 a.m. Thursday.

Government antitrust lawyers asked the court to order AT&T to divest itself of Western Electric and to split the subsidiary into two or more competing firms if necessary to assure competition.

Western Electric manufactures and sells telephones and other telecommunications equipment.

The suit also asks that AT&T be forced to separate all or part of its Long Lines Department from some or all of the Bell operating companies.

The legal attack on the Bell System, which provides more than 80

percent of the nation's telephones, culminated a lengthy investigation by the department's antitrust division.

On Monday, eight companies involved in the sale and leasing of telephone-terminal equipment filed a \$900-million suit charging AT&T and some of its subsidiaries with antitrust violations.

The suit was filed in U.S. District Court here against AT&T, the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company here, the Western Electric Co. and Bell Telephone Laboratories.

The Justice Department's suit may be the most significant ever filed by the department in terms of its impact on the giants of American business. But the outcome is a long time off.

Another major antitrust suit, against International Business Machines, is only now approaching trial even though it was filed about six years ago.

Atty. Gen. William B. Saxbe said of his decision to proceed with the AT&T suit, "I am fully aware of the

service that the Bell System has provided. Nevertheless I believe the law must be enforced."

The lawsuit said that AT&T, Western Electric and the Bell Laboratories, together with the 23 local Bell operating companies, "have been engaged in an unlawful combination and conspiracy to monopolize . . . interstate trade and commerce in telecommunications services . . . and equipment."

He continued: "We have carefully considered the possible impact of this litigation and the requested relief. Of course, the ultimate relief to be achieved will be for the court to decide."

The alleged conspiracy has given AT&T control over Western Electric, its manufacturing arm, Bell Labs, the research branch, and the operating companies with the effect of eliminating competition, the suit said.

AT&T has total assets of more than \$67 billion. Western Electric one of the nation's largest industrial corporations, had total 1973 sales of more than \$7 billion.

Hinojosa discusses Chicano literature

By JIM SULLIVAN Staff Writer

short stories, written from the viewpoint of the Mexican-American, Hinojosa-Smith said.

Because of increasing interest in ethnic studies, publishers are finding it profitable to print literature under the label "Mexican-American." The only trouble is that much of the "Mexican-American" literature is written by Spanish or English authors with university education in Spanish.

If "Mexican-American" or "Chicano" is in the title the race is on to get the thing published, Hinojosa-Smith said.

The earliest trace of Mexican-American Literature goes back to 1848. A Spanish newspaper started to include poems and other forms of creative writing. Hinojosa-Smith mentioned that Mexican-American Literature probably existed before then, but people were classified as Texans, Americans or Spaniards, ignoring those of Spanish descent who lived under American rule and influence.

Hinojosa-Smith proved to be both humorous and entertaining in his discussion of Mexican-American literature. He commented on the fact that he was a teatipper, saying, "I got my baccalaureate at the University of Texas at Austin, but I got over it."

Hinojosa-Smith said there is currently a renaissance in Mexican-American literature. Problems exist, Hinojosa-Smith says, in identifying where the literature really began and where it belongs. The Mexican American author is influenced by the American culture as well as the Hispanic (old world Spanish), yet his work is mistakenly labeled as Spanish literature.

It is becoming easier to find literature, poetry, novels, essays and

bãr'be-que, n. — a religious gathering wherein Chicanos are invited to participate in every two, four or six years, depending on the election of public officials. The barbeque meat is cooked by hot air.

Dr. Rolando R. Hinojosa-Smith, speaker for the Committee for Awareness of Mexican-American Culture Wednesday night, defined barbeque with a sharp twist of satire.

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