

Broadcasting Act

of that radio station, informing him he would no longer be permitted to use the services of the station. I intend to place that letter on record so that hon. members may have the facts.

Mr. M. Carlton
490 Baker Street
Nelson, B.C.

Dear Mr. Carlton:

We seem to be on the horns of dilemma these days, a dilemma which must be obvious to everyone. Now that your paper is establishing itself as a regular advertising media, seeking its business from the same customers as ourselves, it is not reasonable that we should be defeating ourselves by building up in any way the success of a business competitor. We therefore, are invoking section 7 of our contract. As of today's date we are serving you with ten days notice of cancellation of your advertising contract No. 726. I would further bring to your attention items 4 and 6 of the conditions of contract.

Yours sincerely,

A. R. Ramsden,
Manager.

I had a conversation with the editor of the *Graphic News*. The major owner of the *News* publishing company is a gentleman for whom I have a high regard. He served overseas with the 54th Kootenay battalion and I would be surprised if he agreed to this treatment of a veteran who is trying to establish himself after fighting in the last war for freedom.

The Nelson daily *News* and the radio station in question are both owned by the News Publishing Company Limited of 216 Baker street, Nelson, British Columbia. This company was incorporated on May 18, 1908 with an authorized capital of \$200,000. The list of directors together with the shares they hold is as follows:

Shares	Name	Address
1326	Robert H. Green	Victoria
28	Cecil W. Ramsden	Nelson
96	Robert F. G. Green	Victoria
108	Gordon A. Green	Victoria
5	Robert W. Phipps	Victoria
100	Margaret G. Green	Victoria
12	George G. Green	Victoria

Shareholders only:

5	Francis E. Winston
2270	Robert Green

This news publishing company owns the Nelson daily *News* and radio station CKLN. Then, shortly after hearing from the editor of the *Kootenay Graphic News* I received visits from businessmen in Nelson who had become customers of the *Graphic News*. They complained that the *Graphic News* was being denied what they considered to be a right under the bill of rights, namely to advertise on a station which received its licence through an agency of the government, the board of broadcast governors. Other people mentioned

the subject to me, and there was a good deal of discussion about it.

The same day I met the editor of the Nelson daily *News*, Cecil Ramsden, and told him what I thought of the matter. I dealt with him directly because I understand he is really the officer commanding all the interests of the news publishing company in Nelson. He agreed with the letter sent by the manager of the radio station and was of the opinion that they were justified, having had a monopoly in advertising for 60 years on Baker street, in preventing anyone else establishing themselves in the newspaper business by soliciting advertising from the same customers over CKLN.

I must say that the editor of the *Kootenay Graphic News* and his partners have been most successful and have received a lot of support from business people in Nelson. To indicate that sympathy and the objection to this monopolistic attitude on the part of the editor of the *News* Publishing Company, perhaps I might tell the house that in order to assist the *Kootenay Graphic News* some of these merchants, who also advertise on the radio station, are including a sentence or two at the end of their announcements such as: "You will see our advertisement in the *Kootenay Graphic News* next Wednesday", or Thursday, or what ever day it happens to be.

After talking with these people, I agreed to take the matter up with the Minister of Justice and with the chairman of the board of broadcast governors. I have done that. I discussed the matter with the chairman of the board of broadcast governors and he told me there was nothing in the act at present which would give him the power to prevent this practice. He said this was the first occasion on which such an action had been brought to his attention since he had become chairman of the board. Then I discussed the matter with the Minister of Justice. I raised it in the house and the minister later wrote to me and informed me to the following effect:

December 16, 1960

Herbert W. Herridge, Esq., M.P.,
House of Commons,
Ottawa

Dear Mr. Herridge:

Thank you for your letter of December 7, 1960, in connection with the policy of Radio Station CKLN in accepting advertising.

When you raised this matter in the house on November 18, 1960, it was brought to the attention of the director under the Combines Investigation Act. The director has considered the matter and has come to the conclusion that it does not fall within the Combines Investigation Act and that, accordingly, there is no basis for starting an inquiry under the act.

Yours sincerely,

E. D. Fulton