

Two basic matters of concern are, first, the inefficiency inherent in such extensive dispersals; and, second, cost as represented by essential duplication of services, plus the total rental of premises involved.

As mentioned, the 1956 Royal Commission on Broadcasting agreed with the CBC that this dispersal of facilities is most undesirable from all aspects of the CBC's operations. From a tangible standpoint, savings from consolidation at both points could total around \$2,000,000 annually, less depreciation. The intangibles, such as increased productivity, the greater ease of operation, and general work climate, could well be of even greater value.

Toronto Proposal

The present eleven locations would be consolidated at a site about fifteen minutes by car from the centre of the city. Sufficient space is available for the complete radio and television operations, both now and in the foreseeable future.

Montreal Proposal

The present twenty-three locations would be reduced to two during the period under review. It is planned to continue domestic radio operations and the International Service from the Radio Canada Building. All other locations would be consolidated, thus providing a television and administrative centre not too far from the Radio Canada Building. This is based on the assumption that the building will continue to be available and that final consolidation in Montreal would not take place before 1966.

General

Work at both locations could start early in 1960 and basic consolidation accomplished within the five-year period. Approximately 84% of the expenditures would be made during this time, leaving only final payments and clean-up in the following year or so (Exhibit B provides a breakdown of expenditures year by year for the consolidation program at Montreal and Toronto).

The planning of these consolidations has been related to the needs of the program service, under which it is planned to gradually add an average of somewhat less than half an hour per day per year over the five years.

Radio and Television Coverage Development

The next major element is the development of coverage for both radio and television. The coverage program represents a continuation of the Corporation's present policy of providing radio and television service in areas where National Service is required. Over the five-year period, it is estimated that the Corporation would be able to provide services to more than forty new locations in radio and television. Locations would be determined as equitably as possible, on the basis of geographical coverage, language distribution, and the development of new frontier population centres. The main yardstick to be used in determining locations is the cost per radio or television home, with due regard being given to the foregoing elements.

Future private station licensing, together with the developments of new communities, etc., can shift the emphasis from area to area. Consequently, final determination of locations will be the subject of study from budget year to budget year. The plans as outlined, together with the completion of current coverage projects, would bring national radio service to an additional 150,000 people and television national service to an additional 500,000 people.

Northern Service

Of particular interest in connection with the improvement of radio coverage is the Northern Service. The CBC was requested to take over and operate various community and armed services stations scattered throughout the Yukon and Northwest Territories. The stations are being incorporated within the national system and so will provide improved program service and coverage to our north country.