

*Radio—Report of Committee*

Your committee is convinced, however, that the present system, excellent as it is in certain respects, does not meet the requirements in quality and scope of broadcasting to ensure its maximum benefits.

## Reference No. 1

"To consider the report of the Royal Commission on Radio Broadcasting, dated the 11th day of September, 1929, commonly known as 'The Aird report.'"

Your committee was fortunate in having the three members of the Aird commission appear before us to amplify and explain their report, and much valuable information was thereby secured, and, if we are unable to completely accept their findings, it must be obvious that there has been a great change in the science of radio broadcasting, and in the financial condition of the country, in the last three years.

## Reference No. 2

"To advise and recommend a complete technical scheme for radio broadcasting for Canada, so designed as to ensure from Canadian sources as complete and satisfactory a service as the present development of radio science will permit."

Your committee recommends a chain of high-power national stations, operating on clear channels, located at suitable intervals, the location to be determined by a careful technical survey of Canada.

Your committee recommends that consideration be given to the use of five 50 K.W. stations, one in each of the following provinces of Canada, viz., British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and, in the maritimes, three 500 watt stations, one for each province, or one 50 K.W. station, as may be determined by the commission. In Saskatchewan and Alberta, we suggest two 5 K.W. stations in each province, synchronized on a common channel. Further, a 10 K.W. station in northern Ontario and one in western Ontario, a 1 K.W. station at Port Arthur-Fort William, a 500 watt station in Toronto, and a 1 K.W. station at, or near, Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec.

Your committee further recommends a number of stations, of 100 watt power and under, operating on shared channels, located where required,—

(a) To serve areas not satisfactorily covered by the national stations.

(b) For secondary stations in areas where there is a demand for several channels to be in operation at the same time.

(c) For educational purposes.

(d) For legitimate experimental work.

(e) For local broadcasting of community interest.

Your committee further recommends that the cost of radio in Canada be self-sustaining and that only the money available from transmitters' and receivers' licence fees, and advertising income, be expended, and that the question of the amount of receivers' licence fees be left entirely in the hands of the governor in council.

## Reference No. 3

"To investigate and report upon the most satisfactory agency for carrying out such a scheme."

[Mr. Morand.]

Your committee recommends that a commission be appointed, consisting of three adequately-paid commissioners; a chairman to hold office for a period of ten years; a vice-chairman for a period of nine years, and the third commissioner, for a period of eight years. That there be appointed an assistant commissioner in each province, who shall also act as chairman of such provincial or regional advisory program committees as may be formed; the assistant commissioners to be selected in consultation with the governments of their respective provinces.

Your committee further recommends that the commission be vested with the necessary powers to carry on the business of broadcasting in the Dominion of Canada, such powers to extend to the following matters,—

(a) To regulate and control all broadcasting in Canada, including programs and advertising.

(b) To own, build and operate transmitting or receiving stations in Canada.

(c) To acquire by lease, purchase, expropriation or otherwise, any or all existing broadcasting stations.

(d) To enter into operating agreements with privately-owned stations.

(e) To originate programs, and secure outside programs by purchase or exchange, and to make the arrangements necessary for their transmission.

(f) To determine the number, location and power of all broadcasting stations required in Canada.

(g) To control the issuing or cancellation of licences to broadcasting stations.

(h) To cancel the allotments of channels to any stations, or to make substitution of channels.

(i) To prohibit the establishment of privately-operated chains of stations in Canada.

(j) Subject to the approval of the parliament of Canada, to take over all broadcasting in Canada.

(k) To be vested with all other powers necessary or incidental for the fulfilment of the objects of the commission.

Your committee recommends,—

(a) That one of the first duties of the commission be the establishment of trans-Canada chain broadcasting through the securing of the necessary land-lines as soon as possible.

(b) That a nationally-owned system of radio broadcasting be instituted, and that all stations required for its proper organization be eventually acquired, same to be financed from the revenues accruing to the business of broadcasting, without expense to the taxpayers through the public treasury.

(c) That all stations, 100 watt and under, not required for the national system, remain under private ownership, but be regulated as to programs and advertising, by the rules of the commission.

(d) That all revenues obtained from licence fees, sale of advertisement, and other revenues accessory to the business of broadcasting, be used by the commission in the interest of radio.

(e) That advertising be limited to not more than 5 per cent of each program period.

(f) That the developing of Canadian art and artists, and the securing of outstanding programs from outside Canada, be encouraged.