

interference with the Corporation. I do not really regard it as political interference in the unfortunate sense in which it is generally used but it was for politics' sake and for the people's sake that representations were made to me that there would be violence if that particular gentleman was brought to Toronto for broadcasting purposes. I therefore brought this to the attention of the President of the CBC as forcefully as I could, saying that while his mandate was to put over the air what he chose on his own responsibility and on the responsibility of the Board, it was no part of the mandate of the CBC to cause civil insurrection or to lead to any kind of public disturbance. It seemed to me that if bringing this man into Canada would likely do that, then if they wished to go on with that program they ought to do it by some means other than bringing him to Canada. I could not give such orders to the President of the CBC but as a responsible Minister I felt it incumbent upon me to see what I could do to prevent any kind of civil disorder, and in that way I suppose I could be said to have interfered. The President went away and promised to consider it and then I think he announced a day or so later that the Corporation was not going to be a party to bringing von Thadden to Canada.

Mr. Jamieson: Miss LaMarsh, am I interpreting your view of the legislation correctly when I say that the CRC will only exercise after-the-fact judgment of CBC programming?

Miss LaMarsh: No.

Mr. Jamieson: Except within the broad framework of spelling out the so-called conditions of licence?

Miss LaMarsh: Yes, I think that is right.

o (10:30 a.m.)

Mr. Jamieson: But only in that regard. May I ask a supplementary question. Do you see the conditions...

Miss LaMarsh: Surely they will have general regulations as well as conditions of licence.

Mr. Jamieson: And these will apply to all broadcasters?

Miss LaMarsh: Yes. They will apply to such things as obscenity and things of that kind.

Mr. Jamieson: Will conditions of licence in the case of the CBC be merely a statement of

a general mandate or do you anticipate that individual units within the Corporation will have specific conditions of licence? For example, would the conditions of licence in CBC Toronto be different from those in CBC Saint John, New Brunswick?

Miss LaMarsh: I would think so.

Mr. Jamieson: In other words, it is not merely to lay down a sort of general, broad directive to the CBC?

Miss LaMarsh: That is correct. It must always be within the mandate as provided by this legislation.

Mr. Jamieson: So once that has been established, the CBC is then free to produce as it wishes, subject only to the after-the-fact judgment of whether it has met the conditions. In other words, there will be no attempt to guide them in the meeting of those, will there?

Miss LaMarsh: In so far as that is concerned, but there is always, of course, the public reaction.

Mr. Jamieson: I have just one more question. I apologize to the members...

Mr. MacDonald (Prince): May I ask a question with respect to arbitration by the Minister? Where it is suggested that this will be gazetted, I am wondering in what way you envision this would happen. I am interested to know whether there will be a lengthy statement on the situation or whether it would simply be an acknowledgment that an issue had arisen on such and such a subject and that will be the extent of public information, if you like, on the particular arbitration.

Miss LaMarsh: I think, Mr. MacDonald—and it would depend, of course, on the way the particular responsible minister operates, obviously—that a statement of the whole controversy and the direction given would be there, and it is the direction that is important. This is an attempt to ensure that there are no secret pressures on either of these bodies and that whatever instructions are given—let us face it: the government are going to always be held responsible whether they are or not—will be clearly set out for attack or support in Parliament and the public at large.

Mr. Fairweather: Miss LaMarsh, is there not a weakness, though? *The Canada Gazette*