

Now, as you remember, the Prime Minister said that that was not a question that should be asked in the House; that he thought it should be asked before the committee. That is what I gathered from his remarks.

The CHAIRMAN: The answer to that I have here. I suggested that we discuss that in a private meeting.

Mr. AHEARN: You do not think it is proper to answer the question?

The CHAIRMAN: I think it would be well for the committee to discuss the propriety of doing that. Whatever the committee decides to do in respect to the matter, at a meeting of ourselves in camera, then we can decide what part if any we may wish to make public and what part is not of public interest. I think we should be free to discuss that without any publicity. I have all of the answers here, but it is a matter that should be discussed, I think. Of course, the question you asked before was one that did not have any bearing on the committee because it was something that took place prior to the time of the committee.

Mr. AHEARN: I know. I was afraid I anticipated an answer such as Mr. Bennett gave Mr. Hanson, so I did not ask it.

The CHAIRMAN: You are getting to be a pretty old parliamentarian. I do not think you need bother about that.

Mr. AHEARN: I have seen a lot of action.

Mr. McLURE: What did you say was the nature of that correspondence that the Prime Minister and others had? Did you say there were a thousand letters?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. It is a tremendous correspondence, for and against—may I put it that way—the Commission programs, the moves of the Commission dealing with local conditions and with general conditions, addressed personally to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has transferred them to my office, and all I have done is tabulate the correspondence under names. My secretary has been working on them, and the names are there and the location. They are not addressed to me as chairman or to the committee so we can hardly enter them into the records. They are free, however, to any member who wants to see them, and he will have pleasant reading for a week.

A short time ago Mr. Ashcroft appeared, but owing to the fact that he did not have all he wanted with him he asked to be heard later. Mr. Ashcroft is here this morning. Are we prepared to hear him?

R. W. ASHCROFT, called.

The CHAIRMAN: Now, before Mr. Ashcroft starts, I would like to say that he has sent to me a draft of a bill which he is proposing, and there is one, I think, for each member of the committee.

I have a letter from Mr. Ashcroft which I shall read. It is addressed to me and dated March 26, 1934, as follows:—

With reference to the expressed desire of the committee that a list of the members of the Association should be filed with the committee, I beg to advise you that the following twenty-five radio stations are charter members of the association: CHGS, Summerside, P.E.I.; CFCH, North Bay, Ont.; CFCY, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; CKMC, Cobalt, Ont.; CJCB, Sydney, N.S.; CJKL, Kirkland Lake, Ont.; CFBO, Saint John, N.B.; CKGB, Timmins, Ont.; CKCV, Quebec, P.Q.; CKPR, Fort William, Ont.; CKCO, Ottawa, Ont.; CHAB, Moose Jaw, Sask.; CFLC, Prescott, Ont.; CFQC, Saskatoon, Sask.; CKOC, Hamilton, Ont.; CFCN, Calgary, Alta.; CKCR, Waterloo, Ont., CKOV, Kelowna, B.C.; CKPC, Brantford, Ont.;