

For that amount of money Canada received not one but two complete television services -- one in the English language and one in the French language.

These two separate and self-contained services had to be delivered to about 12,000,000 English-speaking Canadians scattered across Canada from Victoria, B.C., to St. John's, Newfoundland, and to nearly 6,000,000 French-speaking Canadians, most of whom live in New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario. Quite apart from the problems of geography and population, the two television services had to stand up beside the far more expensive products of American television.

Canada's national television service has met these challenges successfully, not only successfully, but economically.

The total cost of Canada's two television services, plus the three radio networks, comes to four cents per day per Canadian household in public funds.

Less than four cents per day per home is the public cost to link together, Canadians from British Columbia to Newfoundland; to let them see and hear themselves and their neighbours at work and at play in all parts of the country; to express their ideas, their hopes and their opinions; to be entertained by the hour if they wish, every day; to watch Parliament open; to follow our Queen from shore to shore; less than four cents per home per day to build a truly Canadian consciousness.

In terms of Canadians, individually and collectively, this may not be too large a price to pay. It is not suggested that \$52,000,000 is a small amount of money. But it is suggested this be measured against the service rendered and the achievements of the Corporation in radio and in television.

In March, 1956 -- just over five years ago, there were 33 television stations in Canada affiliated with the national networks. There are now 60 -- 14 CBC-owned and 46 privately owned. There were no satellite stations at that time to serve supplementary areas. There are now 17.

In March, 1956, only 14 of the stations were connected by microwave network. Today Canada has the longest connected network in the world -- from Victoria to St. John's -- with instantaneous connection to 55 stations and 17 satellites.