

*Broadcasting*

find in it anything about the role which radio and television programs should play in serving the national interest.

We all know that radio and television facilities are powerful agencies for providing entertainment, information and enlightenment to our people. Present day realities, however, are far different from those of 40 years ago or even those of 1936 when the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation was brought into existence. In those days perhaps it was not necessary to think beyond the three objectives I have just mentioned. Today, however, we are engaged in a war of ideologies, a deadly life and death struggle from which only one side can emerge victorious. Under these present day conditions we must keep in mind then the fact that radio and television facilities are not only the means of providing entertainment, information and enlightenment but are also the most powerful and useful weapons available in this battle for the minds and souls of men.

It is therefore evident that the role of our broadcasting service is an important matter. In right hands it can be a strong shield against subversion and a powerful offensive weapon in the cause of freedom. In wrong hands it can be used against us to destroy our freedom and to bring about our destruction. As the C.B.C. is a publicly-owned corporation, the management is charged with the tremendous responsibility of seeing to it that our public radio and television programs are of such a nature and are provided by such means and in such a manner that the national interest is at all times fully safeguarded.

In view of this change in conditions that has taken place over the past 30 years I feel that it would be helpful to the management of the C.B.C. if, in addition to defining the powers and the functions of the corporation, the Broadcasting Act contained some guide and direction as to the responsibilities of the corporation in safeguarding our national interest and as to the role the broadcasting service should play in achieving this result.

The C.B.C. can do much to strengthen Canada by helping to build a sound national character which is the real strength of every nation and by helping to build unity between our various groups and regions which have conflicting interests. The C.B.C. can do this by clarifying the moral issues involved and by helping us to unite on the basis of what is morally right.

The C.B.C. can strengthen democracy by defining and propagating the values and principles essential to the development of a free society. It can protect and strengthen

[Mr. Carter.]

Canada against the penetration of foreign ideologies by broadcasting to the four corners of our nation the answer to division, disunity and subversion. It can alert us to the danger of ideological factors and it can bring an answering ideology to our people. It can do all this by utilizing programs which at the same time will provide entertainment of the very highest quality.

From personal knowledge I know that such programs are available for I have seen them. For this reason I feel that specific objectives of the role of the broadcasting service should be written into the act as a directive by parliament in the interest of national security and I ask that the committee consider this suggestion.

A moment ago I said that in wrong hands or in the hands of people not fully alive to the realities of the present day ideological conflict the C.B.C. could be used against us to destroy our freedom and bring about our destruction. It can do this by weakening and undermining our national character and in particular by weakening our loyalties and our will to resist aggression and by fostering division and disunity through keeping alive our old hates, fears and prejudices. It can weaken Canada by propagating a foreign ideology and this is done by emphasizing false ideas such as the idea of peaceful co-existence and the idea that democracy does not need any ideology. It can do so also by emphasizing false issues and alternatives such as "Better red than dead" or "Accommodation or annihilation". Those of us who have seen what has happened in Hungary, Cuba and other countries taken over by the communists know that being red is synonymous with being dead as far as fighters for freedom are concerned.

I would be the first to admit that the C.B.C. has provided some excellent programs both from the technical and from the artistic viewpoint, but as a member of parliament who is concerned about the security of Canada and the threat to our freedom, I must say I am a little frightened at the amount of brainwashing and subversive propaganda which goes out over the C.B.C. day after day at the taxpayers' expense. Even many of the high quality programs to which I have referred contain subtle, ideological messages which serve the interest of those who are dedicated to destroying us instead of serving the true interests of Canada. In addition to these programs, I am also appalled at the extent to which the C.B.C. provides a national platform for subversives, some well known and others not so well known, a platform from which issues a barrage of ideas and points of view which have their origin in the Kremlin.