

REPORTED IN PARLIAMENT BRIEFLY

**TELEVISION POLICY:** The Minister of National Revenue, Dr. McCann, on March 28 delivered before the House of Commons a statement of government policy with respect to television. He spoke in part as follows:

"1. The general direction of television broadcasting in Canada will, in accordance with the Canadian Broadcasting Act, be entrusted to the Board of Governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation who will arrange for television operations by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and by licensed private stations.

"2. In order to provide the required services, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation will--

(a) establish at this time national television production centres in Montreal and Toronto.

(b) provide a service of television programs for broadcasting by stations which may be established in other areas of Canada, thus furnishing part of their programming. This service will be provided by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation either by means of kinescope recordings or by direct physical relays when available. The number of national system programs which any private station carries, and the terms on which they will be made available will be primarily a matter for negotiation and arrangement. The Government considers, how-

(Continued from P.1)

to which the agreeing nations are really prepared to carry out the declared intention of the pact.

"We will be deluding ourselves in a very dangerous manner if we believe that the signing of such a pact in itself assures peace, or the preservation of our freedom. It offers the promise of freedom and peace, only if it becomes a living instrument of effective and continuing co-operation between the nations. It creates a great partnership of free people, but the success or failure of that partnership will depend, not upon the terms of the partnership agreement, but upon the way in which the partners work together after the agreement is signed...."

The Leader of the C.C.F. Party, Mr. Coldwell: "...The hope of mankind lies in universal peace. This, it seems to me, can best be secured at the present time by joining with other free and peace-loving nations in expressing a determination to resist all threats of aggression. At the same time we must insist that universal peace and security will depend in the final analysis on the extent to which poverty, misery and want are banished from the world. In such a security system Canada can play an important role. The world is divided into two blocs. We have no warlike ambitions. We desire peace for ourselves and for all

ever, that a certain minimum of national programs should be carried by each television station;

(c) establish transmitting stations in Montreal and Toronto.

"3. In any city or area in Canada, including Montreal and Toronto, a licence to establish one private station will be granted to a private organization giving adequate assurances of financial means and of service. In view of the high cost of television operations, it is felt that individuals or groups interested in establishing a private station in any city may wish to form an association for the purpose of applying for a licence.

"4. In regard to network arrangements, whether by teletranscriptions or direct physical hookups, the same principles will apply as in the case of radio broadcasting.

"It will be some time before there are enough receiving sets in Canada for television licence fees and commercial revenues to cover costs of programming and operations. It is necessary, therefore, for the Government to provide loans to the C.B.C. to cover capital costs of its necessary installations and to support the development of the service. For these purposes Parliament will be asked to approve a loan of \$4 million this year. It is expected that the national television operations will become self-supporting from licence fees and commercial revenues in a few years...."

mankind. That, I am convinced, is the desire of the masses everywhere. It is that desire which has brought into the North Atlantic Security Pact such nations as Norway and Denmark, nations which are adjacent to Soviet Russia, much nearer indeed than the distances which were noted this afternoon...."

The Leader of the Social Credit Party, Mr. Low: "...We are prepared to work with all our might for the ostensible motives of the pact, and we pray God that the ostensible ones are the real ones. But we are not prepared to work for any hidden designs of international plotters who may be concealed behind a smoke screen. We propose to demand and elicit from all the Ministers responsible for bringing this instrument before the House, not only statements of clarification but also commitments of clarification...."

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson: "...The consequence of the pact may be, indeed must be, much more far-reaching than merely the provision of security. It can promote progress as well as preserve peace. If the outlines and foundations of this international community can be fashioned quickly and effectively enough to serve its emergency purpose, it should lead to the growth of freedom and order everywhere...."

CANADA WELCOMES NEWFOUNDLAND INTO CONFEDERATION

**ST. JOHN'S -- OTTAWA CEREMONIES:** Newfoundland's impending entry into Confederation as the tenth province of Canada, effective at midnight on March 31, was featured in news, editorial and advertising presentations in newspapers throughout the nation on March 31. A welcoming hand was extended from every walk of Canadian life. The event is being commemorated in ceremonies described on March 28, to the House of Commons by the Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, as follows:

"Brief ceremonies are being arranged at St. John's and at Ottawa on Friday, April 1, and they will be broadcast both by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and by the Broadcasting Corporation of Newfoundland.

"The ceremony will begin with the reading of the Commission and the swearing in of the Lieutenant-Governor of the new Province at St. John's. As part of the same ceremony, the Secretary of State of Canada (Mr. Gibson) will present a token certificate of Canadian citizenship to the newly-appointed Lieutenant-Governor, who will receive it on behalf of the people of Newfoundland. This ceremony will be broadcast from St. John's, beginning at twelve o'clock noon Ottawa time, one-thirty p.m. St. John's time.

PARLIAMENT HILL CEREMONY

"The ceremony at Ottawa will follow immediately. It will be held on Parliament Hill. His Excellency the Governor-General, I as Prime Minister, and a Minister from Newfoundland who will be sworn in that morning, will welcome the new Province. As part of the ceremony in Ottawa the first strokes will be taken to carve the Newfoundland coat of arms on the blank plaque under the arch of the Peace Tower."

A combined Army-RCAF Guard of Honour will be mounted in the shadow of the Peace Tower. With the Guard will be the Governor-General's Foot Guards' Band.

A Royal Salute by the Guard of Honour and a 19-gun salute by the 30th Field Regiment, RCA, is to greet the Governor-General when he appears at about 12:15. After the ceremony a second salute is to be given and the band will play the National Anthem, Ode to Newfoundland, and O Canada.

In the House of Commons on March 30, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, tabled special supplementary estimates to cover the year's expenditures on the new Province. The Government estimates it will spend \$55,126,618 in Newfoundland during the first fiscal year. The expenditures provide for the extension of the services of all departments of the federal Government to Newfoundland.

The largest single amount in the estimates was \$8,400,000 to cover family allowance payments. The estimates of the Department of

National Health and Welfare totalled \$12,308,606. This included \$78,180 for family allowances administration and \$2,719,200 for payment of the federal Government's share to old age pensions. Other Department of Health expenditures would include grants toward hospital construction, strengthening of public health services, tuberculosis control, etc.

The Prime Minister announced on March 28 that it was the intention of the Government to recommend the appointment of Sir Albert Walsh, K.C., LL.B., to the Office of Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland at the date of union. Sir Albert has agreed to accept the appointment on the understanding that he could be released from the Office at an early date after an elected legislature has begun its sessions.

GANDER AIR SERVICES

The Minister of Transport, Mr. Chevrier, on March 29, made the following announcement in the House of Commons regarding air services at Gander:

"The following arrangements have now been made with regard to provision of air services, after union, to and from Gander, Newfoundland.

"Trans-Canada Air Lines will provide service from Gander to the Canadian mainland on both its transatlantic operations and its domestic operations. Trans-Canada Air Lines will also provide service from Gander to and from the United Kingdom on its transatlantic operations. This represents a new development, since Trans-Canada Air Lines has not previously carried traffic between Newfoundland and the United Kingdom; moreover, T.C.A. domestic connections which will link Gander with the transcontinental service are to be improved.

"Temporary arrangements covering a three months' period terminating June 30, 1949, have been made, under which the foreign air lines now exercising traffic rights at Gander may continue to do so during this temporary period. Any exercise of traffic rights after June 30 will be dependent upon the reciprocal agreements which the Government of Canada may make before that date with those governments in cases where Canada wishes to exercise reciprocal rights in foreign territory.

"Arrangements are now in hand for formal bilateral discussions with the Government of the United States, and these will take place in June."

For Military purposes the new Province will become an area of the Army's Eastern Command, the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, announced on March 31. It will also become part of the Navy's existing Atlantic Command and the Air Force's Central Command. Present Defence Department plans are to establish a naval reserve division in Newfoundland, re-establish the Royal Newfoundland Regiment as a