

one is going along the highway one gets perfect reception in a certain area, and then for a certain distance there will be no reception at all. A program which is coming in well may disappear entirely, and that is due to purely local conditions. I know of a case in my city where there are people who say they have never heard WEAJ at all while people living five or six doors away say, why we hear it every night. Much of this difficulty is due to certain peculiar local conditions. I think it would be very dangerous for us to consider complaints by individuals. I am sure, as the minister in his comments has suggested, there may be a general picture which I think should be set out, and justly so. There are certain broad complaints that do have a definite bearing. On the other hand, I think it is only fair to the present commissioners and the present commission to consider as against that those comments which are in their favour. We are not here merely to destroy, we are not here saying that this commission is entirely at fault; I think we are here really to find out how Canadian broadcasting can be improved. Therefore, it is just as important for us to know what is right with the commission as it is for us to know what is wrong with the commission, if anything. I earnestly urge that if any memorandum on the subject is to be presented to the committee it should be one giving both sides of the question.

The CHAIRMAN: You are referring to programs, of course.

Mr. MASSEY: I am referring to the whole set up.

Hon. Mr. HOWE: I think a distinction should be drawn between trivial complaints and important complaints.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HOWE: There are very important complaints made; for instance, we are to have the Canadian Press here next week. They have a very definite complaint, that more time should be given for the dissemination of Canadian news. Then, the telephone companies have a complaint. There are various complaints of that kind. There are certain organized bodies of opinion which have complaints, and I think that is the sort of complaint we would like to have before us. That is the sort of complaint that Mr. Charlesworth would pay attention to in reporting here, and that is what I think our department can do; we can summarize the complaints of the organized bodies of opinion that are entitled to be heard.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. HOWE: I think when we have that it will give us some material to work on.

Mr. SLAGHT: Let me add, if it meets the approval of the committee, Mr. Massey points out quite fairly, as against these complaints we have had much in addition to what is complained of in a general way.

Mr. MASSEY: What the minister has just said is what I have in mind.

The CHAIRMAN: Is it understood then, Mr. Slaght, that the complaints which come from organized bodies, together with favourable comments, should be placed before us?

Mr. SLAGHT: That is it, yes.

*By Mr. Hanson:*

Q. I would like to ask Mr. Charlesworth a question as to what is being done to improve the situation in Vancouver. There has been nothing new there since 1934, and I wonder if that condition is to go on indefinitely?—A. We have already given consideration to that matter. We are providing a new transmitter for Vancouver. We have prepared plans and specifications, we have an option on a site, and we are ready to go ahead at once, as soon as supply is voted to