such as ours and are ready to deal with the Federal Communications Commission's "fairness doctrine" in order to carry them. These men need our help and backing in every way possible.

Furthermore, in this Memorandum, just before the Commission recognizes the right of the station to demand script in advance of a clergyman's talk, it said that "Public Notice" (July 26, 1963) had been "erroneously interpreted to mean that ministers must submit transcripts of their religious services in advance of broadcast and/or that the Commission is attempting to censor religious broadcasts. It can be seen that this is not the case."

Yes, the Commission is not doing the censoring directly; it is just laying down regulations and conditions which lead the local stations to do the censoring, and free speech and the free exercise of religion is taken away. This, mind you, is in the face of Section 326 of the Federal Communications Act, which reads: "Nothing in this Act shall be understood or construed to give the Commission power of censorship over the radio communications or signals transmitted by any radio station, and no regulation or condition shall be fixed by the Commission which shall interfere with the right of free speech by means of radio communication." But it is the regulations and the conditions laid down by the FCC which is now interfering with my right of free speech and which may also affect the right of the free speech of hundreds of radio preachers who would dare lift up their voices against, say, the National Council of Churches or the rising one world church.

To say that this is serious is placing it mildly indeed. The FCC has given the NCC leaders exactly what, I am sure, they would like to have. Our broadcast is getting through to several millions a day. We have not found the leaders of the National Council of Churches, or those groups to which we have referred, ready to make public replies. My standing invitation to any individual or group to come to our microphone and make reply to anything that I may have said about them or their position has not to this date ever been accepted.

Radio Station WRAL-TV, Raleigh-Durham, N. C., in its Editorial Viewpoint, March 5, devoted its entire discussion to the National Council of Churches and it said, "A spokesman for the Council wrote long letters to North Carolina, berating us, calling our comments a falsehood, and denying that the National Council of Churches was using its funds to promote racial demonstrations. Our response to the gentleman was an invitation to him to come to North Carolina and appear on our station to discuss the David Jones matter. We never heard from him again."

When the General Board of the National Council of Churches met on June 8, 1963 in New York, it formally called for more federal control and direction over the radio and TV. When the General Board met in Baltimore, Md., February 25-28, 1964, it was said publicly on the floor that they did not intend to answer McIntire because "we are right." And one gentleman boasted that they had been given this "fairness doctrine" by the FCC! The effect of this "fairness doctrine" therefore is not to provide discussion but to bring about the elimination from the airwaves of such forthright programs as ours.

We believe that under the Constitution, and then the Federal Communications Act, the FCC is forbidden to do what it is now doing. But it does it, and, furthermore, it is making the situation even more acute for the radio stations throughout the land. There should be a complete, full investigation by the Congress of the United States into the FCC and Congressional action taken to restore full freedom of speech and the free exercise of religion under the Constitution.

It is interesting that just last week the Supreme Court overruled a $500,000 damage suit against the New York Times because it carried an item criticizing a public official. The Court said, "Whether or not a newspaper can survive a succession of such judgments, the pall of fear and timidity imposed upon those who would give voice to public criticism is an atmosphere in which the First Amendment freedoms cannot survive." The "pall of fear and timidity imposed" by the FCC's present regulations is definitely creating an atmosphere in which the "First Amendment freedoms cannot survive." Stations will stay clear of such pressures in order to make sure that they do not get into difficulty either by complaint

or at the time of the renewal of their broadcast licenses. Here it is. We were afraid it was coming.

In the presence of this critical and acute situation which has developed, I recommend the following:

1) Show this letter to as many friends as you can!

2) While the doors are still open, and while we have courageous radio operators who themselves know that the FCC in infringing upon their liberty, we should take on all the radio stations we can! Twenty-two more will give us 600; $1,000 each gets us started. We must strengthen our position with the public.

3) We must keep our present stations by paying our obligations, fulfilling our contract relationships to them, so that there can be no excuse for anyone dropping us or putting us off for these reasons. In other words, I need full and wholehearted financial backing by everyone who can possibly give support to this program. I love my freedom!!

4) We need to see established in each local community a committee which will see that each local station is underwritten, and which will stand back of the station and for the station in any questions that may be raised so far as controversial matters are concerned. Every local station needs a constituency which backs it in its programming. We should give this to our local stations and give it to them soon. They are free to carry our program but they must meet the "fairness doctrine" when questions relative to it are raised by any individual or group locally, and we need a well-organized group locally to challenge any such attacks. My friend, we are fighting for our freedom of speech, and the battle is right there in your home town as well as in Washington at the Federal Communications Commission. My sympathy goes out to every radio station owner today.

Finally, I ask for your prayers. God will help us. "For with God nothing shall be impossible." And I assure you that I will use this freedom day after day to deal with these questions that concern the Communist conspiracy, the attacks that are being made upon our freedom, our free enterprise, and our American way of life. The best defense is an offense and we are on the offensive and shall stay there.

The purpose of this letter, therefore, is to ask you to send us today as large a contribution as you can. We will use it in this fight. My stations need to have their bills paid on time and we want to use the media of radio today to help wake up this nation to our peril. The FCC is virtually becoming a fourth branch of government. The Congress says one thing, the Constitution says one thing, but the FCC gives the politicians liberty to talk without being censored but that is not the liberty that their regulations allow to Christian ministers in this country who would preach righteousness in the land. This present issue concerns every preacher that broadcasts—all are to be "tamed down"! I think I at least ought to have as much liberty as the politicians, and they are presently protected by an FCC regulation but we preachers are not. And it was the "radio preachers" that the chairman of the FCC singled out for attention! So let us go, and go with all we have.

How naive does the chairman think that the Christian public is? My friend, there is only one way to win this and that is to stand up and be counted and to fight, and our greatest source of strength right now is an informed Christian public who will back a program such as ours so we can fight openly in this land. Let us fight; let us fight hard! It is our liberty, our religious liberty, which is now at stake. Please let me hear from you. Please use the enclosed envelope.

Your friend, faithfully,

Carl McIntire

Carl McIntire