

Dr. FRIGON: No, sir; I do not think 5.45 is a good time for a newscast on any station.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: What about the question as to whether or not they were the best available periods for newscasts?

Dr. FRIGON: No; I would repeat that 5.45 p.m. is not the best time for a newscast on any station.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: But was it the best available one having regard to the times that were open to be taken up?

Dr. FRIGON: I could not tell you.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Now then, Mr. Bushnell mentioned that for a period of time the *Star* was off the air. There is not anything in the record at all, is there, to show what took place or what arrangement was made between the *Star* and the CBC which resulted in the *Star* once more securing these periods?

Dr. FRIGON: I do not find anything, and I cannot recall from memory because I did not handle these deals personally. As you know, Mr. Murray is not with us any more, and he transacted all these matters.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: All you are doing, as a matter of fact, is giving the record as you find it?

Dr. FRIGON: I am trying to follow you as best I can.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: There is, however, a reference that the Canadian Press finally approved of the return of the *Star* to the air, is there not, on the 26th of March, 1941?

Dr. FRIGON: That appears in the telegram from Mr. Hindmarsh to Mr. Murray.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Yes. Again you are depending entirely upon your examination. There is nothing anywhere in this file to show any agreement or any other arrangement?

Dr. FRIGON: May I point out that in the same telegram there is a sentence which seems to indicate that the Toronto *Star* was not very pleased with the arrangements. It says:—

After considering very carefully the change of hours we find that our audience is still looking for us at our old times of 8 a.m. and 6.15 p.m., and we do not believe that we and they could be satisfied if we came on the air at other times.

Mr. HACKETT: What is the date of that telegram?

Dr. FRIGON: March 26, 1941.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Now then, finally on the 26th of March, 1941, the terms of the arrangement were set forth, were they not, in a letter from the general manager to Mr. Hindmarsh?

Your telegram to Ottawa has been repeated to me here to-day and now we have a letter from Mr. McNeil giving concurrence of the Canadian Press subject to the condition that our own news service is not interfered with.

Then after dealing with the hours it says this:—

Keeping in mind that it is important as much from our point of view as yours that the arrangements now entered into should be reasonably secure and should be able to stand up to attack from various quarters, not excluding the *Globe and Mail*, I would like you to consider a kind of quid pro quo in terms of the publicity in the *Star*. A rough basis might be equivalent value at card rates. This, of course, would not affect the customary free time which you get for your fresh air and Christmas funds