

to that. I mean, it is a natural thing, is it not? Would you not say so?—A. I do not quite get your meaning. You mean something in the news gets more attention?

Q. If the overall publicity accentuates some part of the news it is evident that that news is more important, or otherwise they would not do it. The result would be that when the news is edited that would also get the headlines.—A. Yes, I think that is so.

Q. Would it not be possible, therefore, that in any accusation of slanting, if there is any accusation, that that might be the reason?—A. I would not like to try and put the responsibility any places else, but a great deal does depend on news value. We have had very few complaints lately. Two or three years ago, I remember looking at a couple of complaints that one subject had more publicity than another. That does not say it has greater truth or sounder philosophy, or anything else. It is the sort of thing that strikes newsmen as having news value, and the judgment of newsmen is pretty good, and it is quite probable that it also strikes the public as being of more interest.

By Mr. Boisvert:

Q. Mr. Dunton, do you see a way to check the objectivity of the news without spending a lot of money?—A. You mean check it more?

Q. The objectivity of the news that you are getting.—A. You mean to have a check to go back to the sources ourselves?

Q. Yes.—A. No; it would cost a great deal of money to duplicate the facilities.

By Mr. Fleming:

Q. I think we ought to have the information complete about those payments for news. Last year you paid Canadian Press \$108,227; British United Press, \$35,000; and the French Press, \$4,000, making a total of \$147,227. Has there been any change there?—A. There will be some changes coming up, but they are under negotiation.

Q. If it is under negotiation, I will say no more about it.

By Mr. Murray:

Q. Would it not help the corporation to have the services of the best newsman in the country, say at a salary of \$15,000 a year, to be here at Ottawa and other places at various times to cooperate with the news services? You are paying out \$147,000 now for all the services, and I suggest a lot of that should be provided without cost since it originates from a cooperative news-gathering agency across the country and which has already been paid for by the subscribers to the press of the country.—A. I think they are anxious to have money for it, too, when they supply it to us.

Q. Well, they are supplying it to you for money, but they extract first the grain out of it and then sell you the straw.—A. I do not think any grain comes out.

Q. It is all published in the other papers before it comes on the air.—A. No, Mr. Murray. We get the exact items as they go to the newspapers. It comes to our newsroom at the same time, over the same service.

Q. But it first goes on the street in the various cities?—A. No.

Q. The gathering of news and the editing of news is one of the most scientific tasks that anyone could undertake, and I suggest to you that you would save money and add to your newsroom service by having the most capable man—you do not need too many of them on the staff—to sit in on the editing of the news as it comes from the capital.—A. We need the basic service, but that would cost us more.