

Mr. ROSS (*St. Paul's*): You have a statement in your office at the present time, but as far as the committee are concerned, it has not been audited?

Dr. FRIGON: It is already in the proceedings of the committee.

Mr. ROSS (*St. Paul's*): Where?

The CHAIRMAN: In Dr. Frigon's brief.

Mr. ROSS (*St. Paul's*): I didn't see it there. I may be wrong.

The CHAIRMAN: I was only trying to make clear what I understood him to be saying, Mr. Ross; don't think it is my say-so.

Oh, there is one other matter arising out of the last meeting. Mr. Diefenbaker, you asked for the production of any letters by ministers (or, I think, members of parliament) to the C.B.C.; (ministers, I think it was), making recommendations respecting the issue of licences, and I said at the time I was not certain that the request was in order. I have been thinking it over since and I am glad I did not rule one way or the other at the time because if I had ruled it out of order I think I would have been wrong. I think this corporation is independent of the government and if I wrote them a letter I do not see why it should be produced; and in this respect the minister is the same as any other member of parliament. So I think your motion, if you want to put it, asking for production would be in order.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: I do wish to put it.

The CHAIRMAN: You did put such a motion.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: That any letters—I suppose you would like to go some little way back, a year or two?

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Yes, that is all.

The CHAIRMAN: The last couple of years.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: We might as well have it for the period of time since 1937, and whether they are marked confidential or not.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Carried.

Mr. REID: May I ask for the minutes—

The CHAIRMAN: Would you mind waiting until we deal with this, Mr. Reid?

Mr. REID: All right.

Mr. DUNTON: It is going to be a terrific job having to go through hundreds of files to see if there is a letter there.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: I would not think there would be any difficulty about finding such letters because I would think they would be rather unusual and these confidential letters do not find their way on general files, do they?

Mr. DUNTON: I know, Mr. Chairman, there have been no letters from ministers in the last year and a half recommending or not recommending an application. I know that.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Possibly; I will put it this way.

Mr. DUNTON: It will be a terrific job to give assurance all the way.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: I will settle for this, I will make my motion a little different now that Mr. Dunton has spoken; any letters from ministers giving suggestions to the C.B.C. regarding any matter. That will not be as difficult as the other one because it will be general enough that ministers' letters will be available without the difficulty of a search.

Hon. Mr. McCANN: May I ask Mr. Diefenbaker if he has in mind ministers charged with responsibility for the C.B.C., or any ministers?