Assignment TV

By TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY

out." At least that's the but which television is doing impression most viewers received from television last summer. Borrowing a mot-to from the press that only bad news is news, TV cameras were busy for months showing us all our faults and few of our virtues. It is making pessimists out of the most optimistic

people on earth. We have our problems but we also have more than our share of achievements. To-day our ugly side is turned toward the cameras and optimism is considered corny

. . . IT HASN'T been pretty but, then, television seems to be telling us that noth-ing really IS anymore. And maybe can never be. While it is quick to point out our faults, like politicians, it seldom suggests how to cor-rect them and almost never envisions what things would be like if we did. I suspect that the public quickly tires of a continual recitation of troubles. Alongside the end-less photos of our mistakes it would be constructive to see on occasional artist's rendering of what things COULD look like.

We know what the prob-lems are. We even know what caused them ong occasionally, how to solve them. But most of us need some sort of blueprint to build on, a concrete aim to work on, a concrete aim to work for — something to replace the old goals of taming the west, damming the rivers, and harvesting the crops.

IN LOOKING over the new fall schedules, there are more programs planned. to document our agony. There are many that are vi-ciously fictional and others that are just plain silly-but there are few that in-spire. Even the Sunday moras "Frontiers of Faith," "Look Up and Live," and "lamp Unito My Feet" are based more often on issues than inspiration.

Exceptions are CBS' "The 21st Century," which deals with man's bright and promising future and the people who are working today to bring it about. By some miracle, it has returned for an-other season. . . . ABC's "The Underseas World of Jacques Cousteau," a con-tinuing delight, is returning in November. . . . CBS's National Geographic series will return for the first of four specials on Oct. 23 with "America's Wonderlands Our National Parks."

OTHERWISE, human in-spiration is to be found only in an occasional one-time in an occasional one-time program like ARC's "Sense of Wonder." an October col-or special based on the books of Rachel Carson, a gentle and wonderful wom an who wrote of the innate grandeur of life and the human spirit-two matchless

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Marie, Sept. 25. JOHNSON-Mr. and Mrs. Plahard L. 4056 166th St., Lawndale. girl, Lynnette Marie, Sept. 25. Opportunity report, " on Community Action.

Congressman Alphonzo Bell (R-28th District) announced today that the study document selected for the Great Issues Study Program seg-ment of his current news-letter is the National Advisory Council on Economic **Opportunity** report, "Focus

A limited supply of this Program is a monthly fea-document has been obtained ture of Congressman Bell's by Congressman Bell's of fice. Copies are available at no charge to constituents who write to William T. encourage "in depth" read-King, Field Representative, Congressional Field Office, Los Angeles 90024. In a study of the texts of important national docu-The Great Issues Study ments.

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