

Radio Broadcasting

3. What was the original cost of the buildings on this airport?

4. What amount was received for these buildings?

5. Were any of these buildings offered to (a) the Manitoba government; (b) the town of Virden?

POSTAL SERVICE

RATES ON PARCELS TO UNITED KINGDOM

Hon. ERNEST BERTRAND (Postmaster General): Yesterday a question was asked by the hon. member for Lethbridge (Mr. Blackmore), and on Monday a similar question was asked by the hon. member for Eglinton (Mr. Fleming), with respect to parcel post rates. I should like to give the answer now.

Parcel post rates on parcels from Canada to the United Kingdom are based on three factors: (1) cost of handling and transportation in Canada; (2) charges paid for transatlantic conveyance, and (3) credits paid to the United Kingdom postal administration for handling and delivery in the United Kingdom. The latter two charges are the actual amounts which the Canadian postal administration is required to pay out.

As regards the charges for handling in Canada, the amount which is included in the postage rates is less than that which is charged for handling a similar parcel in the domestic service. Parcel post rates will be reduced whenever conditions permit.

Furthermore, the department is not in a position to waive postage, as this would cost more than \$3,000,000 per annum.

RADIO BROADCASTING

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER ANNUAL REPORT AND REVIEW POLICIES OF CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Hon. J. J. McCANN (Minister of National Revenue) moved:

That a select committee be appointed on radio broadcasting to consider the annual report of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and to review the policies and aims of the corporation and its regulations, revenues, expenditures and development, with power to examine and inquire into the matters and things herein referred to and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, and to send for persons, papers and records; and that the said committee shall consist of the following members: Messrs. Beaudoin, Bertrand (Prescott), Bowerman, Coldwell, Diefenbaker, Fleming, Fulton, Gauthier (Portneuf), Hackett, Hansell, Knight, Langlois, Laurendeau, Maloney, Maybank, McCann, Mullins, Nixon, Pinard, Robinson (Simcoe East), Reid, Ross (Hamilton East), Ross (St. Paul's), Smith (Calgary West), and Winters, and that the presence of at least nine members shall be a quorum of the said committee and that standing order 65 be suspended in relation thereto.

[Mr. Zaplitny.]

Mr. A. L. SMITH (Calgary West): I intend to support the motion and I will only take your time, Mr. Speaker, for a sentence or two. I wish to express the hope that the house at this session will find time, as we did not during the last session, to deal with the report of the radio committee, and particularly to find out whether or not this House of Commons is in favour of handing to any corporation complete power of regulation and control over concerns in opposition to it. We did advocate and will continue to advocate that some independent body shall stand between the corporation itself and its opposition, who are in competition in the advertising business. I wish to express to the minister my appreciation of the setting up of the committee. With that I hold my peace.

Motion agreed to.

LABOUR-PROGRESSIVE PARTY OF CANADA

On the orders of the day:

Hon. J. J. McCANN (Minister of National Revenue): Yesterday the hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Skey) asked a question as follows:

I should like to ask the Minister of National Revenue whether the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has now been instructed that the Labour-Progressive party of Canada is no longer entitled to free time on the C.B.C. national network.

My answer is that under the Canadian Broadcasting Act the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is itself responsible for its own broadcasting activities, and in connection with them it does not take instructions from the government. I might interject too that the government does not presume to give instructions to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The corporation last September adopted an amendment to its own white paper on political and controversial broadcasting providing that a party which has no representation in the House of Commons shall not be provided free political time on national C.B.C. networks between election campaigns.

UNITED NATIONS

JOHN GRIERSON—QUESTION AS TO APPLICATION FOR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. D. FULTON (Kamloops): I should like to ask a question of the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Has Mr. John Grierson applied to the Canadian government for a diplomatic passport, as adviser to the director of UNESCO, or has he made any