

CONCLUSION

We wish to conclude by citing the statement of Congressman Celler before the Federal Communications Commission in the oral argument upon pay television recently concluded by the Commission. Congressman Celler has summarized the situation in prophetic words :

"To summarize, careful study has convinced me that the conversion of any segment of the television spectrum to the service of toll television would increase viewers' costs and broadcasters' profits, and this without any substantial hope of producing any long-range improvement in programs. Free television, as we know it, may be downgraded to a secondary and economically untenable position. The best existing programs the public is accustomed to receiving without charge may be siphoned off. The trend, noted by the Antitrust Subcommittee, toward the monopolization of outstanding talent and program product will be accelerated. The television audience will be divided along economic lines. A method of broadcasting will be inaugurated that may drive free network television as we know it from the air-waves. The foreseeable result is a television system in which we will all be paying for much the same TV fare which now comes to us without cost."

We endorse Congressman Celler's statement and believe the points made therein should be adopted by this Subcommittee.

Mr. GAYNES. I would like to speak very briefly about some of the points made in the statement and first of all point out that we have filed with the Federal Communications Commission a number of comments on the pay TV rulemaking proceeding, two of them particularly responsive to the blue booklet which Zenith filed about the Hartford pay TV experiment.

Many of the arguments that we have made are contained within these comments. They also analyze the Hartford tests and indicate some of the weaknesses we find in it. I, therefore, beg leave to introduce these into the record as well.

I have given to the clerk whatever extra copies I had and wish them to be introduced in the record at this time.

Mr. MACDONALD. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The documents referred to follow :)