

of St. Lawrence, mostly across the gulf, where a good deal of development has been going on. Engineers found it almost impossible to get a frequency under which to operate a station successfully so that it would serve the eastern end of the peninsula. The project now is to establish a relay transmitter to cover the area around Gaspé and to be connected with the network. We have been unable to find a way of establishing a high power station to serve that area.

Q. So there is no change so far as that area is concerned?—A. Not yet, except a decision to go ahead with a low power station to serve the Gaspé area.

Q. When can that be expected?—A. We intend to start this year.

Q. When is it expected to be in operation?

Mr. OUMET: It will depend on the availability of the lines. We have to extend the lines to Gaspé. If there is no trouble there, it should be done during the fiscal year, but I am not sure we will be able to get the lines.

Mr. FLEMING: Before March 31, 1954?

Mr. OUMET: That is right.

Mr. FLEMING: Can you tell us about the Kenora area.

*By Mr. Carter:*

Q. Did I understand the witness to say they were expanding the station at St. John's.—A. Yes, we are planning to replace the transmitting plant at St. John's.

Q. And what range do you expect to get from that?—A. It will be a very wide range, though not an ideal service as in a big city, but it is expected that it will go well up into the northern arm of the peninsula, and to some extent along the south coast. It will be a modern 10-kilowatt transmitter. As you know the service of the C.B.N. has deteriorated a little, and this service should be better.

Q. I am interested in this question because about half my riding is served by the C.B.C. and we cannot get C.B.C. reception for two reasons. The signals fade, and then it is jammed by signals from a South American station, and so we have no service at all in the western part of my riding, and I have made several representations about this.—A. That would be the western part of the south coast.

Q. Yes.—A. We hope the new transmitting plant for the C.B.N. will adequately cover a good way along the coast from east to west, but what we would like to do is to get the new transmitter in and see how far west it goes, and then consider the matter. Also, I would like to explain that we are going to put in a new transmitter near Sydney, Cape Breton, and we will see if the western part of the south coast of Newfoundland is covered. If not, we will have to consider some relay transmitters.

Q. Well, you know you have a station at Corner Brook?—A. Yes.

Q. And that station cannot be heard in Port aux Basques?—A. We are not counting on Corner Brook to cover Port aux Basques, and if the new station at Sydney does not cover it adequately, the only way—

Q. But the station at Sydney does not carry the programs we want.—A. That is another thing. We realize that. It would mean we have to arrange to feed the programs if particular interest to people in Newfoundland, back to Sydney and have them go out of the Sydney transmitter.

Q. But you are not considering any expansion until you see the results?—A. We would like first to see how well we can do with this new transmitting plant at St. John's, which should be a very considerable improvement over anything that C.B.N. ever had before.

Q. And when do you expect to complete that?—A. That is the first project we will be working on. I think by the end of the fiscal year.