

we had to send in people from the East who had radio experience, and who had sufficient background to set up and run the station. But that's not the situation at all in Moncton, where we certainly expect there is going to be local recruiting of people from the area. As a matter of fact, we didn't have to send many people out there.

Even Toronto now, employs staff, who are people from the Niagara peninsula; in Edmonton, people from Edmonton; French-Canadians from Edmonton are in fact doing the organizing. We much prefer that, because they are far more sensitive to the realities of their own environment. They know the community better and consequently are better able to meet the expectations of their listeners and television viewers. However, it's not our intention at all to parachute Montrealers into Moncton unless, of course, there is a need for one position or another, but not at all intentionally as policy, for equipment and everything, for those stations.

[Text]

**Mr. Davidson:** Mr. Chairman, I might just add on the basis of the visit that we made to Edmonton last week, I was very favourably impressed with the fact that we have been able to staff our new television station in Edmonton very largely from persons of French-Canadian origin in the Northern Alberta area. I wouldn't want Senator McEIman to think, however, that we are going to allow Moncton to become an exclusively New Brunswick preserve in terms of employment, because there are Canadians who live in other parts of the Maritimes. There are French-Canadians who have an equal claim to consideration and while, I think, our basic preference will be, as Raymond David has indicated—I wouldn't want it to be thought that we are going to draw this so rigidly that only Maritimers need apply. I say that as a Nova Scotian myself.

**Senator McEIman:** One would appreciate, Dr. Davidson, that very understandable concern, that would not apply with technicians, let us say, where it would apply with editorial and news-collecting staff.

[Translation]

**Mr. Picard:** I'd like to answer Mr. Fortier's question. There are two differences: one that seems less important to me, right off, and the other one that is more important.

First, there's no French network like CTV. There are French stations, but no network.

It's good or it isn't good, considering the fact that there's one big market in French Canada, and that's Montreal, and there aren't any more. That's one point. Secondly, you were mentioning artists a little while ago, and there's another problem for English-language artists. It's that the American border is also much more wide open for work down there. There's competition not only for American programs for the Canadian public, but there's competition for artists to bring to English Canada. That isn't true for French-Canadian artists. So there's a second protection there, that doesn't exist in the English network. That perhaps puts the English network in a more precarious position.

[Text]

**Mr. Fortier:** Insofar as the selection of personnel is concerned, Dr. Davidson, Mr. David has given his reply. He has referred to your statement following the Prime Minister's address in Montreal when you were reported as having said, and I quote:

"It has never been and is not the practice of the CBC to investigate the political sympathies of people being hired".

You speak here of political sympathies of people being hired. What about the political philosophy, and when I ask the question, of course, I think, mainly of the mandate of the CBC which I find in the Broadcasting Act that the national broadcasting service should contribute to the development of national unity and provide for a continuing expression of Canadian identity. Can this truly and effectively be done by people whose philosophy is the breaking up of Canada, as you and I know it today?

**Mr. Davidson:** Well, if you had an overwhelming concentration of people whose philosophy and political objective was the breaking up of Canada as we know it today, of course, the answer is that it cannot be done; but this does not mean that in the case of an individual who may have an intellectual position in favour of separatism, for example, but who is a journalist of repute or an artist of repute, and is possessed of integrity in the performance of his professional function, this does not mean that he cannot be employed by the CBC, and I would say that his employment is not going to diminish the capacity of the CBC as a corporation to carry out its mandate.

**Mr. Fortier:** So, what you are looking for is the actual job that he does?