

erected by publishers, for the mere purpose of entertainment, freely, and of promoting good-will among Canadians regardless of race or religion; since, at the time, the few owners of radio receivers depended largely on American stations for such service. Other stations owned and operated by manufacturing companies, in Canada, were also built in order to further develop science. These Canadian stations immediately counteracted American propaganda, and caused a tremendous expansion of this industry within the Dominion.

In the case of La Presse station, within the past two years, an average of two hundred and fifty letters are received daily, from all parts of the North American continent, and many from foreign lands, including Europe. The New England States, where nearly two millions of French-Canadians have taken refuge, have been among those which have swelled the "radio daily mail bag" with great regularity. The majority of these letters bear messages of homesickness brought upon the writers by the radio entertainment in their own language, and not a few express their intention of returning to their native land. This contact with Canadians who have left Canadian soil is incalculable, from the repatriation point of view.

Q. How many have come back as a result of that?—A. It is hard to say.

*By Mr. Ladner:*

Q. Would there be 25,000 who came back?—A. I guess so.

*By Mr. Chevrier:*

Q. All because they heard you sing over the radio?—A. Not me; they heard me talk.

Q. Do you mean to say that the 25,000 French-Canadians who came back from the Eastern States last year came back because of the radio?—A. I would not say all of them.

Q. How many?—A. It is hard to figure.

Q. Do you not think you would be better advised if you did not make that statement?—A. No, sir. As a matter of fact there are certain departments considering giving special talks to influence French-Canadians in New England to come back, to tell them something of this country which they may have forgotten.

Q. And that is the only interest you have in the broadcasting?—A. That is one of the many.

*By Mr. Irvine:*

Q. Would you say in view of the fact that the present Government policy is chasing people out of the country, we ought to have some counter-irritant?

The CHAIRMAN: I think we should let the witness proceed, gentlemen, and we may be able to get through the next witness before we adjourn.

The WITNESS: Among letters received from the rural districts, we find many from social leaders, parish priests, political chiefs, club members, association presidents, etc., emphasizing upon the fact that radio is the best agenda of the day, which has been, and is, more and more, influencing the farmer, the settler or workingman to enjoy home life and to be entirely satisfied with whatever his Canadian radio station brings to him in way of education or entertainment. The greatest factor with a direct tendency of keeping the farmers on the farm.

Radio has educated Canadians to the better kind of music, though it may take some time yet, to erase jazz from programmes. It has compelled newspapers to be more truthful in their reports of events that are broadcast. For instance, if a political meeting is taking place, and it is broadcast, the opposition papers next day cannot say it was not successful, and so on.

[Mr. J. N. Cartier.]