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Radio and Television

Conservatives Eye Slant of Newcasts

By Lawrence Laurent

honest reporting. And one must question whether any reporter could work under any ethical compulsion to prevent news being "objective" to anyone. Interpretation of news is another problem. Each television network tries to avoid labels and political short-hand. The test is the professional craftsmanship and intelligence each honest reporter carries under his hat and the public acceptance he can win with his skill. Any person with extreme views will be unhappy unless reporting is colored to suit his own vision. (One of the least satisfactory, but workable tests of fairness is to learn that the reporter of-tended all extremists equal-ly. Screams from all sides tend to drown out each other.)

EUGENE DODSON, president of the Florida Association of Broadcasters, reacted with something less than panic to the news that an Organization for the Protection of Conservative Opinion in Broadcasting, Inc. had been formed in his state. Dodson told the Associated Press: "Each broadcaster has the responsibility to obtain a spokesman for the opposite point of view in controversial cases. No one has the right to become the spokesman for the other group, on his own."

DAN SMOOT is an elegantly tailored, handsome former FBI agent with precise diction and a program of opinion that plays to 41 television stations and 71 radio stations. He describes himself as a "Constitutional Conservative" and he's worried about the political coloration of news broadcasts. Smoot urged in his Sept. 16 "Report," formation in every U. S. city of an "Organization for the Protection of Conservative Opinion in Broadcasting" (OPCOB). First reaction to Smoot's suggestion came from Florida with the announcement that such an organization has been formed. Its announced purpose: "To analyze the news, editorial opinions, any and all comments, and the views of individuals and organizations broadcast on all mass media communication."



Laurent

ALONG WITH its monitoring, the Florida organization intends, "to attempt by every reasonable and legal means to gain access to all mass media communication in order to offer the public the viewpoint on all subjects, items and issues of Constitutional Conservatism." This is a grand idea. I hope it will be adopted and practiced with equal fervor by all 18 political parties that nominated candidates in recent elections. Every man needs a microphone. Smoot has discovered that members of the John Birch society and similar groups "have very little money and no access to national television." He has also found there is not one television commentator with national coverage who expresses the viewpoint of constitutional conservatives. What's worse, Smoot writes: "There are scores of national network television news programs (most of them daily), of the Howard K. Smith and Huntley-Brinkley and Walter Cronkite type whose reporting of the news sometimes is offensive to well-informed conservatives."

THE DAY'S NEWS, whether reported by Smith, Huntley, Brinkley or Cronkite, is often "offensive" to persons other than conservatives. That's the value of

6:15	Farm; 6:20, Look to This Day; 6:25, News; 6:30, Focus on the Law; 7, Today; 7:25 and 8:25, Local News.	
9:00	Jack Lallane	
9:15	Jack Lallane	
9:30	Ingala's Angle	
9:45	Ingala's Angle	
10:00	Say When	
10:15	Merv Griffin's	
10:30	W/d for W/d (C)	
10:45	Concentration	
11:00	W/Hugh Downs	
11:15	Miss. Links (C)	
11:30	Ed McMahon	
11:45	Your First	
12:00	Impression (C)	
12:15	Truth or	
12:30	Conseq. (C) Ns.	
12:45	Best of	
1:00	Groucho (R)	
1:15	Love That	
1:30	Bob (R)	
1:45	People Will	
2:00	Talk (C) News	
2:15	The Doctors	
2:30	The Loretta	
2:45	Young Theater	
3:00	You Don't	
3:15	Say (C)	
3:30	The Match	
3:45	Game; Ne	
4:00	Make Room	
4:15	for Da	
4:30	Mickey Mou	
4:45	Club	
5:00	The	
5:15	Riflema	
5:30	President	
5:45	Huntley	
6:00	The	
6:15	w/N	
6:30	The	
6:45	The	
7:00	The	
7:15	The	
7:30	The	
7:45	The	
8:00	The	

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