

TV *What's On?* **RADIO**

**Two Overworked Topics:
Kennedy Book & Warren**

By **BEN GROSS**

The next time I come across on television more talk about that Manchester book concerning the assassination of President Kennedy or another program dissecting the Warren Commission Report, I'll go just plain berserk and smash the receiving set. The truth is I've had it . . . you've had it . . . everyone's had it . . . and it's about time TV laid off these over-worked topics.

There's hardly been a day for a long, long time during which the air hasn't been churned with the pros or cons of the William Manchester-Kennedy family argument. And as for the findings of the Warren Commission, it has been analyzed, attacked, defended, microscopically scrutinized and almost pulverized under the blows of heavy-handed discussion.

This was true again yesterday, when Lawrence Spivak's Meet the Press (NBC-TV) expanded its 30-minute session to a full hour in order to question Manchester about his much discussed volume, "The Death of a President."

Manchester's appearance was his first one on national TV since the beginning of his controversy with the Kennedys.

Warren Report Rehashed

Then, during the evening, Channel 5 devoted two hours to "A Re-Examination of the Warren Commission Findings: A Majority Rebuttal." It followed a lengthy repeat telecast of the preceding night which tore the Warren conclusions to tatters.

As for this marathon program, presided over by commentator David Schoenbrun, its chief feature was a brilliant defense of the report by attorney Louis Ni-



Robert Casadesus



Joan Rivers

zer, backed by Albert Jenner Jr., assistant counsel to the commission, and Alfreda Scobey, a staff member. Also, Mark Lane, one of its most vocal critics, came before the cameras again to dispute their conclusions.

Let's End It

Really nothing new was added by this complex rehashing. And as far as the television audience is concerned, it longs for a rest from all of the charges, counter-charges and tiresome bickering which by now has veiled the Warren Commission, William Manchester and the Kennedys in the thick fog of TV boredom.

Telephone Hour:

An endearing and informative portrait of a family of great musicians was painted last evening by the Bell Telephone Hour (NBC-TV), during its special,

"Casadesus: First Family of the Piano."

Robert Casadesus, one of the world's foremost pianists, his wife Gaby and their eldest son Jean, also masters of the instrument, were seen and heard in performances and in more informal moments of relaxation.

With Jean providing comments and Robert expounding on his music, the program revealed a trio completely devoted to art. A highlight of the hour was their playing of Robert's "Concerto for Three Pianos," with the Pittsburgh Symphony conducted by William Steinberg.

WPIX-FM Leads:

Did you know that WPIX-FM now has the largest weekly audience—585,000 different persons—which listens to a separately programmed Frequency Modulation station in the country?

Lynn Christian, general manager of this outlet, made this fact known during an interview conducted by Richard K. Doan on WNEW-AM.

He also said that because WPIX-FM's signal is transmitted both horizontally and vertically, both FM car radios and portable FM sets can receive the broadcasts better than ever before. However he charged that today auto manufacturers charge too high prices for car FM receivers.

Viewer's Notebook:

It seemed to be comedy night on the Ed Sullivan show (CBS-TV), what with such laugh-winners as Joan Rivers, Joey Adams, Nancy Walker and Jack Gilford doing their amusing stunts. Among those in the song department, Sally Ann Howes scored emphatically.

Over-attachment to mother and lack of identification with father were named as some of the main causes of homosexuality by Dr. Laurence Hatterer on the David Susskind show (Channel 5). An authoritative panel, including a homosexual, discussed the topic in an intelligent and probing manner.