

Mr. Knight: No, I don't believe so.

Mr. Fortier: Well, I had occasion to discuss that with the Honourable Mr. Basford about six months ago and you may recall when the Sound Recording Licence was set up—SRL.

Mr. Knight: Yes.

Mr. Fortier: Yes.

Mr. Knight: The record manufacturer has the right but not the performer.

Mr. Fortier: Well, there was a discussion between the Minister and the people that I was representing—however that is in another field. The question I wanted to ask Mr. Knight or Mr. Gray is this. In Appendix A dealing with the matter of copyright you suggest in Recommendation Number 5;

“That a new Copyright Act clearly prohibit all unauthorized uses of copyright materials, no matter how this is accomplished, and in particular that photocopying, copying off air, and transmission by cables and all similar devices, be brought under control of the Copyright Act.”

Are you suggesting that the concept of anything that is broadcast through the air becoming a public property should now be removed and that if it is received by a broadcast undertaking that it be protected also?

Mr. Gray: I am not a lawyer so I wouldn't want to get involved in legal definitions here but really what we are concerned with is not the transmission but the copying of the transmission for further use.

Mr. Fortier: Well, you have defined it in a way which is quite clear so the transmission in itself—you are not suggesting that it should be protected?

Mr. Gray: No, we are not suggesting it here but there may be people that feel that way.

Mr. Fortier: Yes.

Mr. Knight: Like the Canadian Football League for instance.

Mr. Gray: Yes, but that comes under cable.

Mr. Fortier: Yes.

Mr. Gray: It is when you take it and then retransmit it or carry it, but that is an area that I am not an expert on.

The Chairman: Senator Bourque?

Senator Bourque: I would like to speak on Quebec.

The Chairman: Would you like to speak before Mr. Fortier?

Senator Bourque: No, I will yield.

Mr. Fortier: I wonder if you would care please to refer to Paragraph 4.6 of your brief wherein you make a tax proposal and expand a little on what is meant by the last two lines.

“The private sector (should) be required to carry a substantial portion of Canadian programming and that its commercial revenues be taxed appropriately, the taxes to be a percentage of its gross revenue.”

Would you care to explain that a little further?

Mr. Knight: Well, what we are concerned about there, without getting into the specific and details of the proposal, what we are concerned about really is the ability of the CBC to program in a free fashion. That would allow the introduction of more Canadian materials than it now has and would allow a greater balance of programming than it now has and also would provide revenue for the private sector so that they too can match the CBC performance in the promotion of Canadian material. We feel the way to do that would be to free the CBC of the obligation—perhaps I better not use that word but—the necessity of seeking commercial revenue and leave the commercial field entirely open to the private broadcasters, so that they can get the full benefit of what money is available for commercial field and therefore add to their resources so that they can begin programming. There is a possible source—and it is on that type of suggestion now that we are talking—there is a possible source of one area for further revenue for the CBC if that becomes necessary and that is perhaps a special imposed tax upon the private broadcaster based upon their gross revenues.

Mr. Fortier: On another subject, Mr. Knight, you discussed very briefly a short while ago your concern for encouraging actors' talents and you say that after four presentations a man becomes eligible for membership in the association.

Mr. Knight: Yes.