

The CHAIRMAN: When you say the response is very large, what volume of mail do you get?

The WITNESS: It is running about 50,000 letters a year. I think you will be very interested in seeing the response from some of the individual countries. For example, we started a weekly service to Finland last December. I think it was within two or three weeks of that we had a thousand letters just from one Sunday broadcast. Some of the Scandinavian countries have run over a thousand letters a month, and the letters are not just saying "we listen to you and please confirm our frequency". Some of the letters ask questions and they make comments on the program. Sometimes they criticize it. It shows they are listening and appreciate the kind of thing we are doing.

Mr. Chairman, possibly you might wish to consider while you are in Montreal looking at some of the details of the service, some of the scripts, and listening to some of the activities and meeting some of the people who carry on the service.

Mr. McWILLIAM: How many different languages do you broadcast in?

The WITNESS: Fourteen at the most, and we are shortly going to broadcast the same kind of service to Russia, in Ukrainian. That will make fifteen languages.

Mr. MACLEAN: Are any of your international broadcasts beamed to the Baltic States, Latvia and Esthonia and Lithuania?

The WITNESS: No. I might say we are guided chiefly by the decision of the Department of External Affairs, but, also, technical considerations come in. Right now our transmitters aimed at Europe are filled up at the good broadcasting times. To extend service to other countries in Europe would mean having extra transmitters or a dropping of some of the services.

Mr. STICK: What security regulations have you got there?

The WITNESS: We are very careful indeed that a letter coming from, say, Czechoslovakia, that no one knows from whom it came. We have occasionally published excerpts but never said who they came from.

Mr. MURRAY: Do you broadcast to Asia at all?

The WITNESS: We still keep a weekly service to Australasia, to Australia and New Zealand, but we get a few responses from other parts of Asia, from Japan, who pick up some of the broadcasts.

Mr. KNIGHT: These broadcasts would be all in the English language, in other words?

The WITNESS: Yes, all English language.

Mr. MURRAY: You do not reach the Chinese at all?

The WITNESS: I think we have had one or two letters, but I do not think the signal gets into China very well.

Mr. MURRAY: There is not anything specially beamed to China?

The WITNESS: No.

*By Mr. Stick:*

Q. You have no idea how many radio sets there are in China? I think that would be a very important thing to know.—A. That is a very big question.

Q. I do not imagine there would be very many.—A. We are pretty sure that there are a great many shortwave sets in Russia because they use their shortwave transmission a lot for their own service inside Russia.

Q. They have to, on account of the distance.—A. Exactly