

I come from Austria, we had wonderful subsidized theaters.

The subsidized theater in the United States has never existed and should not exist. It is not necessary. The people are interested enough to pay for their entertainment and to determine themselves what they want, not to have it determined by any bureaucrats.

I think that the best test would be to permit people to invest their money and to have pay television. Who can lose except the people who invest their money? I am quite sure it would be most successful.

The networks would not go out of business. They would also have better programs.

Mr. MACDONALD. Mr. Preminger, could I ask this question?

What would be the safeguard against pay television having a monopoly because under the order that the Commission put out there is just going to be one station in a metropolitan center that has already in operation five stations.

There will just be one. I would guess there could only be one successful pay TV network. What would be the protection there against the very thing you say that the networks do?

Mr. PREMINGER. I don't know why there should be only one but this pay television—

Mr. MACDONALD. Just economics I would think.

Mr. PREMINGER. We live in this kind of society. For instance, I understand that the networks have threatened us that they will not play any old pictures because they will play them on pay television. Fine. If pay television would pay me frankly \$700,000 for "The Man With the Golden Arm" I would sell it to them. I think it is my right. This is the system with which we live. I think it is a very good system.

There is freedom in this system I think. I think then ABC will pay more or less. That is what they are afraid of, competition, because between three people, although externally they fight each other and they have competition the competition is not very, very strong, you know.

I don't say, because I have no knowledge, that there are any secret deals but it is not as strong as if there were 20. Like the competition between seven big studios was it not as strong as it is now with hundreds of independent producers doing pictures.

Today a man who write a successful book gets much more money for the book because there are hundreds of people bidding for it, for the film rights, than he got when there were only seven or eight.

Mr. MACDONALD. Thank you.

Mr. Kornegay.

Mr. KORNEGAY. What did you say the name of that most recent production of yours was that was condemned?

Mr. PREMINGER. "Hurry Sundown."

Mr. KORNEGAY. Does that not sort of increase the popularity, such as having a book banned in Boston?

Mr. PREMINGER. No.

Mr. KORNEGAY. It does not?

Mr. PREMINGER. No. It upsets it. Maybe some more people go to see the movie because it is banned but also some people do not go. Otherwise, I don't think that the Catholic Legion of Decency would do it because they are very clever and very shrewd.