

By Hon. Mr. LaFlèche:

Q. Was that not on one particular occasion?—A. What I have in mind was one particular occasion.

Q. Was that not on a particular occasion?—A. That was on the occasion of us wanting to advertise and publicize the inauguration of CBF. I have never tried since.

Mr. HANSELL: Personally I think it would be advantageous to a newspaper to give some recognition at least to radio programs for the reason that on Saturday a lot of people look at the radio news for the week-end. I think the *Citizen* here plays it up a little bit.

Mr. COLDWELL: Is that not an infringement of the freedom of the press? If the press is going to be free should not its columns be available for advertising, at least to the C.B.C.?

The WITNESS: Maybe I should not have given that example because so far as we are concerned we did not bother much.

Mr. COLDWELL: There is such boasting about the freedom of the press. If we get conditions like that where are we going to land?

The WITNESS: Some newspapers are very co-operative. They will publish anything you send them. Others will not publish a line.

Hon. Mr. LAFLÈCHE: Now that some light has been shed on that case of which I had heard something. I never discussed it with any person connected with the newspaper but I seem to recall that they had reasons of the moment for treating you that way. It was in regard to one specific occasion, was it not, the opening of a new station?

The WITNESS: Yes. Some newspapers have the habit of erasing from their photographs any C.B.C. name plate on a microphone when they take a photograph. Where there is a microphone with the C.B.C. name on it they take the C.B.C. off. We do not bother about that.

Mr. COLDWELL: The claim is made we have a free press in this country. Obviously we have not.

Mr. ISNOR: Is that just fair? If a competitor came to me and asked me to put his showcard in my window advertising his business I would hesitate to do so, and I consider I am fairly broad in my views.

Hon. Mr. LAFLÈCHE: Would you hesitate or refuse?

Mr. COLDWELL: You have the same attitude on the part of some of these newspapers, the *Montreal Star*, for example, with regard to political advertising. They refuse to take advertisements, for example, from my own organization. How free is the press? That is the one thing I am interested in in this radio business. If we put the radio stations in the hands of a few people by and by some points of view may be cut off the air completely.

Mr. ISNOR: I will have to test your paper in Nova Scotia and see whether they will take my card.

Mr. COLDWELL: For instance, there is the *Saskatchewan Liberal*. I would not expect the *Saskatchewan Liberal* to accept advertising from our organization, although the *People's Weekly* is associated with us in Edmonton and regularly accepts advertising from any political party. If they refused it would be on a different basis altogether.

By Mr. Hansell:

Q. Dr. Frigon, I noticed in the *Canadian Forum*—I read that paper quite a little bit—an advertisement in there advertising, "*Of Things to Come*"; was that put in by the C.B.C.?—A. That was one of the very rare exceptions.