

II. LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS

Trades and Labour Congress of Canada (150,000 members).

“We would respectfully urge that action be taken to give effect to the Aird Report by the creation of a nationally owned and operated broadcasting system. Radio broadcasting should be developed in the national interests rather than along the lines of an advertising medium. Wherever private companies own the stations advertising becomes the primary object as their revenue is received from this source and profit the chief reason for operating.

“Duplication of stations should be avoided as far as possible in order to ensure the clearest reception by those owning receiving sets. Owing to the restricted number of channels available, unless the Government creates a monopoly, it would be difficult to accomplish this object. The Trades and Labour Congress is definitely opposed to monopoly being granted or subsidies given to privately owned enterprises of this character and firmly believe that it is in the public interest that control of the air should remain in the hands of the people.”

Trades and Labour Congress Recommendation to the Prime Minister, January 22, 1931. Reiterated January, 1932.

Note.—The Trades and Labour Congress is an Affiliate Member of the League, and its President, Tom Moore, is on the League’s Council.

The Trades and Labour Congress has been specially represented on the League’s delegations to the Minister of Marine, January 1931 and January 1932.

Alberta Federation of Labour (Affiliated with the Trades and Labour Congress.)

“Your Executive would recommend that the convention go on record as favouring a national system of broadcasting, and that organized Labour may have equal rights with other groups to present its viewpoint on social and economic questions.”

Resolution adopted by 1930 Convention.

“You may speak for Federation.”

Telegram to the League from Elmer Roper, Secretary, March 14, 1932.

New Brunswick Federation of Labour (Affiliated with the Trades and Labour Congress.)

“This Federation is in full accord with the work of your League. Therefore endorses its action in the matter of radio broadcasting.”.....
From Telegram to the League from G. R. Melvin, Secretary-Treasurer, March 12, 1932.

Note.—The New Brunswick Federation is an Affiliate Member of the League.

All-Canadian Congress of Labour.

“The present broadcast service is considered unsatisfactory for the following reasons:—

- “1. It is a gratuitous and voluntary service.
- “2. It derives most of its support from direct or indirect commercial advertising.
- “3. Being voluntary it can be regulated only to a limited extent but cannot be compelled to function.
- “4.
- “5. It cannot protect the public from undue influence and subtle propaganda by private interests.
- “6.
- “7. In a sparsely settled country adjoining one which has a vastly greater population, a broadcast service in the former must be up to the highest