

*Adjournment Debate*

CBC that it is erroneous to say that the CBC is encouraging centralization of production. If it were so, the CBC would not have built a multi-million dollar broadcast centre in Vancouver; it would not be building new production facilities in Calgary; and it would not be planning to build a new production centre in Regina-Moose Jaw. In the next four to five years the CBC will spend \$128 million to improve its production facilities outside of Toronto and Montreal. This is all being done in order to improve and increase regional and local programs and to increase regional participation in network programming.

Because of the availability of the CBC's new B.C. broadcast centre, for example, it is planned to increase the production of network television programs in Vancouver from 175.5 hours per year in 1975-76 to 208.5 hours in 1976-77. Local and regional activity can be examined from the point of view of broadcast hours and contribution to the network schedule. The figures for broadcast hours per week on the English AM radio network of the CBC show that 40 per cent of the hours of programming in the schedules of most CBC AM radio stations is local and regional.

The complexity of television is such that it is a much more expensive medium than radio, and requires less flexible scheduling with fewer local periods. Nevertheless, local and regional programming time on CBC English language television stations varies from 18 per cent to 35 per cent of the telecast time per annum of the stations, not all of which, it must be admitted, can be employed for locally produced programs, and this for reasons of budget only.

As for the contribution of CBC owned and operated stations to the national networks, in radio the percentage of network programming from all regions of Canada to the

CBC English AM radio network is 44 per cent and in the case of FM radio it is 59 per cent.

In English television an analysis made for the fiscal year 1973-74 showed that the percentage of network programs produced outside of Toronto, including program inserts, came to 32.3 per cent.

In addition, the CBC has for many years encouraged the exchange of local programs between stations and the effect of this exchange is to discourage centralization. In 1975, for example, 79 episodes of four local television series produced in British Columbia were seen on up to 15 other stations across Canada. Conversely, 169 episodes from 15 locations other than Toronto were seen in British Columbia.

● (2240)

In the light of the size and diversity of Canada much has been accomplished, but further decentralization of programming, particularly in the complex and expensive medium of television, can only be accomplished with the availability of more money to be spent on Canadian talent. The CBC is endeavouring to encourage and develop talent in all parts of Canada. If more money were available for the production of quality programs, regional studios could—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please—

**Miss Campbell:** Mr. Speaker, I know that my time has expired. However, I should just like to say to the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock (Mr. Friesen) that anything further he would like to say on this he can bring to the standing committee when the estimates—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. I must interrupt the hon. parliamentary secretary as her allotted time has expired.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.43 p.m.