

experiment on the conversion of a free resource into a toll or charge type of operation.

Now, Mr. Chairman, it is very clear that the proposal will not increase television services. As a matter of fact, a careful reading of the order and report of the Federal Communications Commission recently presented to the committee indicates that the Commission expectation is that the proposal will convert what is presently free television spectrum into pay or toll TV so that in effect a portion of the present spectrum will be siphoned out into television for hire rather than in affording new broadcasting opportunities.

So, what the fourth order and report will actually do will be to close much of the spectrum which is presently available to persons of the lowest income, and to deny them opportunity to the high quality programing the Hartford test says will not be forthcoming. Now, this fourth order and report, Mr. Chairman, is an extraordinary document. It asks congressional guidance. And I believe this committee can feel very free on that basis to scrutinize very clearly, and advise freely as to its will. I believe this committee can feel very free to come forward with appropriate legislative guidance to the Commission without concern on the *Pillsbury* decision.

It is interesting, and I believe the committee should note this, that that device is signed by only two of the seven Commissioners, and by one, who, while signing it did not endorse either the document or its contents.

Now, I believe another question of public policy that should arise is that subscription television will interfere with the implementation of public television. First of all, it will take Commission time. Second, it will compete for writers, technicians, artists, engineers, and other technical and engineering personnel now presently in short or in inadequate supply.

It will compete for public acceptance and viewers' time. It will also compete for money and investment. It will involve the Commission in matters of controversy which will preclude adequate fostering of public TV and also an adequate approach to an abundance of other problems which urgently require attention of the Commission. These should not remain swept under the rug while the Commission rambles so far afield to tilt with windmills like subscription television.

Public television, I believe, offers a much better device to get new quality programing and the type of programing which the Hartford tests prove that the subscription television cannot, will not, and does not give. I believe that the Commission and this committee should take vigorous action to see to it that public television is fostered. We should not allow the kind of outrage that we see being prepared for our people in subscription TV.

There are many questions that the Federal Communications Commission should better use its time with. Many are problems which have long been before it which urgently require solution.

First of all, there is the ancient and hoary problem of clear channels, one which has been around for as long as anyone can recall, and on which very little progress has been demonstrated of late. There is the problem of providing adequate service in the so-called white areas and the problem of inadequate service in many of the other areas in the radio AM band use.