

fiscal year we will have paid Canadian artists a total of \$717,685, as compared with a total of \$610,590 last year. We have of course a long way to go before we reach anything like the standard of programs that we eventually hope to establish. After all, radio is a continually changing thing. As Mr. Murray once said to me, it is a succession of crises and changing phases. No radio can rely on the program it gave last Tuesday; it can only rely on the program it is going to give next Friday. Therefore it is useless for any radio station to attempt to take such satisfaction from what it has done, its main function will be to be steadfast in its determination for the things that it is going to try to do.

After I have finished the General Manager is going to give you a picture of progress which has been made, but in the meantime, perhaps I may be allowed to refer to a few of the major achievements. We undertook in October of 1938 to give the fifth world concert which was broadcast by the International Association of Geneva to 24 countries. In February of 1939 we used our broadcasting facilities to salute the World's Fair, I think the program was well done. We gave special service during the great international crisis, and during that two week period we had 83 special broadcasts.

Probably the most ambitious CBC venture of the period under consideration was the series of Shakespearean broadcasts, which were at least experimental, and I think in the main were successful. We received 548 letters commending this series. They came from individual people, from study groups and from Shakespearean societies.

In addition to this series, the drama department gave employment to 75 different Canadian actors, 15 vocalists and 50 different musicians. We have just instituted a drama contest the results of which will be announced on May 1st. So far 190 dramas have been received from all parts of Canada.

We have been able to bring to listeners for the first time, regular broadcasts of leading Canadian symphony orchestras. The Toronto Promenade symphony orchestra gave a series of 24 concerts, which were heard in the United States on the network of the National Broadcasting Company.

At present, the Toronto symphony orchestra is giving a series of 20 weekly broadcasts and from Montreal, two orchestras are giving another series of twenty broadcasts. Symphony orchestras in Vancouver, Calgary and Regina have broadcast concerts. The Hart House string quartet is now beginning a new series of eight concerts.

We have been interested in and propose to develop in all regions a farm and home hour especially designed for rural listeners.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

The WITNESS: These programs will include weather reports, farm produce market reports, topical discussions and talks on agriculture, and actuality broadcasts from experimental farms, ploughing matches, rural fairs, and music which the farmer likes.

We have tried to encourage the establishment of a number of listening groups formed by co-operative effort; several listeners help one another to make the most of civilization's latest acquisition in this way. (In case you don't recognize the phrase—civilization's latest acquisition is a circumlocution for radio).

We have been able to extend our religious broadcasting on a broader and better basis. We have provided free network time on Sundays for devotional programs. These programs are arranged in consultation with the National Religious Advisory Council.

I would like to make one announcement, and this is at Mr. Murray's request, which I think may interest you, it has to do with the forthcoming royal visit. For some time past the CBC programs officials and technicians have been at work on the broadcasting arrangements for the royal visit, based upon the

[Mr. Leonard W. Brockington, K.C.]