

Mr. DINGELL. I did not endorse it, Mr. Chairman. I simply said I had no objection to it. If the Commission were to choose to authorize TV by wire, I said I would not have any objection on the basis of the knowledge that I have at this particular time.

We have, for example, CATV right now and under the orders of the Commission CATV can originate programing. This, to all intents and purposes, is really pay TV by wire already. It should, however, be most carefully controlled in this regard.

I would point out that neither the charges nor the practices in that particular industry are being adequately scrutinized by the Federal Communications Commission while they are tilting with this other windmill.

Mr. MACDONALD. The other question I was going to ask, Mr. Dingell, is this: Is it not true as I have heard and as has been sent to me in the mail that the AFL-CIO has endorsed the proposition of pay TV and the reason I ask this is because you used the phrase that this would just benefit the silk-stocking people and the AFL-CIO is not known for caring that much about the silk-stocking type of person, so-called.

Mr. DINGELL. I received a pronouncement from the AFL-CIO some time back which would tend to indicate that they have changed their position of opposition to subscription or pay TV. I must confess when I saw this I was very busy and I did not read the particular pronouncement with the care that I think it probably deserved.

I would just tell the committee my old dad was the founder of a trade union. His name is on the charter. He was discharged for union activity in 1914 and was sent west to die. So, I have a very strong pro labor philosophy.

But I recognize that the AFL-CIO is entitled to be wrong just like everybody else. I certainly would accord them that luxury. Although I have great regard for them and high respect for them, I do not propose to let them lead me into error, too. So, I am still opposed to it. I would have to say that I think even the AFL-CIO is entitled to a mistake every once in a while.

Mr. MACDONALD. The last thing I think we ought to clear up for the record.

I think in your statement you said just three Commission members signed the report.

Mr. DINGELL. That is the way I read it.

Mr. MACDONALD. Actually, those three members were a panel set up to report to the Commission.

Mr. DINGELL. That is right.

Mr. MACDONALD. It is my understanding that even though Mr. Wadsworth's position on it is a little ambivalent, the three did sign it and sent it to the Commission and then all members present, and I think the Commissioner yesterday said there were six present and one absent, did sign the final report.

Mr. DINGELL. That may be correct, Mr. Chairman.

I was most struck in reading the document that they submitted that two signed it and one appeared to hold his nose and sign it, Mr. Chairman. I couldn't get any more out of it than that.

Mr. MACDONALD. Mr. Van Deerlin.

Mr. VAN DEERLIN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.