

I have another letter from the Boy Scouts Association dated May 20.

May 20, 1947

Our file No. 501-1

Mr. RALPH MAYBANK, M.P.  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa, Canada

Dear Mr. MAYBANK:—On behalf of the Canadian General Council of the Boy Scouts Association, I wish to express appreciation for the support given this Association by the independent commercial radio stations of Canada. Throughout the years we have always received generous support whenever we have asked for time on the air to tell the people of Canada about the Boy Scout Movement.

We are particularly grateful for the co-operation which the independent stations extend during the annual Boy Scout-Girl Guide Week in February. Despite the fact that radio stations must be swamped with demands, they have always given generously of their free time to feature Boy Scout-Girl Guide Week material which we have supplied them. The Association is grateful for the support it has received in informing the public of our endeavours. I am

Very sincerely,

D. C. SPRY,  
*Chief Executive Commissioner.*

That is Major-General D. C. Spry.

Mr. COLDWELL: Is that not a rather singular letter to come from a public organization of that description? Does he mean to suggest that he has received treatment which he appreciates from the private stations and by inference not from the C.B.C.? After all, this is a committee dealing with C.B.C. affairs. I should like Mr. Spry to explain that.

Mr. REID: That is possible. I can cite instances in my own city where organizations have received courtesies of a like kind from private broadcasting stations and not get them from the C.B.C. I think that is a very reasonable letter.

The CHAIRMAN: Were you finished, Mr. Coldwell?

Mr. COLDWELL: I was going to say I think there is an inference in the letter, coming from this somewhat public body, to which one should draw attention and try to get an explanation from Mr. Spry.

The CHAIRMAN: I suppose the truth of the matter is—and I suppose we might as well face it—that General Spry is using his organization to support one side of something which is in the nature of a controversy.

Mr. COLDWELL: That is what it looks like.

Mr. FLEMING: Mr. Chairman, I take exception to that.

The CHAIRMAN: I thought something ought to be said to get this started, and I have said it.

Mr. FLEMING: I do not think it ought to be suggested General Spry is using the Boy Scouts Association for any purpose.

The CHAIRMAN: It is on their letter paper.

Mr. ROSS (*St. Paul's*): I do not think you should impute motives to General Spry without him being here.