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organizations to get firm pledges that the next Congress will address communications issues from the standpoint of the whole citizenry, not just that of industry trade associations. Congress needs to be persuaded to return the FCC to its proper sphere as a subordinate body to the Congress. And, to order that the public interest standards and public trusteeship status that now govern broadcasting be applied to cable-TV and to the new communications technologies that are about to burst upon us. Above all, Congress should assure that First Amendment protection is provided universally on the principle laid down by the Supreme Court in Virginia State Board of Pharmacy, to the communication, to its source and to its recipient both.' Remember, it is never fruitless to speak out for fairness and freedom."

A POT OF GOLD: That's what the creators are going to get once the plans to sell "Gimme A Break," starring Nell Carter, into syndication, are squared \$77,000.00, away. \$22,000.00 over the asking price, per episode, is what KCOP-TV (Los Angeles) paid for the halfhour sit-com. In Washington, D.C. and Dallas, TX, "Break" broke the previous record set by the hour-long "Magnum P.I.," another recordbreaker in the syndication business. What this means is that Nell Carter will continue to get checks, even after the show leaves prime time. Not to mention the raises she'll get if the show stays in production. There is even a chance that if NBC decides they don't want to renew "Break" for '85-86 that, like "Fame," the creators may continue to produce new shows and sell it to the independent stations around the country . . . Diahann Carroll's "Julia" is another show that looks like a winner in re-run land.

Before she beame "Dynasty's'' diva, she was a liberated mom who showed the world that female headed households work out quite well and that Afro-American women who have to go it alone can do so in style. Of course, we knew that all along . . . Debbie Allen has the world by a string - a great career and now a little girl named Vivian Nicole Nixon. Mom and daughter are doing A-OK. Debbie's sister, Phylicia Ayers-Allen, will portray Bill Cosby's wife on his upscheduled NBC sit-com this fall . . . Look for Irene Cara, Grammy and Oscar winner, in "Nowhere to Run," co-starring Tatum O'Neal. Not only will she and Bruce Roberts write the title song for the Eastwood/ Revnolds "City Heat," but Irene will also play a 1933 Kansas City nightclub chanteuse . . . The old Pythian Theatre, Columbus, Oh., will be renamed the Martin Luther



King Performing Arts Center as part of a development plan that will cost \$4,800,000.00 big ones. The Afro American community will contribute \$100,000.00 with city, federal and grants from local foundations contributing about \$3,761,000.00. The project is still short about a million or so, but developers believe that will be worked out. The annual operation cost of the theatre, \$120,000.00, is expected to come from renting the theatre and ballroom, revenue from theatre productions, and possible grants from the Greater Columbus Arts Council. This is truly a wonderful way to honor Dr. King and not just because it wil bear his name, but because some of the money came from our pockets and we'll have some say in how it is run . . . STAY LOOSE . . . Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.