

can any broadcast station owner obtain such a monopoly under the multiple ownership policies of the Commission already in effect. While it is difficult to forecast all of the natural economic forces which might tend to mold the business forms of subscription television, it is impossible for us to conceive, under the operating proposals discussed herein, any immediate or reasonable prospect of monopolistic evils which would require governmental regulatory action. If, after the full play of the natural forces of competition, a condition now unforeseen should arise at some time in the future which would indicate any trend towards monopoly detrimental to the public, the Commission can always exert its present regulatory power to eliminate any anti-trust problems that may possibly arise.

XI. SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS.

As a result of the Hartford trial, the Commission now has before it significant and reliable data which serve as a basis for appraising the potentials of subscription television in other types of circumstances. The reasonable projections of subscription television's potential, as set forth herein, based upon the facts adduced during the Hartford trial support a rational premise that subscription television has the potential of making substantial contributions to our national television system.

At the same time, the empirical knowledge gained during the Hartford trial serves to refute many of the wild speculations advanced by uninformed and biased opponents of subscription television during the previous stages of this proceeding—e.g., that it is technically impossible, that the public will have no interest in it, that program charges will be exorbitant, that subscription programs will not differ from conventional television programming, that it will siphon away present conventional programs which are now available to the public without charge, that it will destroy free television and that, at best, it will be little more than a plaything for the very wealthy. Thus, the only remaining problems involving subscription television are primarily business and marketing problems, as contrasted to regulatory public interest problems. In the last analysis, our proposal is simply to let the public itself evaluate subscription television in the market place.

When the Commission acts under the statutory mandate to encourage new service, the new service contemplated by its regulatory action is not to be frustrated by the fact that no one can prove beyond the peradventure of a doubt exactly how far the new and untried