

regional network—you will correct me on that if I am not right— —A. Perhaps I should say a little more. I think that the way it worked, and perhaps someone here could explain it—is that for some time, ending about a year or two ago at least, Mr. Philpott would follow on one day and the next day Mr. Wilson Woodside would follow.

Q. Is that on the western network, do you mean?—A. Perhaps I should ask Mr. Morrison or Mr. Bushnell to give you the details on that.

Mr. NEIL MORRISON (CBC Supervisor of Talks on Public Affairs): Mr. Philpott was on the western network following the western news bulletin. Mr. Wilson Woodside was on daily following the national news summary on the whole network, so that both Mr. Philpott and Mr. Woodside were heard at any rate in the west. For a time Mr. Philpott was a day to day commentator while Mr. Woodside was heard three days a week and Mr. Grattan O'Leary, for a number of months, two days a week. Each of the latter was heard on the national network.

Mr. HANSELL: I think generally from the statement of policy we have heard that we may take it that Mr. Philpott might be the extreme on the one side and Mr. Wilson Woodside would be the extreme on the other. And now, I do not want to split hairs on this matter, but I do not think that is the way it works out in practice. I used to listen to the Vancouver news nearly every night, and it is a good broadcast—it is well written—but Mr. Philpott would follow regularly; and it was on the choicest time because the Pacific coast news comes over at ten o'clock, with Mr. Philpott following—where I was it was eleven o'clock. There was an audience already established for him; and either my wife or I nearly went crazy—I think maybe it was my wife—not because she heard Mr. Philpott but because she saw me listening to him. And now, I think this, if I might suggest: I am conscientious about this; it was not a matter of political view with me at all, it was a matter of a very vital thing; that Canadians must be Canadians. And I resent anything that would mould public opinion in such a way as to make them anything else. And I would suggest the CBC should be a little more careful in the guarding of views and the right of free speech; in guarding—I will use the word here “patriotic” even if that word has fallen into disrepute over the years—the patriotic rights of the people.

Mr. DUNTON: Mr. Hansell perhaps I, and the CBC as a whole, have more faith than you have in the opinion and common sense of Canadian democracy—

*By Mr. Hansell:*

Q. I do not think so.—A. We believe very much in what is commonly known in the world as British democracy—that is, that people having a chance to hear the different points of view will make up their minds and make pretty good decisions on them. We believe it is our duty to try to see that, as far as radio goes, they have a fair chance to hear the different points of view and make up their minds.

Mr. HANSELL: I do not think you have any more faith in British democracy than Hansell has. I do not think so.

The VICE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I believe Mr. Diefenbaker has some questions to ask now.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: Mr. Chairman, if my hon. friend is through, I wonder if I could ask a few questions now?

The VICE CHAIRMAN: Yes. But speak louder, please.

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: It is in regard to the production of the file that was asked for the other day.

Mr. BERTRAND: Is that following along the same subject?

Mr. DIEFENBAKER: No.