

Mr. DINGELL. I am not trying to transfer it. I am trying to make clear where the authority lies, and it lies here, in this committee.

Mr. HARVEY. The effect of it would be a transfer and to relieve the FCC of any jurisdiction, let us say, and to put it in this committee.

Mr. DINGELL. To make it very clear that they have no jurisdiction. I challenge the fact that they do. I support strongly the jurisdiction of the committee and I think as a matter of public policy alone this committee should make the decision and not the Federal Communications Commission.

Mr. HARVEY. I subscribe wholeheartedly to that view and I have expressed it, myself, that I think it should be this committee and this Congress that should decide whether we have subscription television or not and not the Federal Communications Commission.

Mr. DINGELL. That is correct.

Mr. HARVEY. I have no further questions.

Mr. MACDONALD. Mr. Ottinger.

Mr. OTTINGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am glad to hear from my good friend from Michigan for whom I have the highest regard. Very few times in my career have we disagreed on anything but I think this may be the first.

I foresee the day, and I think very near in the future, when there will be available to the public the ability to select on their home television sets a wide variety of programs retrieved from a TV library, be it operas, symphonies, baseball games from the past, fights, whatever the viewer may desire. The television set will be hooked into a computer and you will be able to have a range of opportunity through your television set that is completely beyond your ability at the present time.

We will need a system of pay television to accomodate this kind of library-retrieval selection. The current experimentation will lay the foundations for this.

Mr. DINGELL. You want to remember this is not an experimentation. The "Fourth Order and Report" does not set out experimentation. There is no question but what under the act the Commission and under the resolutions of this committee, has authority to experiment. There is no experiment here. The FCC order looks to commercial STV.

Mr. OTTINGER. I would think that going forward to authorize a national pay TV system would be a very desirable development in terms of offering a range of opportunity to the home viewer and that it is something that should be considered.

I do not quite understand why the gentleman prefers that the public pay for its television through advertising, and it does pay, it pays in terms of additional prices that are charged for the goods advertised, rather than having them pay directly? The end result is having the TV screens of the Nation cluttered with advertising instead of offering a facility through which programs could be offered commercially without interruption.

Mr. DINGELL. First of all, I would say to my good friend we don't disagree very often and I have a very high regard for the gentleman from New York and he is a very valuable member of this committee and the Congress but, you know, since we are looking into the future and nobody really on this committee gets a crystal ball with their election certificate but I have tried to indicate the mischief that I foresee in this.