

go to 5. I cannot see it at all. There might be some isolated cases here and there I do not know of, but at present there is no equipment available except on very high priority and even at that it is difficult.

Q. I think this station already has its equipment.—A. There may be some isolated cases, I suppose.

Q. Perhaps if the operator reads the minutes he will renew his application.—A. Well, the board has received a technical report yesterday which makes it possible for thirty-four stations to go to 5 kilowatts if and when they can find equipment, if they are willing to spend the money which is involved, which in some cases is more than they believe, if they are prepared to move their transmitters out of town according to Havana requirements, if generally speaking they meet all the requirements under international agreement. There are thirty-four possible cases in Canada at the present time and they will all be notified individually that now the coast is clear, that if and when they can go to 5 they can do it.

*By Mr. Coldwell:*

Q. That is a change of policy?—A. That is what I announced a couple of months ago.

*By Hon. Mr. LaFlèche:*

Q. Is it as much a change of policy, Dr. Frigon, as it is a natural development keeping up with changing conditions?—A. Thank you for bringing that point up. It is not a change of fundamental policy. We have always maintained that the duty of the private station is to serve well its locality. In 1936 we thought, as did most everybody else, that 1 kilowatt was sufficient to do that job. Nowadays under the Havana Agreement as it stands at the present time, considering present broadcasting conditions, habits of the public, and so on, we believe that 5 is a better figure and it has been adopted. We do not ignore the basic policy but we think that 5 kilowatts now is the power which is more appropriate for the service which private stations are supposed to render.

Mr. COLDWELL: Have you the names of the thirty-four stations?

Mr. ROSS: They are in the evidence. You gave them in the evidence?

The WITNESS: Yes, but we have gone one step further. Our joint technical committee has studied every application separately and has made a list of those which are obviously in the category that they can go to 5 kilowatts. There is no objection whatever. There may be others which if they wanted to, if they applied for it, could not do so for technical reasons, but there are thirty-four stations listed now that will be told they may if they wish go to 5 kilowatts and if they satisfy all requirements.

*By Mr. Hanson:*

Q. In connection with the Prince Rupert station there are some financial difficulties. Has that anything to do with the power, not sufficient power, or lack of equipment, or what is it?—A. I would say that the Prince Rupert station is fundamentally a matter of economy, of finance. We have a line from Prince George through the Cariboo district. Now we have to extend our line from Prince George to Prince Rupert. We already have a station in Prince Rupert which can, I hope, give fairly good service. When we can afford to increase that service, to make that service better, we will do it, but it is directly a matter of shall we spend that money at that particular point of the country rather than at some other point?

Q. It has nothing to do with the power?—A. No.

Q. Just financial?—A. It is a matter of finance, paying for the line to Prince Rupert, and a sustaining station there.