

Mrs. Armstrong inquired if in the interim someone should reprimand or speak to the producer about this incident. The President advised that the producer in charge had been called to Head Office recently.

The Vice-President pointed out that the intent of the program was not so much to depict an unemployed man with a family, but to show the effect that unemployment had on human relations within the family, i.e., the effect on the wife and children vis a vis the husband, etc. The Vice-President was of the opinion that to some extent this was presented with a fair measure of success, although he agreed that the program had been over-dramatized. The fact that this man had worked for six weeks and four days, that he had been paid a salary of \$350 per month was known to the film Director, who in turn passed it on to the producer. The unfortunate thing was that the omission of this information was known to us. It would be easier if we could simply say that the Producer did not check. Captain Briggs said that, no matter what controls one places on producers, in the final analysis, the type of producer we employ must be able to control himself and control his product. When you get into sensitive areas it is the responsibility of the producer to be aware of these areas and be sure of his facts. The information, regarding employment, was not brought forth, and if it had been it would not have detracted in any way from the program. The fact that this was not brought out was inexcusable. The Vice-President felt that the President was not in too much disagreement with him on this, but appreciated the fact that Mr. Ouimet felt very strongly that the question of timing, as to what action is taken, is of great importance. The Vice-President suggested that if this Board would have confidence in the President and Vice-President, that requisite action would be taken, but would ask the Board not to press too hard what that specific action would be.

The Board agreed with the suggestion of the President to wait until after the Parliamentary Committee hearings have concluded to deal with the producer problem and also requested that Management submit a report on the action taken at that time.

At 4:35 p.m. Mr. Ganong retired.

31. The Zoo Story - Festival '61

The President reported to the members of the Board that on the evening the Zoo Story was shown on the TV Festival '61 series, that the Corporation had received an estimated 250 telephone calls which were mostly unfavourable. In Toronto there had been thirteen calls favouring the production while in Ottawa, 150 unfavourable calls were received. The following day, however, the Corporation received an estimated 250 favourable telephone calls asking for more programs of this type. Mr. Ouimet pointed out that while the Corporation does not use telephone calls as a criterion of popularity, it did give some indication as to the interest stimulated by this presentation. Mrs. Carter thought that the reference to homosexuality was perhaps in poor taste but suggested there should always be room for the avant-garde type of drama in CBC programming.

The President reported that he agreed with Dr. Stewart, who felt very strongly that while different people have the right to be served as individuals, the viewers should know what is coming so that they may exercise the right to view or not. The President stated that in his opinion this program was (1) not an obscene play in the broad definition of the term, (2) the program was not indecent in the general sense of the word, but was very unconventional, and (3) the play did contain profanity. Mr. Ouimet also felt that the program should have had more editing and that perhaps it should have been introduced as adult fare.

Mrs. Aitken referred to an article she had read in the Toronto Star which stated that Dr. Stewart in an interview had said that the time had come for the BBG to settle in on the CBC and make it responsible for programs which might present or include profanity or obscenity.

Mr. Dunsmore was of the opinion that this program was outside the policy as laid down by the Board. The President thought this whole question was a very important one of program policy, agreeing most emphatically that