SCRAMBLE TELEVISION TO KEEP IT SECRET

Secret transmission of television images is proposed through a method with which an Eastern firm is experimenting. The image would be distorted optically by lenses at the transmitting end, so that ordinary television receivers in general use would get only a blurred and meaningless picture. But a receiver equipped with the proper lenses of secret curvature would be able to restore the image to its proper shape. In this way, it has been suggested, international conferences might be held privately without the need of any participant leaving his country, and business contracts could be executed with the parties meeting face to face by television. Methods have already been perfected whereby conversation may be "scrambled" for secret transmission, A system of electrical scrambling is now in use in transmitting point to point telephone conversations across the Atlantic ocean.

Popular Science, March 1932