

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: If the country is not making anything out of it, why should any of the fee be given away?

Mr. LAPOINTE: For the reason that I have stated. For instance, in Manitoba there will not be any broadcasting if we do not adopt this system. It does not pay the broadcasting stations to operate as under present conditions; the two stations in Manitoba have in fact, ceased operation. The Manitoba government is quite ready to give the service, but I think it is only reasonable that they should receive some compensation, and I do not see any better way of doing it than by giving part of the license fee to the provincial government.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: When the bill comes down I hope my hon. friend will be in a position to tell us how much of the fee has been asked for by the Manitoba authorities, how much revenue he is now getting from his licenses, and what is the cost of the service to the country, with the resulting deficit.

Mr. LAPOINTE: My hon. friend will have all these details when the estimates of the department come up. They really have nothing to do with this proposed legislation—unless my hon. friend wants to prevent my going on with the bill.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Oh, no. But this information can appropriately be given in connection with the bill.

Resolution reported, read the second time and concurred in. Mr. Lapointe thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 144, to amend The Radiotelegraph Act.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

COPYRIGHT ACT, 1921, AMENDMENT

House again in committee on Bill No. 24, to amend the Copyright Act, 1921, Mr. Gordon in the chair.

On section 5—Commencement of act:

The CHAIRMAN: Section 5 was to stand the last time this bill was under consideration. Shall the section carry?

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: We have not copies of the bill. While we are waiting for the bill I might say that I have received a telegram—I think many telegrams have been received—to this effect:

Sincerely hope you will resist indignantly—

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That is something my friend will agree I never do.

—the attempt to reinstate legalized piracy in copyright law.

I think perhaps we ought to get some explanation from the minister as to this question of reinstating legalized piracy in the copyright law.

Mr. ROBB: What interpretation does my hon. friend put upon that telegram?

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: The interpretation I put upon it is that the minister's bill is going to steal somebody's writing from him. It would appear that the sender of the telegram looks upon the minister as a burglar, not for his own benefit but for somebody else's.

Mr. ROBB: Is this from the printers or authors?

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I think it is from an author. It may be from a printer, but I think it is from an author.

Mr. MANION: I had a gentleman call upon me a short time ago who claimed that under this act Canadian song writers, for example, would be deprived of any remuneration for their songs used on discs for phonographs, for instance. I do not know whether that is the case or not, but that was the statement made to me, and I should like to inquire what the minister thinks about it.

Mr. ROBB: It is exactly the opposite. It is to protect the song writers that we are putting through this legislation.

Mr. MANION: Is there another bill on copyright going through the House?

Mr. ROBB: No.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: I also have received a copy of the telegram that has been referred to, and I happen to know the gentleman whose signature is appended. The minister asked if it was from a printer. The gentleman in question is an author of some standing, a writer of articles, books, and so forth. I was going to make the same inquiry as my hon. friend for West York as to what legalized piracy was going to be perpetrated under this act.

Section agreed to.

On section 2—licenses, importations:

The CHAIRMAN: This section was allowed to stand with the consent of the committee.

Mr. ROBB: The bill as originally presented met with the entire approval of the authors but met with very much opposition from the printers and publishers. The committee will