

difficult of enforcement vis-à-vis the airwave extremists and thus is rarely invoked. Not a single TV or radio station has ever had its license revoked by the FCC because of unbalanced extremist propaganda.

"The FCC does nothing at all to enforce the law," Dr. Parker told TV GUIDE. The Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ monitored television station WLBT in Jackson, Miss., for a week in 1964, then filed charges with the FCC that the station was unfair in its treatment of Negroes.

Dr. Parker feels that such public action on the part of individuals or groups will eventually force that agency to more vigorous enforcement of the Fairness Doctrine with regard to extremists of every stripe.

Station owners would be less willing to sell time to extremists if they knew they'd be required—as the law provides—to make free time available for rebuttal. But the task of monitoring thousands of TV and radio stations is simply more than the FCC is equipped to do.

"We process thousands of complaints," says a highly placed FCC spokesman. "However, we have no jurisdiction to prevent Manion or Smoot or anybody else from broadcasting." He emphasizes that the FCC acts only after it receives complaints. "If a citizen complains to us that a station has refused to offer equal time, then we take it up." The Fairness Doctrine doesn't say that a licensee has to air both sides of a question. He is obliged to make an announcement inviting the expression of opposing views. "But," says the man from the FCC, "if nobody comes in to take him up on it, he's in the clear."

The Senate Communications Subcommittee last November sent an elaborate questionnaire to 700 TV and radio stations soliciting information

about the makeup of their weekly schedules, and their practices with regard to the airing of controversial issues. It contains such questions as:

- Does the station write, telephone or otherwise communicate offers of time for reply to recognized spokesmen for opposing views?

- During [the first half of] 1966, did this station broadcast any locally originated replies dealing with controversial issues of public importance or arising from "personal attacks"?

- When personal attacks are involved, does this station automatically provide those attacked with a transcript or summary of the attack?

The computerized results of the questionnaire (so far not made public) reportedly have given the most complete picture to date of extremist broadcasting activities in the United States. Anti-extremist organizations hope that the committee will use this data as the basis for hearings which would bring extremists into the full glare of public scrutiny.

Broadcast extremists customarily cry "Censorship!" at the moment their enemies rise from the foxholes and commence to give battle. But what is at stake is not an infringement of free speech or the right to express unpopular opinions, but the fair use of a natural resource—the broadcast spectrum—and the public's right to full, open and balanced discussion of the day's most pertinent issues.

The radical broadcasters create for their opponents the laborious task of sorting out the untruths, innuendo and cant which an imperfect democratic process guarantees them the right to purvey on the air—clothed, frequently, in religiosity and the American flag. Dr. Samuel Johnson may have been exaggerating when he suggested that "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel," but America's self-appointed patrioteers are giving that aphorism a special new currency.

article which listed me as the No. 1 hate club of America, to the radio stations throughout the country.

It is the radio, the freedom of speech on that radio, which God is using now to hold back these forces of Communism and Socialism, and such attacks as TV Guide's should challenge and stir us all.

Let us give TV Guide the answer it deserves - a larger audience with more stations, and greater support. Yes, let us do it, and they will find out that the people who fight unbelief and Communism are not "scoundrels;" they are God-fearing Americans who delight in their heritage of liberty.

This is my appeal today. Use the enclosed envelope. In fact, please do not lay this letter down until you have done something about a special, extra gift.

God bless you.

Gratefully

*Carl M. McIntire*

Carl McIntire

Lincoln, Illinois - I am one of the many traveling salesmen who listen to your broadcasts. The one thing about your broadcasts that hold my interest is that you can prove what you say. I've just finished reading Neil Hickey's article in the April 15, 1967 issue of T.V. Guide. I wish this magazine would give you 4 pages to reply to Neil's charges. Keep up the good work.

Sebring, Ohio - We never cease to thank God for you and your battle for God and country. We continually pray that nothing will develop to take you off the air. If ever we needed a broadcast like yours, it is now.

Bloomfield, N.J. - The writer is an old Bible teacher, (faith), 88 years of age, taught 40 years. The enclosed check was a gift to me. I wanted to send it somewhere, where it would do greatest good. I covered the whole "field," - just had to come back to Brother Carl McIntire. We are with you, and pray daily that the work might mightily prosper in such a day as this.