

The Chairman advised that Miss LaMarsh would not be available on Tuesday, November 21, and the Committee agreed to consider clauses relating to amendments to the Radio Act on that date.

The examination of the Minister still continuing, at 5.35 p.m., the Committee adjourned until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, November 16.

Tuesday, November 14, 1957.

9:40 a.m.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, we have a quorum.

I would like to announce that the report of the Subcommittee on Agents and Procedure will be as follows: Messrs. Sargent, Fairweather, Pittie, Sunner and Ebbelway.

I bring to the attention of the Committee the report of the Steering Committee which met last week which reads: (See Minutes of Proceedings).

Mr. Cowan: I suggest sitting while the House is in session.

The Chairman: Is there any other comment is that agreed on division?

Agreed on division.

The Chairman: Before us this morning is Bill C-165 which has been referred to us by the House for consideration.

We have with us the Minister, the Honorable Judy LaMarsh, and her colleague. I will call clause 1 of this Bill and ask the Minister if she would like to make a statement.

May I ask everyone, including the Minister, if they would please co-operate with the Committee's Branch by using the public phone and trying to speak into them.

On Clause 1—Short title

Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State of Canada): Mr. Chairman, may I say at the outset that I welcome this opportunity to appear again before this Committee, this time with respect to the new Broadcasting Act.

As I am sure all members are aware, the government found the Commission's report on the White Paper to be of very great value in considering the Bill. I am very hopeful that the same quality of consideration will be given and the same degree of vigilance will be found in the Committee's study of Bill C-165.

I would like to make some comments on what will be a relatively brief statement

particularly on the aspects of the Bill that attracted some attention in the House and might not be so well known in the rather hurried manner of the usual Reading.

M. Slack,
Clerk of the Committee.

Events may not have proven this to be a warranted assumption, but I have to assume that the members of the Committee had in mind they did in preparing their report on the White Paper, that they consider the principle of a public broadcasting system to be clearly established and to be, in general, well supported both within and without Parliament.

Having said that, I should like to comment with respect to the debate that took place in the House. It caused some distress to me in the House in that while it was a very enlightening and wide-ranging debate I would like to be a rather unreserved endorsement of an institution which I feel has done much for the country and has proved itself.

Parliament represents the people whose interests it has to take into account and who are to report to Parliament. It is my duty to see that in making the public's policy, particularly with respect to broadcasting and with an approved White Paper, the Corporation as it is referred to in the Bill and many of the people of Canada, my duty to be very careful not to forget the public's interest with the public's interest and to be, at least, as all I propose to say with respect to the general outline.

Therefore, I would like to refer to some of the issues and comments made by some members, especially with respect to the mandate of the CBC as it is set out in Part I.

Mr. Smith expressed a fear, on second reading, that the clause providing that the CBC shall not be a corporation.

reference to the development of national unity.

What was said to what he called an anti-republican white hunt, particularly with regard to the CBC. That, of course, is not a section of the Act for that purpose and I do not think