20 CENTURY REFORMATION HOUR
Collingswood, N.J.

August 12, 1964

My dear Radio Friend:

The struggle with the Democratic National Committee and the Federal Communications Commission has not let up. Literally we are fighting for our freedom, and I am sorry to say that radio station after radio station is being intimidated. Never has the radio industry been disturbed and upset as it is right now. Some stations are surrendering.

Mr. Samuel Brightman, the deputy director of public relations for the Democratic National Committee has now sent his fifth letter to the radio stations

He concluded: "I am now preparing a report to the Federal Communications Commission regarding those stations that have failed to provide me with facilities to make an adequate response.... I would not want to include your station in that report."...

In the tape which he has sent to radio stations he declared, "I am going to fight this up through the FCC and through the courts."... This of course really shakes the radio stations.

One station asked the FCC for an opinion and the owner writes: "Because the FCC would not rule on my letter to them for explanation and interpretation of the fairness doctrine,... we gave the free time to him, and it was broadcast yesterday. We did this to prevent running afoul of what is now, apparently, THE LAW OF THE LAND....made thus by the FCC, by their silence.

"You see, Dr. McIntire, this is where you get into trouble (the stations)...the FCC will tell you nothing.... So you do something, and if they want to, they can chop off your head. We really have no other choice under the Democrats."

Of course, Brightman's tape revealed clearly his inability to make a reply. His tape failed to prove that I attacked him personally. He completely ignored The Nation article which listed us among nine "hate clubs of the air." His big point seemed to be that I hate because I stimulated what he calls hate mail to him. Actually the letters which he received were from people who were upset about what he did, not what I said. Moreover, I wonder if he understands the difference between what the Bible calls hate and righteous indignation. Some stations are now demanding mimeographed copies of my script before they broadcast the program. A station writes, "This is the only manner in which a station may be protected as to what

Photographed from Arkansas Gazette, Little Rock, August 5, 1964

Fired-up Evangelists on Radio May Find Style Cramped By 'Fairness' Rule of FCC

Those radio evangelists who like to jump on the National Council of Churches and other religious groups may be on the way out, unless they key down their messages.

The Federal Communications Commission, which licenses radio stations, ruled on July 26, 1963, that persons or groups attacked over the air have a right to reply. This is called the FCC's new "fairness" regulation.

The pertinent part of the regulation says: "When a controversial program involves a personal attack on an individual or organization, the licensee [radio station] must transmit the text of the broadcast to the person or group attacked, wherever located, either prior to, or at the time of the broadcast, with a specific offer of his station's facilities for an adequate response."

The ruling got little public notice at the time, but the FCC has prepared a primer calling the attention of the radio stations to the provisions of the regulation. Moreover, it is only now coming to the attention of groups such as the National Council of Churches and they are beginning to make plans to use it.

Rev. Sam J. Allen, executive secretary of the Arkansas Council of Churches, said Tuesday that he planned to alert ministers over the state to the regulation so that they may monitor radio broadcasts in their area.

If an attack is made on the Council of Churches or any of its denominations, the minister will send the time and origin of the broadcast, along with what was said, to Mr. Allen. Mr. Allen then will write the station, ask for a transcript of the program and prepare a reply.

No LR Broadcasts

Mr. Allen said he knew of no broadcasts on Little Rock stations now that make such attacks. Two evangelists who make such attacks are Billy James Hargis of Tulsa, head of the Christian Anti-Communist Crusade, and Carl McIntyre of Houston, Mr. Allen said. One Little Rock station formerly carried Hargis but dropped him. A spokesman at the station said Hargis was dropped before the ruling was made. A spokesman at another station said a request for rate information was received from McIntyre some time ago, but that nothing more