

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Harris, do you wish to ask Mr. Robb some questions?  
Mr. HARRIS: I believe the question was raised by Mr. Humphries or Mr.

Stewart—

Mr. BELL: The question of immigration came up, and also the question of the radio service. They are both in Mr. Robb's department.

Mr. KYTE: What does that come under—a special charge?

Mr. HARRIS: Item 329.

The CHAIRMAN: On page 20.

Mr. KYTE: "Miscellaneous Equipment".

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Mr. Robb, are you prepared to make any statement with regard to that?

*By Mr. Harris:*

Q. Will you make a general statement, Mr. Robb, with regard to the policy of the Canadian National Railways as to the equipment of trains and different stations with radio equipment, giving an idea of what general system is going to be incorporated in the books of the company, as it were in order that we may identify the expenditures from time to time—that is, capital expenditures—and repairs and maintenance expenditures on that particular equipment? At the same time if you could cover a general idea upon the installation of these services, as briefly as possible, that will be all I will ask you.—A. We have established broadcasting stations in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary and Edmonton. The broadcasting equipments are rented with the exception of that at Ottawa, where we established our own station, and at each concert a talk, limited to about ten minutes duration, is given on some topic generally by an officer of the Company and addressed to employees and the public. These short speeches are so worded as to bring the Canadian National Railways into prominence and keep them in the public mind; in cases where executive officers speak, the remarks are, as a rule, addressed principally to employees. Radio receiving sets have been installed on 13 of our observation cars in transcontinental service, each being in charge of an operator or attendant who takes care of the receiving apparatus and operates it to suit the wishes of the passengers. We have put receiving sets in hotels, the Chateau Laurier, Fort Garry, Algonquin Park, Jasper Park, and will probably put it in others.

Of course, we receive letters from the public and I have a file of them here, but I do not suppose you want to be bothered with them. They show the benefits which they are receiving from the broadcasting concerts. We also receive these from the public throughout the United States. For instance, I will read one letter from R. O. Kenney, as follows:

"We had a very pleasant experience last evening. Mr. Stanley Carkner, of Kenmore, Ontario, owner of a small mill at Latchford, and an ardent radio fan, called down here to purchase three tickets to Latchford. He stated that up to the present he had always favoured our opposition when shipping men. Now however, he was so impressed with the initiative of the National lines and the excellence of the programme of CKCH, he had decided to give our road a trial. This means 15 tickets, Ottawa to Latchford, this week, and no doubt other business will follow.

"Mr. Carkner was very enthusiastic. He states the people in Northern Ontario are all tickled with the Canadian National broadcasting station, and wish to congratulate the artists.

[Mr. W. D. Robb.]