

to get it. If they were going to keep it off, didn't say anything more about it, just take it off television, I know what would happen. The baseball people would be down here in front of this committee and the FCC and we would be down here and the question would come up, what is going on? Why is this going off the air?

I am sure that if that happened it would cause the greatest hue and cry and be the greatest black eye that subscription television and/or baseball could get. I can't imagine anybody wanting to be a part of anything like that.

Mr. MACDONALD. Many industries take black eyes. You know, the oil depletion allowance is a concrete example; it gets a black eye every time Herblock or somebody wants to portray a cartoon about taxes. But they take the black eye and also take the 27.5 depletion allowance.

So, I can see where somebody who is commercially minded as obviously anyone who is in a business has to be, could take the black eye and then make trillions of dollars once you have locked up major league baseball, football, and for my area, at least, hockey.

Mr. WRIGHT. Mr. Chairman, this assumes that this committee is off some place and has no more interest in what is going on in this field and that the FCC—

Mr. MACDONALD. That won't be the case.

Mr. WRIGHT. I agree it won't be the case.

If they took baseball and football and these major things off television that have gotten on now this would cause the greatest outcry and you gentlemen would have sacks of mail that I am sure would overwhelm you and there would probably be a special session of the House as a result of it. Anybody that was involved in that sort of deal would, I am sure, rue the day. I know you can do something effectively about it.

Mr. MACDONALD. I don't want to use more of my time than I should have but the networks don't seem to have that same attitude. They black out sports events in certain areas and the Congress has not done anything about that yet although I hope we do.

Mr. WRIGHT. That is another question. I am no expert in sports. I know that George Halas of the Chicago Bears is not about to let those Bears games be telecast on free TV in Chicago.

Mr. MACDONALD. Why do you keep saying free TV? It is commercial TV.

Mr. WRIGHT. I accept your correction, sir. I wish the stenographer would amend it wherever I have said it and change it to commercial.

Sure, their park is full most of these Sundays when these teams are hot. But there come years, you know, that get a little lean.

Mr. MACDONALD. Not in the NFL. They sell out those parks whether lean years or fat years.

Mr. WRIGHT. I don't know how it is in Washington any more; I haven't lived here for years; but in Chicago the season tickets are inherited. They go down the line from grandfather to grandson.

Mr. MACDONALD. Even in Washington where the Redskins are not the best team, tickets are hard to get.

Mr. WRIGHT. We have people who get special trains organized to go from Milwaukee or some place and they spend \$50 a head to see those Bear games. What is wrong with putting those Bear games on at home with pay TV for a dollar if they can't get them any other way?