

with maximum information on election campaigns, as was pointed out so well this morning.

The so-called Lar Daly amendments did give us some welcome freedom. But section 315 continues to prevent us from giving the broad coverage which was possible in 1960 when Congress suspended the equal time requirement for presidential and vice-presidential candidates.

Everyone remembers the debates between Senator John F. Kennedy and Vice President Nixon, but many other informative programs were also given life by the suspension.

One good example was the NBC News special series, "The Campaign and the Candidates," a weekly 1-hour program in evening time, which presented the principal presidential and vice-presidential candidates discussing the issues.

In 1964, when the "equal time" rule was reinstated, "The Campaign and the Candidates" lost a good deal of its value because it could not present the candidates themselves; and through no fault of ours it became less of a service to the public.

There is a public need for such programs in addition to the coverage of the campaign on news and news interview programs. Broadcasters should also be permitted to cover along with all other news media, the legitimate news conferences of the candidates.

But the FCC has ruled that such coverage requires equal time to be given to all that candidate's opponents.

NBC favors repeal, or suspension for the 1968 campaign, of section 315, or, at the very least, the enlargement of the present exemptions to include all debates, bona fide news conferences, and all bona fide news documentary programs.

(The attached appendix follows:)