

[Redacted]
Applegate, Oregon 97530
[Redacted]

I WATCH C-SPAN BECAUSE

I suppose I should say that it "fillith" my heart
Makes me pure, patriotic and born-again smart...
Expands my horizon and serves to erase
My ignorant outlook, but that's not the case
Call it vice. Call it virtue. Which one? I'm not sure
It's just an obsession for which there's no cure
When the gavel descends and that flag is unfurled
The house is in session. All's right with the world
No soap opera script, no HBO plot
Compares with the action that C-Span has got
No MTV rhythm could ever excel
The decibal ratings that come from the well
I view with alarm and loudly deride
Walker and Gingrich and Wever and Hyde
But I glow with delight and applaud at the sight
of Schroeder, Gonzales, Ferraro and Wright
Biased I am, I cheer and I snarl
(But not Susan or Carrie or Brian or Carl)
Keeping cool while others are venting their spleens
(Whatever that hackneyed hyperbole means)

I've tried to entrap them, unravel the din...
Which side are they ON when the callers call in?
There are scholars and screwballs, elite Phd,
Mingled with nincompoops sounding like me.
It's a dialogue filled with drama and verve
That I sacrifice everything else to observe
A thought sometimes haunts me, suppose I should learn
That the old founding fathers should somehow return
And be shocked from their shrouds and gaze at the scene
As their very own words are expressed on the screen...
"Freedom to say it, to comment, to quiz
By George, what an awesome contraption that is.
Though it took them many long years to invent,
They finally found out what it was that we meant...
But something's awry, they messed up the rules
the SENATE is missing, go fetch it, you fools!"
Right on, founding fathers from which we all sprang
Alexander and George and the rest of the gang
Their modern successors are left with no doubt...
The people are watching, you'd better watch out.
We see you, we hear you, the people report
But government's more than a spectator sport.
So I've sought to enumerate, tried to relate

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How the Founders and I have been brought up to date
But I've dallied about, composing this rhyme
When I could have been C-Spanning all of this time

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