

Broadcasting

across the nation the chance to educate their children in the atmosphere and traditions of their own culture.

I realize that there are certain economic difficulties, since sums of moneys are needed to provide those facilities. I hope the government will give sympathetic consideration to increasing the appropriation in this regard, and I believe they will receive the support and the congratulations not only of the French speaking parts of our nation but of all Canadians who are interested in the development of a distinctive nationhood, and a nation based on the traditional cultures from which this great land has arisen.

Mr. McCleave: Would the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Argue: Yes.

Mr. McCleave: The hon. member referred to commercials on the C.B.C. Would he do away with them completely?

Mr. Argue: No. If I left that impression I should like to correct it. I think that people who have much more knowledge of these affairs than I would suggest that there is a place for commercial advertising but it is being overdone. There are too many commercials and too much emphasis is being given to obtaining greater and greater revenues from advertising.

Mr. D. V. Pugh (Okanagan Boundary): Mr. Speaker I should like to put forward one point. I hope that the committee will consider increasing the number of low power transmitter stations. I come from a mountainous constituency with numerous valleys and most of these areas are very well served indeed by the C.B.C. or private local stations. The quality of the transmission is excellent and most people are able to receive it. But there are one or two places, and I have one in mind particularly, which are shut off entirely so far as reception is concerned except during certain hours in the evening. They are not able to receive Canadian programs either through the C.B.C. or private stations. To my mind this is a mistake. Their only source of culture or whatever you like to call it, in any event radio reception in all its phases, is the United States, and I think this is a mistake. It is true that the community is not very large but it is actually within two miles, I would say, of the Canadian Pacific railway whose telegraph lines serve low power transmitter stations efficiently within 30 or 40 miles on either side.

To me it seems to be wrong that there are growing communities in Canada which are not served by the C.B.C. or private Canadian stations. Certainly as far as the smaller communities are concerned it is not fair to say

[Mr. Argue.]

that they should have only a privately owned station and I believe that where feasible such communities should be served by the C.B.C.

I have one point in mind that I think is important. In British Columbia the regular transmission of school programs is now being undertaken and this community is cut off from receiving them. I do not know the exact number of children there but the community has its schools and they should have this facility.

I was quite interested in the remarks of the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Herridge) who mentioned that possibly the difficulty had something to do with the availability of lines. I suggest that the broadcasting committee should look into this matter. For the record, the community to which I have been referring is Christina Lake in the boundary country of my constituency of Okanagan Boundary.

Mr. C. R. Granger (Grand Falls-White Bay-Labrador): Mr. Speaker, I agree with the hon. member for Churchill (Mr. Simpson) and other hon. members who have made a plea for more consideration of remote areas. I hope the committee will find it possible to make a practical suggestion so that the C.B.C. television and radio stations at Goose Bay, Labrador, can give greater coverage in that remote area. I think it might be in order for me to mention that the C.B.C. radio station at Goose Bay does not reach the northern settlements along the coast of Labrador but the Eskimos there listen to programs in Eskimo broadcast from Greenland. Russian radio broadcasts also come in very well farther north while the C.B.C. does not. I thought I should leave this thought with the committee and perhaps I might also express a word of appreciation for the educational programs which fairly recently were included in the C.B.C. programs broadcast from Goose Bay.

Mr. R. J. McCleave (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, there are four or five matters which I think the committee on broadcasting, to be formed I presume when this debate ends, should consider. The first one is the fact that we are faced with a rather monumental increase in the amount of money that is to be voted by parliament for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, an increase somewhere in the neighbourhood of 15 per cent. Therefore I think it becomes our duty on behalf of the owners of the C.B.C., the people of Canada, to examine not only the efforts toward economy within the corporation itself but its efforts to find new revenue.

At one time I worked for the C.B.C. in a summertime capacity and I have also worked in private broadcasting so that, so