

private station, had been "suppressed" by the corporation in a presentation to the Commons radio committee.

His personal view, he said, was that the legislation was a "sensible way" of providing funds for the C.B.C. at a time of extra cost.

Rodney Adamson (P.C. York West) said the C.B.C. was outstripped by private stations in the highly competitive Toronto field and urged that a thorough probe of its service should precede any further grants.

E.D. Fulton (P.C. Kamloops) charged that "political considerations" were involved in C.B.C. policy.

Mr. Fulton said a C.B.C. national news broadcast had ignored an important Commons debate in which the government defeated a motion to give merchant seamen preference in Civil Service employment. The debate had occurred during a by-election campaign in the

Maritime riding of Halifax.

He also charged that the Commons radio committee had not been given full details behind the granting of a station license to Frank Ryan for station C.F.R.A., Ottawa. The documents related to the new station were "suppressed" by the C.B.C. and were "distorted" when tabled for the committee.

M.J. Coldwell, C.C.F. leader, criticized the brief presented to the radio committee by the Canadian Association of Broadcasters, adding that he understood some member-stations of the C.A.B. did not concur in its contents. He urged that the C.B.C. establish a station in Windsor, Ont., and suggested the committee should have recommended separation of radio stations from newspaper owners.

The C.B.C. was providing an "excellent service" generally, and had contributed to raising the level of national culture.

CANADIAN EDITORIAL COMMENT

(July 8 to July 14, 1947)

ECONOMIC FUTURE OF EUROPE: Much of the available comment antedated the opening of the Paris conference and the last-minute decision of Czechoslovakia not to attend. It differed little on the whole, from that reported last week. Even among this group of editorials, however, there occurred several that indicated pretty clearly that Canadian newspaper opinion had reached at best an uneasy equilibrium on questions raised by Soviet non-participation in the "Marshall plan." Thus, the LONDON FREE PRESS (July 8), citing the statement of Mr. Tagliatti that Italy would be willing to take part in the discussions "providing the nations participating do not form a political bloc against Russia, that they do not divide Europe into two blocs, that there is no political intervention in the affairs of the participating lands, and that the scheme does not lead to their economic subordination," said: "It would then be up to Britain and France, as well as the United States, to work out a formula by which acceptance of aid would not imply political subordination. This might clear up the question of whether the Marshall plan is a genuine effort to aid the rebuilding of Europe or merely an economic and political weapon against the spread of Communism." The HALIFAX CHRONICLE (July 7) commented: "...there must be more than 'dollar diplomacy' behind any variant of the Marshall Plan to be adopted. The real task is that of permanent rehabilitation, and we must be prepared in some measure at least to surrender economic principles of the past, as well as some of our surplus production." It was suggested by several papers that the policy of keeping the door open for the USSR might meet with success; the Saint John TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL (July 9) said: "If her dependents prove willing to attach their eco-

nomies to Europe's overall welfare, if they promise to institute personal freedom as a condition, Russia will have to do some explaining or admit a diplomatic defeat. As the plan takes shape without her, she may possibly think it well to reconsider her initial refusal to join. First there will be an attempt by her and her dependents to play both sides, but that cannot be allowed to succeed. The switch-over is what is going to be interesting to watch." The coincidence of Anglo-Soviet trade talks and the growth of Soviet economic relations with so-called "satellites" of the USSR with the Paris conference of the Western European nations outside the "iron curtain" gave rise to a small but perhaps significant amount of comment. The VICTORIA TIMES (July 12) discussed the Czechoslovak five-year trade compact with the Soviet Union as follows: "...the peoples of the western world will not be unmindful of the manner in which Great Britain and France treated the young eastern European democratic states when dictators Hitler and Mussolini drove their bitter bargain at Munich. Only time will tell... whether the deal consummated with the Soviet Union by the younger Masaryk will result in the 'furtherance and consolidation' of European peace..." The CHARLOTTETOWN PATRIOT (July 16) was the sole paper received giving full discussion to the Anglo-Soviet Trade negotiations. "Harold Wilson, British Secretary for Overseas Trade, said that so far as he could see the failure of the Paris conference (of foreign ministers) would not interfere with the country's plans for trade development with the Soviets." The SASKATOON STAR-PHOENIX (July 11) was alone in discussing the relation of the UN Economic Commission for Europe to the "Marshall plan."

INDIA AND PAKISTAN: A small amount of comment on this topic during the week was almost equally divided between pessimism and optimism regarding the future of the two new dominions. The Toronto EVENING-TELEGRAM (July 9), discussing the statement of Mr. Gandhi that "the history of Europe will be repeated in India," said: "It will be hoped that his latest melancholy prophecy will prove to be untrue, but if the disasters which he foresees come to pass he will have to bear the blame. If his forecast is justified the masses of India will have cause to regret the departure of a power that preserved them from such disasters as have afflicted distant Europe or nearby China." The heading of another editorial on Mr. Gandhi, in the VICTORIA COLONIST (July 10), indicated its tenor "Home To Roost." The OTTAWA CITIZEN (July 12) doubted the wisdom of the appointment of Mr. Jinnah as governor-general of Pakistan: "A governor-general of Mr. Jinnah's autocratic temperament is unlikely to let his ministers pay much attention to the legislature should he himself hold differing views. What then happens to the theory of responsible government that underlies Dominion status as it is known in Canada?" The EDMONTON JOURNAL (July 11) commented: "In spite of communal and racial rioting in some cities, the division of India and the setting up of the new dominion governments there is proceeding with a smoothness and a swiftness that is as amazing as it is reassuring." A similarly optimistic tone was adopted by the KINGSTON WHIG-STANDARD (July 11).

"SECRET SESSION": A small group of newspapers, including the Toronto GLOBE & MAIL (July 10), the LONDON FREE PRESS (July 10) and the PETERBOROUGH EXAMINER (July 12) expressed concern about the "secret session" at which Mr. Pearson spoke to members of the House of Commons and the Senate. Said the EXAMINER: "...because there are no new developments and because the meeting was closed to permit freer expression, a complete record of the conversations should have been released to allay suspicion. Promoting suspicion by holding closed sessions, without any plausible excuse, can do nothing but encourage distrust for the members of our brand new Department of External Affairs from whom we expect so much." The GLOBE adopted a somewhat sterner attitude: "...unless the public is to conclude that the secret session also cloaked the government's explanation of why it has not a policy, members of Parliament who do not wish to appear as 'conspirators in silence' will insist that a statement be made before Parliament rises." The OTTAWA JOURNAL (July 10), under the heading "It's In All The Newspapers," treated the matter with some humor, on the ground that "cabinet ministers and diplomats, like the rest of us, find most of what they know in the newspapers."

It is estimated that the grand total of recovery from Canada's surplus war material, when completed, will be over \$450 million.

CROP CONDITIONS IN CANADA

RAPID GROWTH PROMOTED: Above-normal temperatures throughout the Prairie Provinces have promoted rapid growth, but in areas where moisture reserves were deficient the crops have deteriorated, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This applies particularly to southwest, west-central and northern parts of Saskatchewan, and to south-eastern Alberta. Rains are urgently needed in these areas. Elsewhere in the Prairies good to excellent prospects have been maintained.

Extremely hot weather over most of Manitoba has promoted rapid growth of all crops during the past ten days. Wheat and coarse grains are heading, with up to 50 per cent of the wheat crop headed in southern and central areas. Flood damage has proven to be considerable along the Assiniboine Valley and in the Dauphin area, but fortunately the acreage involved is not great. Pastures and hay crops vary from good to excellent over the greater part of the province. The crop outlook generally in Manitoba remains very good, although more rain will be needed to bring crops to full maturity.

Excellent growth has been maintained in southern and most of the central districts of Saskatchewan. Continued drought in northern areas, however, has further reduced prospects and large areas there anticipate only poor to fair returns. Rains are urgently needed in the south-west and west-central areas to carry the crop. Considerable local hail damage is reported in widely scattered areas from storms July 4, 6, 10 and 11. Wheat is about 33 per cent in head compared with over 50 per cent at this time last year.

SOME DETERIORATION CAUSED

Hot dry weather over most of Alberta during the past two weeks has caused some deterioration of crops, particularly in the south-east. Scattered showers and some heavy local rains in the northern districts were exceptions to the general pattern of weather over the province. Moisture reserves are still satisfactory in most districts but in the south-eastern districts crops on stubble land are reported to be burned. Rain is urgently needed in these districts and will be needed in all districts to support the relatively heavy stands. The warm weather caused rapid crop growth and wheat is heading out in all districts although coarse grains are not as far advanced over the province as a whole. Haying is general in the south and will become general in the central districts shortly.

In Ontario, heavy rains during the past week have improved the outlook for grain and pasture crops throughout much of the province. Excessive rainfall in the extreme eastern counties caused some damage to crops and delayed haying. An acute labour shortage is also hampering the hay harvest. Fall wheat and rye are turning colour and promise good yields with harvesting expected to become general during the last ten days of July. Tobacco is growing well but corn is late and slow in