

this licence was given especially to please our Tory friends in Quebec and to give them a chance to broadcast whatever they wished. Perhaps that is the reason why the letters are CHLP—Camelien Houde, La Patrie. That is exactly what took place; the licence was given for Tory purposes and Tory propaganda.

Mr. HACKETT: Why not?

Mr. CASGRAIN: In common with other members who have spoken, I do not object so much to this licence having been given a Tory paper, but I do object to the way in which it was given. I object to the fact that parliament and the commission were overruled, as well as the act we brought into being. That is where we find fault. Why not act in broad daylight; why go behind the back of the minister, when he was away, and have the licence issued by the hon. gentleman who acted for him at the time? Why give it in the dark?

Mr. LAPOINTE: In the blue.

Mr. CASGRAIN: Or in the blue, as my hon. friend says. To-day we have that newspaper using the broadcasting station for its own purposes and for the spreading of the propaganda of its party.

Mr. HACKETT: Why not?

Mr. CASGRAIN: I am not complaining about that, but I do suggest that the licence was issued in this way because perhaps the commission would not have granted the licence. Hon. gentlemen opposite wanted to be sure a licence was issued before the commission came into being, but now the minister says, "Well, it was given before the commission took charge. I was not there and I do not know anything about it. The gentleman who took my place saw fit to issue the licence; he thought it was all right."

I do not wish to complain so much about what was done at that time. A favour was given, it is true, but it was given in the wrong way, and to-day we have many complaints with regard to the programs broadcast from that station. When I was in Montreal the other day I did not have occasion to listen to this station, but many prominent people of Montreal complained to me with regard to what was broadcast. I should like to know from the minister if the programs broadcast from this station are under the control either of his department or of the radio commission. Recently I heard that some organizations in Montreal known as the Federated Labour Clubs were broadcasting addresses which were greatly resented in certain quarters of that

[Mr. Casgrain.]

city. Many people told me there was a touch of bolshevism about those speeches, and that they were directed against the government and the duly constituted municipal authorities. I should like to know if the commission is functioning and if it is doing all that is necessary by way of regulating these programs. If the commission is not doing anything along this line I should like to know if the minister has anything to do with it. I should like to know if the hon. gentleman controls the programs which are broadcast by that station.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Could not section 98 be applied?

Mr. CASGRAIN: I was just going to suggest that perhaps that famous section 98, which hon. gentlemen opposite voted to retain on our statutes, might be applied in this case, and the whole Tory outfit be confiscated. As I say, I have been told that what has been said over that station was more bolshevistic than anything else. The addresses spoke against constituted government and the constituted authority of Montreal.

Mr. LAPOINTE: From a Tory station?

Mr. CASGRAIN: From a Tory station. Hon. gentlemen opposite are the people who last week were so keen to retain on our statutes that famous section 98 of the criminal code. I should like to have the minister tell us something more about this station and something more about the members of that company which had enough influence and power to go behind the back of the commission and of the government in order to secure this privilege. Who was in charge there? Who were so friendly to the government of the day that they could get almost anything to promote their own ends and the interests of the party?

Mr. POULIOT: As the hon. minister is about to rise, may I ask a question? Would it be indiscreet to ask if the acting minister before granting this licence communicated with the minister either by cable, by long distance telephone, by mail, by radio or by other means?

Mr. DURANLEAU: In answering my hon. friend I would say, no. I still maintain that what has been done was done according to law.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): We have been done well.

Mr. DURANLEAU: I think in all fairness it must be said that the paper La Patrie was entitled to a licence.

Mr. HANBURY: Let us admit that.