

Mr. McGRATH: When the C.B.C. started the television network, what effort was made to house the operations of radio and television under one roof at the main production centres such as Toronto and Montreal.

Mr. RICHARDSON: In Toronto and Montreal the effort was made in this respect, that we built our first television studios on premises which existed. However, as a need developed for additional studios as well as for auxiliary services, such as shops and so on, we had to move out into other premises. There was just not enough space available.

Mr. McGRATH: At that time why did you not move outside the city of Toronto and outside of the city of Montreal and build one large facility capable of housing the whole operation which, on the surface, would appear to be much more economical.

The CHAIRMAN: No. 5 is new construction.

Mr. McGRATH: Precisely. This refers to new construction, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: How?

Mr. McGRATH: In respect of building new facilities at those main production centres in Toronto and Montreal. I was going to ask a supplementary question.

Mr. RICHARDSON: I think the last part of the answer is that when we started in Montreal and in Toronto, the instructions which I received in engineering were that these were experimental. They were not experimental by the time they were built. But we did have space on our existing property of the radio establishments to build these first studios.

Mr. McGRATH: In your opinion, Mr. Richardson, it would be much more economical, much more practical to have the entire operation in both studios under one roof?

Mr. RICHARDSON: Certainly from the construction standpoint it would ease our problem greatly in engineering, and perhaps Mr. Gilmore could say—but I think I could answer for Mr. Gilmore and say it makes for more efficient operation.

Mr. McGRATH: It would save the corporation money?

Mr. RICHARDSON: Yes, I am sure it would.

Mr. McGRATH: Do you have any plans at present, in this regard, with respect to new facilities at Toronto and Montreal?

Mr. RICHARDSON: Yes, we have plans. We are formulating a study now, which will form part and parcel of the five-year plan we will be submitting.

Mr. PRATT: I would like to ask Mr. Richardson: does he not, in his opinion, think it is bad, from the point of view of engineering or architectural planning, to take over a building such as the Ford hotel on Dorchester Street, which was designed for hotel purposes and which has small bays, for the purpose of television broadcasting, which requires a much larger basis?

The CHAIRMAN: We are getting away from new construction planned.

Mr. PRATT: This is a supplementary question to the question you allowed Mr. McGrath to ask.

Mr. RICHARDSON: The Radio Canada building was bought in the days of radio. We had not, at that time, envisaged television studios at that point because we were not thinking very seriously of television then.

Mr. PRATT: You were not considering television when that building was bought?