

(4) "Le Droit de Regard"

Mr. Picard said that this had been a program idea developed by the French network to give to the Provincial and Federal governments an opportunity to describe the workings of the different governmental departments and their respective policies as well as some explanation of various legislation. The program would have contained a question period during which the opposition parties could have questioned the respective government representatives. While this program concept was declined by the Provincial government, the Federal element indicated some interest and plans were to commence the series by the end of January 1972. In the meantime, their interest has waned and the project has now been abandoned.

(5) Budgets

The new budgetary process implemented by Mr. Desroches at Head Office this year has meant that Management will be in a position to present them to the Board before the Government submission deadlines. The 1972/73 Operating and Capital Budgets will therefore be ready for presentation to the next Board meeting. In order to meet the Treasury Board requirement of January 31, the 1973/74 "A" Budget originally scheduled for presentation to the January Directors' meeting will now be reviewed by the Executive Committee and presented for ratification to the mid-February meeting. With respect to the 1973/74 "B" Budget, preparations will be completed in time for review by the Directors at the March meeting.

(6) Matane-Sept Iles Project

The Corporation has submitted this Order-in-Council to the Government for the purchase of these facilities and is awaiting approval. It was recalled that the final negotiated price of some \$695,000 was concluded considerably below the \$889,000 authorized earlier by the Board.

ENGINEERING

The Vice-President, Engineering (Mr. Cahoon) reviewed the various projects reported on since the last Board meeting. With respect to the acquisition of two new monochrome TV cameras for the new TV studio in the CBC Charlottetown building, raised the question of the Corporation's policy for equipment acquisition. The Directors felt that in view of the life expectancy of these cameras, and in view of the future demands for increased amounts of production in color, that careful consideration should be given when making new purchases to acquire color rather than black and white equipment.

APPLICATIONS TO CRTC

During the review of the agenda report, the Vice-President, Corporate Affairs and Assistant to the President (Mr. Fraser) noted that a decision on the Corporation's application to establish a French-language television station at Toronto (heard at a public hearing on September 21, 1971) has not yet been received. Enquiries have been made to the CRTC and the President felt that, because this proposed facility represents the largest area still unserved on the current planning list, the CRTC should be pressed for its decision.

A CRTC public hearing will be held on March 28, 1972, to consider CBC applications with respect to its Radio 1 and 2 development proposals as approved by the Board early in 1971. An interesting innovation in the procedure being followed by the CRTC was that we have been asked to provide our brief in 4,000 copies by December 1st, 1971, so they could distribute them to approximately 3,000 recipients. Mr. Menard said that aside from those copies being made available to all broadcasting licencees in Canada, it would be useful to know if opinion leaders or other groups are included on this mailing list. The President observed that originally the CRTC suggested that they would supply the list and the mailing of the briefs be handled by the Corporation. This procedure changed. The President felt that a copy of the complete mailing list should be obtained from the CRTC in order that a review could be made of the exact distribution of the brief. The President also indicated that copies of the Corporation's brief would be made available to the Directors immediately.