

The consequence to the lower income groups of a shift from free to pay television was considered in a recent study entitled "The Redistributive Effect of Television Advertising."<sup>25</sup> The authors, F. A. Lees and C. Y. Yang of St. John's University stated:

Our study reveals that in 1963, under the present commercial television system, all income groups in the United States experience a redistribution of income slightly in excess of one-quarter of 1 billion dollars. Conversion of the commercial system to an alternative system of pay television would result in a complete or nearly complete elimination of the benefits of this redistribution currently enjoyed by families with a disposable personal income of less than \$6,400. If a metered system of pay television were adopted the entire redistributive effect would be removed. If a flat-fee system were used a small amount of redistribution would continue to exist, but the size and direction of such redistribution would depend on the viewing pattern of subscribers. Conversion to a government-supported system could be expected to alter the redistributive effect, the extent of which would depend upon the relationship between viewing pattern and progressiveness of the tax structure.

#### IV. THE PROPONENTS MEASURE THE ALLEGED BENEFITS OF PAY-TV ON THE BASIS OF PROJECTIONS WHICH ASSUME A SUCCESSFUL SYSTEM. ITS IMPACT ON FREE TV, HOWEVER, IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE HARTFORD FAILURE

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From the very outset the Joint Committee has believed that Pay-TV would fail. Its continuing concern had a two-fold motivation:

- a) There would be a period of Pay-TV operation prior to its collapse during which the public interest — including the broadcast and theater industry — could be drastically affected.

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<sup>25</sup> The Economic Journal, Vol. LXXVI, June 1966, pp. 328-336. A copy of the article is attached hereto as Appendix A.