

range of programs, its service to shared tastes of small size but great intensity as well as to the great popular events that are forever unaffordable by an advertising-limited source of funds.

In view of the foregoing considerations, we urge the Commission to adopt the rules proposed in the joint petition of Zenith Radio Corporation and Teco, Inc., subject to the modification suggested by International Telemeter, Inc.

SYLVESTER L. WEAVER, Jr.,
President.

Mr. HALL. I thank you for this opportunity and I am open to any questions.

Mr. MACDONALD. I repeat it is a pleasure to see you again. I can personally vouch for your vast wealth of experience in the field of sports.

The only question I have really, because I could not follow one witness who testified and I did not want to get into an argument with him—said under the present FCC regulation of sports that had been habitually and regularly shown in an area could go on STV within 1 year.

As I read the rule, I thought it would take at least 2 years for the franchise. I was thinking of pro football at the time, but I guess the same thing would hold true of college football. Is he right? I should think they would have to hold back getting revenue from the commercial broadcasts for a 2-year period.

He stated that it would only be a period of 1 year and I could not follow him, frankly. Could you clear that up for me?

Mr. HALL. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

I have read and reread the proposed rule many, many times. I am convinced that the language definitely means that a game—and I keep stressing the words “a game”—would not be available to STV in any community in which it had been put on commercial TV within 2 years prior to the proposed date of the STV broadcast.

I am familiar with the testimony to which you refer. I just must feel, myself, that the gentleman had not read the rule as carefully as I think I may have.

Mr. MACDONALD. Just to buttress what you say—and I am not taking any sides, I repeat—I happened to have the occasion to see the Colts game yesterday. I must have spent \$20 in phone calls trying to get tickets. Finally, I was successful.

I know very well if it were going to be on pay TV that I would have gladly paid \$4 or \$5 to have seen it on pay TV. When commercial broadcasts permit blackouts in the very areas in which the team is supported, why do they now say that pay TV is going to ruin them? You couldn't get a ticket, period.

Do you have any comment on that?

Mr. HALL. Yes; I do. I had the same experience the week before when I came down to attend the hearings before the FCC. It just happened I got here on a Sunday, by design, hoping to see the Redskins play the Giants.

I went through the same experience that you encountered in trying to get to the game.

I would like to comment particularly on this blackout rule. Now the whole basis for controlling television of the sport, controlling the amount that can go on, stems from the basic idea that we have to protect our box office.