

few. The arrangement between ourselves and the United States being what it is, the duty of our commission is to see to it that Canada does get her proper share of those channels. Undoubtedly, if the station at Windsor is being used as is stated, the effect is simply a detraction from the limited number of channels allotted to Canada, and an addition to those available to the United States.

I made a very interesting discovery the other day. I got a radio for the first time. I had always been under the impression that the tariffs of this country were sufficiently high to keep out anything American, or almost so. But to my amazement I found that at least three quarters of the programs sent out by a radio outfit in Alberta were American programs. I suggest to the minister that he confer with the Prime Minister and with the Minister of National Revenue and make certain whether or not there is a gap in their tariff wall.

Mr. EULER: May I, with some reluctance, but in the interest of my hon. friend the minister and his party, make one other suggestion? It is that since the president of this particular station at Windsor happens to be the president of the Conservative association, he be very particular to see that the regulations are carried out, lest he be accused of favoritism.

Mr. DURANLEAU: Well the radio commission is a non-political commission.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Is the minister smiling?

And hon. MEMBER: Yes he is.

Mr. SANDERSON: I would like to ask, for my own information and the information of the house, and perhaps of the country: Is the new radio commission under the control and jurisdiction of the Department of Marine?

Mr. DURANLEAU: As I have already stated, the radio commission has to report to the Minister of Marine.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): And vice versa?

Mr. SANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, that is an answer, but I do not think it means much. I should like to press my question, because I regard it as important. A great deal of money will be spent on this radio commission; what service will they render, and to whom will they be responsible? Does the minister consider that he is really the chief of that commission? Or does the chairman of the commission report to him? Are they under his control, or are they under their own control?

Mr. POULIOT: Or is the commission responsible to the people, or to the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation?

Mr. SANDERSON: I think perhaps this is an opportune time for the minister to make a frank admission in regard to the whole broadcasting situation.

Mr. DURANLEAU: There is no admission to be made on the part of the minister.

Mr. LAPOINTE: He never admits.

Mr. DURANLEAU: The act is there, and there are a number of great lawyers on the other side of the house—my hon. friend from Quebec East could say better than myself. The act is short; it comprises only five or six pages, and one has only to read it to see whether the commission is under the control of the minister or not.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): That is altogether too guileless.

Mr. DURANLEAU: To some extent I think I can say that the commission is under the control of the minister—if you can say, for instance, that the railway commission is under the control of the Minister of Railways. The radio commission is a commission that has certain powers.

Mr. GRAY: Is it a court?

Mr. DURANLEAU: No, it is not a court.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver): That is why it is different.

Mr. DURANLEAU: But the commission has administrative powers; the only requirement is that they report to the minister once a year.

Mr. SANDERSON: I am not yet through with my question. With all due deference to the minister I must say that I am not any wiser now than before I asked the question. I will put the question in another way. The minister says he does not really know whether he is in control or not—

Mr. DURANLEAU: No, I do not say that.

Mr. SANDERSON: He does not know whether the commission has to report to him or is responsible to him. May I ask this question: Is the chairman of the new radio commission in control of the minister? I think that is a fair question. The minister says he does not know. Who is head of the radio commission? Who is head of the broadcasting in this country? Is it the chairman of the commission or is it the minister?