

have destroyed the livelihood of many Eskimos and lowered the already meagre standard of living of many gulf fishermen. What a campaign that was; and they come to us asking us to support them from the tax rolls. Does anyone in this house not feel that it is in the national interest to curb such an irresponsible and uncontrollable engine of destruction?

Consider the revenues of the C.B.C.: To derive any revenue at all it must give over its prime time to national advertisers and United States programs. What value is there in retaining government ownership of a television network that must give all its best hours to the programs of another nation? Consider any of these questions, and what is there about C.B.C. that makes it worthy of federal support in its present form?

An hon. Member: Nothing.

Mr. Deachman: That is why I think the time has come for us to think about packing up the C.B.C.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

An hon. Member: Carling Red Cap and all that.

Mr. Deachman: I do not suggest that the C.B.C. should be cut up with blow torches and its people dismissed, the way the Tories dealt with the Avro Arrow. I think there is a vast new field for C.B.C. equipment and many of its technical personnel in the field of educational television, which has been mentioned a number of times during this debate.

I believe that the C.B.C., as we know it, should be packed up and that we should establish a new Canadian educational television corporation in its place. We should establish two Canadian E.T.V. networks from coast to coast, one English and one French. We should leave commercial programs to commercial television and we should make it a condition of every television licence that is granted that the station holding it shall reserve certain times for Canadian documentary and feature films. We should continue to produce documentaries through the National Film Board. Commercial film and television companies also should engage in that activity. The French network thus would come not only to fulfil a national role in E.T.V. but would continue to supply French programs. It must do that in the context of the French language.

Canadian Policy on Broadcasting

Let me enlarge a little on this new picture. We face problems of national unity, biculturalism and bilingualism that will remain with us for a long time. With the help of the provinces, the universities and schools I hope that this country will lead the world in developing E.T.V. as an instrument of education and culture. It will bring about national unity and will assist us in the solution of our problems.

● (9:40 p.m.)

I would hope that these two E.T.V. networks, French and English from coast to coast, reaching into our universities, our schools and our homes, would help weld us together in national pride and unity. I would hope to see a new understanding of our country and of the nature of our dual culture flow from this new instrument. By getting the C.B.C. out of commercial television I believe the commercial networks would be strengthened in a way which would lead to higher levels of live programming and better news coverage, and that this could be done at a profit which would allow taxes to be returned to the national treasury. By shifting the production of documentary films and features to the National Film Board and commercial producers we could I believe reverse the undesirable trend toward the centralization of television in Toronto, which certainly has done television no good whatever. At the same time I believe it would lead to a reduction in costs and would encourage the development of the film and television industry in many communities in Canada instead of leaving it centralized beneath the shadow of Yorkville.

I believe, as everyone in this chamber believes, that television is too important a medium to be left entirely to commercial enterprise. There must be a place for Canada on any international network and this is why it should be a condition of every television licence that a certain amount of time be allocated for national use, perhaps in the form of documentary or cultural programs.

We may within a few years be launching a satellite to carry T.V. and telecommunications signals everywhere across Canada. When we do, the whole nature of television will be changed; we shall be able to relay television into almost every settlement in Canada no matter where it is situated—behind mountains or in remote regions of the north. The educative power of such transmissions in small communities will be immense. We shall be able to bring world television news live, as it happens.