

May I say to the Senators that we will reconvene at 4.35 in eight minutes, to receive a brief from Maclean-Hunter Cable TV Limited. Thank you.

—Upon resuming at 4.35 p.m. April 22nd, 1970.

The Chairman: Honourable Senators, if I may call the session back to order. The other brief we are receiving this afternoon is from Maclean-Hunter Cable Television Limited.

Seated on my immediate right is the Chairman of the Board of Maclean-Hunter Cable Television Limited, Mr. Donald G. Campbell. Seated on Mr. Campbell's right is Mr. A. Ross MacGregor, the General Manager of Maclean-Hunter Cable Television Limited.

On my immediate left is Mr. Fred Metcalf who is the President of Maclean-Hunter Cable Television Limited and on his immediate left at the end of the table is Mr. Israel Switzer who is the Chief Engineer for Maclean-Hunter Cable Television Limited.

Mr. Campbell is also of course a Vice-President of Maclean-Hunter Limited and some Senators and others will recognize Mr. Campbell from his earlier visits to the Committee.

I think, Mr. Campbell, you are sufficiently familiar with our procedure that I don't need to outline that procedure beyond saying that perhaps now you could proceed now with your oral statement. Then following that oral statement, we would like to question you on your oral statement, on your written brief, and on some other matters which are of interest and concern to us. Thank you for coming back.

Mr. Donald G. Campbell, Chairman of the Board, Maclean-Hunter Cable Television Limited: Mr. Chairman and Senators, with your approval I thought that I would like to take about two minutes to tell you the relationship between the parent company Maclean-Hunter Limited and the Cable Company, Fred Metcalf will then speak for two to three minutes on the background of the industry; Ross MacGregor will deal with programming; and then Mr. Switzer will deal with the technical and research side of the business—just more or less to introduce ourselves—if that is all right with you.

The Chairman: Fine.

Mr. Campbell: One thing just before getting into this very brief presentation—Mr. Boucher was kind enough to indicate in his preliminary

remarks or during the session that there were some operators within the Cable Association that didn't necessarily agree with some of the comments in the presentation of the brief.

I think we would like to go on record as saying there are numerous things, particularly some of the philosophies, that we do not agree with.

Having said that I will now go into my remarks. The parent company of Maclean-Hunter Cable Television Limited is Maclean-Hunter Limited. Maclean-Hunter Limited entered broadcasting in 1960 in the field of radio and television but its first venture into cable was not until 1967. Our company policy is to stick to the communication field and cable is undoubtedly a communications medium.

The cable company financed its original growth and expansion through loans and grants from MH Limited.

As major acquisitions took place in such cities as Hamilton, London and Peterborough, it was financially necessary to take in a new partner and after much searching a Canadian chartered bank was selected.

However, when the required approvals came through from the CRTC, they were conditional upon the bank not being our partner.

At that stage it was essential that re-financing take place and the public company route was followed in early 1970. A public issue was placed and we now have 2,200 Canadian common shareholders, 1000 preferred shareholders and 1,200 debenture shareholders.

The issue was successful and held up quite well in spite of general market conditions until the recent cable guidelines announcement came out on April the 10th.

We feel very strongly that cable companies have a role to play in community broadcasting and eventually in regional and national broadcasting as well as providing improved signals, variety and educational channels.

We also feel, however, that if we are to carry out our responsibilities as we certainly must, and we look forward to them, then the investment community must have a confidence in the regulation of the industry.

We believe in the Canadian Broadcasting system and hopefully we will play a major part in its future development. I will now ask Mr. Metcalf to deal a little bit with some of the history of this industry.

The Chairman: Mr. Metcalf?