

tional channel on there that would not have to come out of the U or the V or any of the 1 through 56 or 75, whatever channels are now on the all-channel sets.

Mr. KORNEGAY. Thank you for coming to testify.

Mr. MACDONALD. Mr. Brown.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. Dingell, your bill, H.R. 12435, is not aimed at CATV?

Mr. DINGELL. No; it is most emphatically not. I recognize that CATV is now a reality. Although I had some doubt, although I had been critical of the Federal Communications Commission for not having adequately regulated it, it is not directed in that direction at all.

Mr. BROWN. I agree with you that Congress ought to speak on this subject and I gather that is the main thrust of your bill that you want it to speak negatively on the subject of subscription TV.

Mr. DINGELL. This is correct.

Mr. BROWN. I cannot see any reason for deferring this decision by the Congress or the FCC in anticipation of the FCC handling all its other problems first because I think we will never get around to making that decision.

You don't mean that do you?

Mr. DINGELL. I felt it is so low a priority that it can well be deferred to some time in the next century without any great loss to the public interest.

Mr. BROWN. It seems to me as long as we have started this hearing we might as well come to some resolution of the problem. I think it would be a waste of time to hear all this and then put it in limbo.

Mr. DINGELL. On that we are both in agreement. I certainly hope the committee will, in its wisdom, report out legislation which will prevent subscription television as contemplated in the fourth order and report.

Mr. BROWN. I understand you have no objection to the use of microwave and wire systems to have pay TV utilized through CATV outlets?

Mr. DINGELL. I really assert no objection to that at this time. But I feel it should be approached only after hearings by the FCC to explore all the circumstances.

Mr. BROWN. I find myself a little bit at a loss to understand how there would be siphoning off of talent and competition for writers, technicians, and FCC time, and so forth, if this were on the wire and not on the spectrum.

I don't understand that.

Mr. DINGELL. I think you have to come to the fundamental decision as to whether or not the free public airways which are presently misallocated—if you want to use the term—which are grossly overcrowded in some areas and which are entirely unused in others, should be converted to subscription television.

Mr. BROWN. I am talking about wire pay TV.

Mr. DINGELL. With regard to wire I have indicated I really have no objection. If we were to go to wire television we probably would have some siphoning off of those particular talents which I believe are in short supply in this country.

Mr. BROWN. Do you think wire TV would hurt free TV in the same way that it would hurt by the—

Mr. DINGELL. Not entirely, because different factors come into play.