

Q. I was wondering if the inference was that the people of Alberta were not getting good service now?—A. Yes, the inference is that they are not getting as nearly as full service as they will get under our plan; then they will have a much greater choice of programmes on a good signal.

Q. I do not know that they are aware of that or not, but we will leave it. Have you any letters on file at all from listeners, or any requests from listeners that they are not getting good service now?—A. We have had some. One happened to come to my desk the other day. Somebody living in the eastern part of Alberta who could hear a certain trans-Canada programme from Watrous but could not hear it well; and she said: "Couldn't you get this programme on another station, a local station which I could hear much better?" I think it is also fair to point out that I think the people of Alberta have not had much chance to know about our plans until now. I hope they will have a better realization of them after our plans have been put before the committee, such as they were the other day.

Q. Personally, I have not heard many complaints in respect to the service they are getting unless it is something along the line of some little technical interference or something of that sort.—A. We have had, I think, a number of requests, on suggestions, or notices that people are not getting certain programmes which they like and which they know are available on the network. I think the people in the province have not been in a position to hear many things and do not know just what to ask for.

The CHAIRMAN: The local stations are not constantly telling them it would be better if the CBC came in.

Mr. HANSELL: I can quite understand that, Mr. Chairman.

*By Mr. Hansell:*

Q. What I am trying to get at is whether or not the listeners of Alberta are reasonably satisfied. I live in Alberta and I travel over quite a bit of it. I have heard no complaints myself that they are not getting good radio service. There is one other question here. Have you had any requests at all from Alberta that the corporation take over the wave length now occupied by station CFCN?—A. I do not think we have had any very direct requests; on the other hand, I do not think, from anything I know—

Q. Then the pressure is not coming from the people?—A. That the public have had no great chance to understand the plans or what is involved.

Q. There has been no particular pressure come from the people. Now, there is another line I would like to pursue just for a moment.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: Would you let me give you a statement here, Mr. Hansell. A little later I shall draw the attention of the committee to a considerable number of letters received. I am just glancing at them as I speak. There have been a large number of letters come in. I think the majority of them are commending the CBC, coming from all parts of Canada; and there are some others which are critical. They will all be before the committee. I think it is only fair to say that the numbers here from out that way, on the other side of the case, seem to be very much smaller than from any other section of the country, either condemnatory or laudatory.

Mr. HANSELL: Perhaps we will hear more of the correspondence later.

*By Mr. Hansell:*

Q. Now, there is this angle I would like to pursue, and I think it is something with which the committee should be perhaps a little more aware. When the networks compete with private stations, they do so for an audience and the impression I think that some may have is that the local stations can very well