

*Television Transmission Facilities*

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I shall be glad to make inquiries and to inform the house or the hon. member.

**BROADCASTING****SPONSORSHIP OF PROGRAMS BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I shall try the second time. I wish to ask the Secretary of State a question of which I gave her verbal notice five minutes ago. Would the minister inform the house if she considers it proper that the Government of France through its ownership of Air France should sponsor broadcasts to privately owned radio stations concerning the happenings in parliament?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I suggest that the question itself is not proper. It is not properly put or asked of the minister at this time.

May I suggest to hon. members as most questions have been answered this afternoon, we might move to private members business.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** It being 5.30 p.m. the house will now proceed with the consideration of private members business listed on the order paper, namely notices of motions. It is my understanding of course that this will be an hour period, and that the house would adjourn, or suspend its sitting at 6.30 after private members business has been discussed for one hour.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Knowles:** To resume sitting at eight o'clock?

**Mr. Speaker:** To resume at eight o'clock.

● (5:30 p.m.)

**CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION****REQUEST FOR TRANSMISSION IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN**

**Mr. A. C. Cadieu (Meadow Lake)** moved:

That, in the opinion of this house, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation should take steps to carry out its duty to provide television coverage by immediately establishing transmission facilities in northwestern Saskatchewan, including Buffalo Narrows, Uranium City and on to Fort Smith, Hay River and Yellowknife.

[Mr. Webb.]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. This motion was called for the first time on March 7, 1966.

**Mr. Cadieu (Meadow Lake):** Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I present this motion to the house at this time. The vast areas of northern Saskatchewan and the whole of the Northwest Territories have been neglected for years, so far as television service has been concerned, and no doubt the hon. member for the Northwest Territories (Mr. Orange) will also wish to speak on this motion.

It is well known that the C.B.C. was established to provide a national service, but it has not done so. We are taking far too long to obtain that national service, and a large proportion of our population has no television service whatsoever.

All Canadians, and the companies they work for, pay taxes which help finance the C.B.C. When one looks at the wealth that comes out of our northern mining areas, including the wealth from the fishing and farming sectors, he can certainly see a great injustice. Some Canadians have no T.V. service at all. The C.B.C. cannot claim to be national; it can only claim to be regional, until the majority of Canadians are given T.V. service.

Some 60 per cent of the Canadian people have access to at least two T.V. signals, and the government is giving the C.B.C. additional funds to provide colour service for areas which already have a choice of T.V. signals. Many people who live all along our southern border receive additional T.V. service from the United States. Yet, as I say, many Canadians have no service. The priority must be changed.

The recent Fowler Commission report gave top priority to the extension of C.B.C. television service in northern and remote regions of the country. Also recently, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources (Mr. Laing) said he feels T.V. service to northern Canada is crucial if we are to attract people and investment into our northern regions. Television service is also necessary to help keep families in northern Canada as it relieves social isolation and puts them in touch with the rest of the country.

Although these northern regions are remote and sparsely settled, they have old established communities and have contributed