

This policy is based on the principle that the air waves belong to the people, and that therefore no person or group may acquire a proprietary right to them, by reason of position or wealth.

For this reason, the CBC will not sell time to anyone for broadcasts of matters of opinion, on controversial questions. Instead, it gives time for these purposes free of charge, providing equal opportunity for the expression of varying points of view. All major points of view about social, economic, or political questions are represented among the licence payers, who have a right to hear an expression of the major points of view. It is felt that while frank expression of opinion may arouse more criticism on one side or another, this is in the interests not only of good broadcasting, but of the preservation of democracy in Canada.

Democracy is the keynote of broadcasts of matters of opinion. Freedom of the air does not mean the right of anyone who has permission to use a radio frequency to broadcast what he likes. It must mean freedom for different sections of the public to get at least some of the service and ideas they want broadcast over that frequency. Freedom of the air is freedom to share in the opportunities to be derived from a piece of public property.

The CBC encourages speakers to express their views frankly and honestly, while insisting that they should be accurate in the presentation of facts. Both the CBC and private stations are responsible for seeing that speakers do not violate general broadcasting regulations, and that their scripts do not contain libel or obscenity. But the CBC does not in any way check the expression of ideas, or censor a speaker's script.

### School Broadcasts

School broadcasts make up one of the most important parts of public service broadcasting in Canada. Reading, writing, and arithmetic have been joined by a fourth "R" --- radio, which is playing an ever increasing part in education.

Throughout the school year, the CBC, in cooperation with provincial departments of education, presents special programs to schools, related to the courses of study. Characters in history are brought alive: changed from names in a book, to living characters; advances in science are graphically described for the younger listeners; music by distinguished artists becomes an accepted part of school life. In addition to provincial broadcasts, the CBC itself prepares and pays for a series of 25 or more National School Broadcasts, designed to strengthen the sense of Canadian citizenship in the younger generation. School children hear the stories of Canadian artists, in dramatized form; learn as though at first hand the stories of the men who founded this nation; and through the miracle of radio, are carried into a history as alive as though it were the present. The national school broadcasts are thoughtful and expensive productions, including, as an example, a complete dramatization of Shakespeare's "Macbeth," "Julius Caesar" and "Hamlet". Shakespeare's characters come to life through the interpretations of professional radio actors, against a backdrop of special music written and conducted by a famous Canadian conductor. In 1945, the CBC won four first awards for dramatic productions, in the annual competition sponsored by the Institute for Education by Radio at Ohio State University, in the United States. In the 1946 competitions, the CBC carried off five awards, and in 1947, won three top awards, three honorable mentions and a special citation for a series of nature study broadcasts for junior students. In 1948 the CBC won four first awards and two honorable mentions at Ohio.