

charter, could it be made a provincial object. Similarly if the object of the company were to transmit messages as a commercial undertaking between Ontario and Quebec, I should say no, that was not a provincial object, but given a wireless telegraph apparatus as serving some purpose, I cannot call to my mind a good illustration, some municipal purpose—

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I do not want to have anything to do with municipality, but as a pure matter of private enterprise and to supply the newspapers—that is their object, to get news and sell it.

VISCOUNT HALDANE: To help the Stock Exchange in Toronto, say.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: To acquire and sell news through the agency of wireless telegraphy. MR. WEGENAST: For a specific newspaper?

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: No, to anybody who will buy the news.

VISCOUNT HALDANE: Take the case I put. The Stock Exchange in Toronto is interested in the fluctuations of Yukon mines; may not they have a wireless telegraphy installation there to get news from Dawson City or wherever it is? MR. WEGENAST: Yes; only because your Lordship qualifies it "for the purpose of the Stock Exchange."

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I do not want to put it that way. You have the general business of wireless telegraphy in Ontario. To that business you get subscribers, the Stock Exchange, newspapers, anybody who likes to come from anywhere and subscribe to your agency in order to get the benefit of your wireless telegraphic system. That is the business you are carrying on. MR. WEGENAST: May I ask whether it is from anywhere in Canada?

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: Anyone can come into your office in Ontario and become a subscriber to your wireless telegraphic system. MR. WEGENAST: If it is to serve the people in Canada and anyone in Canada can come and the intention is—

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: The intention is merely to carry on a business of wireless telegraphy in the province of Ontario. MR. WEGENAST: In the province of Ontario?

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I have so stated it. MR. WEGENAST: I say unquestionably yes.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: Then it can be done, then he could establish receiving as well as transmitting stations all over Canada, if the object of that was to supply more effectively the business in Ontario. MR. WEGENAST: I should say not.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: Then your business has to be lame all its life because you cannot take the necessary steps to make it a profitable undertaking. MR. WEGENAST: No, my Lord, we have here a disjunctive federal system which gives the power to the federal authority, the central authority. If that is not the intention, then, my Lords, what is the intention? How, in the nature of things, could there be an adequate system of administration over, let us say, a wireless telegraph system if there were not that jurisdiction vested in the Dominion.

LORD PARKER: It would go very far. Take a publishing business, suppose you could not incorporate a company to publish and sell books without putting in the limitation "for people in Ontario." MR. WEGENAST: I do not suggest that, my Lord. Of course, your Lordships can drive me to the wall with very difficult questions.

LORD PARKER: It would be advisable if possible to come to some conclusion which would obviate all these subtle points. MR. WEGENAST: Yes, my Lord, and the conclusion that my clients submit is that in every case where business partake, or begins to partake, of an interprovincial character the solution is a Dominion charter.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: When your trust company, which was put as an illustration against you, carries on a business of a trust company in Ontario. They are asked to undertake something in New Brunswick and they must say no, we cannot do that. MR. WEGENAST: Well, there, questions would arise.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I know they are difficult questions to answer, but we have to consider them. MR. WEGENAST: I will make the best endeavour I can to consider them, because they do arise. In the case of a trust company—of