

Governor in Council under the authority of this Act respecting (iii) the classes of applicants to whom broadcasting licences may not be issued...

Mr. Grégoire: Does this mean that the radio and television stations presently operated by owners who are generally foreigners will continue to operate in the future or whether they will be forced to sell shares so that the radio and television stations become the property of Canadian citizens under clause 2 (b)?

Miss LaMarsh: I do not think so.

Mr. Grégoire: May I make a suggestion to the Minister? In view of the fact that when we were studying the Bank Act, the Minister of Finance forced those chartered banks the majority of whose shares were not held by Canadians to sell up to 80 percent of these on the Canadian market, so that the banks would in time become the property of Canadian citizens. Could the minister not put in this Act the same provisions for T.V. or radio stations?

Miss LaMarsh: Yes, as usual, you have interesting ideas.

Mr. Grégoire: Can we expect this to take place? Because in fact there are only five stations in this case, one in the city of Quebec for instance.

(English)

Mr. Jamieson: Would Mr. Grégoire mind if those interests were bought up by Toronto Broadcasting?

Mr. Grégoire: I hope that Toronto is still in Canada.

The Chairman: We hope that Quebec is, too.

(Translation)

The Chairman: Have you finished, Mr. Grégoire? Mr. Leboe.

[English]

Mr. Leboe: I just have, as usual, some very simple questions. First of all, I was wondering about the regulations under the Act. Through just what channel will the members of Parliament have access to the regulations made under the Act to look them over and to have some say in what the regulations are, if any? They are more important than the Act, you know really, when you come right down to it.

Miss LaMarsh: But it is an independent body and this Act has to give the framework to the BBG. Then we have to appoint the best people we can and they have to make the regulations.

Mr. Leboe: For instance...

Miss LaMarsh: They will be made public as they are presently.

Mr. Leboe: The reason I am asking is because I have a situation in the Province of British Columbia where certain regulations came out under a certain act and when you looked them over, there was only about one-third of them that had actually roots in the act itself and they were completely outside. All the regulations had to be revamped because they did not have roots in the act.

Miss LaMarsh: We hope that this Act will give lots of rooting places.

Mr. Leboe: We will have access to them then so we can discuss them, will we?

Miss LaMarsh: They will be available to the public and to members of Parliament and there is nothing to prevent discussing them but once the Board is appointed, it is up to them to make those regulations. Within the framework of this, certainly if you find regulations which you think are beyond the scope currently of the BBG or, in future, of the CRC, it is a very profitable field for members of my profession.

The Chairman: Is it not fair to say, too, Miss LaMarsh that this Bill requires the regulatory authority to report to Parliament each year and it is assumed that they might come before a Committee such as this for questioning and if you feel that there are areas you should point out to them, that would be an opportunity each year?

Mr. Leboe: This is what I wanted to know.

(Translation)

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask two more questions.

In those cases where a licence is granted by the federal or the provincial government, whether it be in the field of transportation or with regard to telephone, communications, etc. those companies are obliged to come before an authority to get permission for an increase in rates or tariffs. With regard to television stations and radio stations, there is a department in Ottawa which, in the same way, limits the granting of licences to operate.