

(3) The immediate and unreserved acceptance of collective bargaining by the C.B.C. On this point the Congress naturally feels strongly. Unions are among the strongest bulwarks of democracy, and the chief means of introducing into industry some measure of constitutional government. Private industry throughout Canada is now obliged by law to recognize and bargain with unions of the workers' choice. Public enterprise cannot afford to be less democratic. With the extension of public enterprise into one field after another (an extension which the Congress favours), it would be disastrous if the principle became established that transfer of any industry or service from private to public control involved curtailment of the workers' rights. The continued refusal of the C.B.C. to recognize and bargain with unions is completely without justification. It has no longer even the foundation formerly provided by the assertion of the Department of Justice that emanations of the Crown were legally debarred from signing agreements with unions.

Dr. Frigon, in his evidence at page 328, appears to be unaware that, since the passing of P.C. 1003, early this year, the C.B.C., like a private employer, is obliged to recognize and bargain with any union which a majority of its employees choose to represent them. Section 2, sub-section 1, paragraph (g) of P.C. 1003 explicitly declares that the word "employer" includes the National Harbours Board, and "any other body incorporated to act as an agent of His Majesty in right of Canada except any such body whose employees are entitled to a cost-of-living bonus to employees of the Government of Canada (P.C. 6702), as amended"; and P.C. 18/1656 of March 3, 1942, explicitly excludes the C.B.C. from the operation of P.C. 6702. There can therefore be no question that the C.B.C. comes under P.C. 1003, and that the management of the Corporation has no longer any excuse whatever for refusing to sign a contract with a union if its employees desire such a contract. It need hardly be added that organized Labour's confidence in the Corporation would be hardly strengthened by a frank acceptance of this fact.

Respectfully submitted,

THE CANADIAN CONGRESS OF LABOUR,

A. R. Mosher, President,

Pat Conroy, Secretary-Treasurer.

APPENDIX M

STATEMENT BY E. A. WEIR, C.B.C. COMMERCIAL MANAGER, IN REPLY TO THE PERIODICAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Casselman and gentlemen—the remarks I shall make are by way of setting out the factual background behind the \$500,000 commercial limitation referred to by the Periodical Press Association before this Committee on June 1st. It proves, I believe, that their case is neither as clear-cut nor as public-spirited as they claim.

The Royal Commission on Radio Broadcasting, usually known as the Aird Commission, in its report dated September 11, 1929, recommended seven 50,000 watt transmitters and a number of smaller stations as the basic set-up for a national broadcasting service.

On the question of revenue it suggested three sources,

1. Licence fees.
2. Rental of time on broadcasting stations.
3. Subsidy from the Dominion Government.