

APPENDIX I

MINUTES OF PRELIMINARY MEETING OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS,
CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION, in OTTAWA,
on SEPTEMBER 26th and 27th, 1936.

An informal preliminary meeting of the Governors-to-be of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation was held in offices provided by the Minister of Marine, the Honourable C.D. Howe, M.P., in the Centre Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, on September 26th and 27th. The meeting was called by the Chairman, Mr. L.W. Brockington, K.C., to recommend the appointment of a General Manager and for a preliminary discussion of matters of future concern to the Board.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman. Present also were: Mr. Morin (Vice Chairman), the Rev. Father Vachon, Mrs McClung and Messrs Nathanson, Bovey, Godfrey and Plaunt.

The Chairman announced that Mr. Howe wished to address the Board. Mr. Howe was invited to appear.

Mr. Howe prefaced his remarks by thanking the members of the Board, on behalf of the Government for consenting to act on the Board. He said it was a source of satisfaction to himself and the Government that nine such persons should be prepared to sacrifice a considerable amount of their time in a public service of this kind. He said that the appointments had been received with enthusiasm throughout the country.

He said that it was the intention and policy of the Government to allow the Board to function as an independent public Corporation within the scope of the Act, and that they could be assured of freedom from interference. The General Manager, he said, was to have complete jurisdiction, subject to the Board, over all appointments and he intended to turn over to this official, when appointed, all applications for posts in the new Corporation which had been received by his Department.

His role in the new set-up, Mr. Howe pointed out, was that of communicating link between the Corporation and Parliament. Because of this, and because he would, therefore, be the spokesman of the Corporation on the floor of the House, he hoped the Corporation would keep him fully informed at all times.

Mr. Howe then explained the position with regard to the appointment of a General Manager. Under the terms of the Act this appointment was required to be made by the Governor-in-Council upon the recommendation of the Corporation. So far as the Government was concerned, Mr. Howe said, a majority of its members favored the appointment of Major Gladstone Murray of the B.B.C. who might be secured at a salary of around twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000.00) per annum. Another candidate, Mr. Reginald Brophy of the National Broadcasting Company, had also been considered, and he could be got at a somewhat lower figure. However, Mr. Howe emphasized, the Board must feel free to recommend whoever it believed best qualified to fill the post. He hoped that all applications and suggestions would receive fair consideration before any decision was reached. The Government, he said, was prepared to act on the Board's recommendation.