

by competition. As the hon. member for Muskoka-Ontario has said, that applies to our railroads. I suppose I might be in the wrong if I attempted to apply that yardstick in a limited way to the present administration of the C.B.C. I know that, according to the record, they are losing money. They receive all the licence fees and the licence fees from the private stations and they are still unable to make ends meet. I hope we shall have some regard for the future and make it possible that there will be paralleling this great government system a private chain of systems, so that we can vie with our neighbours to the south where they have more than one network, all privately owned and, as far as I know, all making money. Why is it that, once you introduce government ownership into anything, you seem to lose that standard of efficiency? I do not say that unkindly, because it may be that more is expected or that people lean too much on it.

I am opposed to monopoly of any kind and I have heard a lot about monopolies from my hon. friends to my left, the C.C.F. socialists. I am more unalterably opposed to a state monopoly than a monopoly of any other type. I say to hon. members opposite that the day may come when they will remember my words. Some day we may be occupying the treasury benches and then they will say that we are using the radio as a propaganda machine. That is what it has developed into at the present time, and I say that advisedly and sincerely. I do not know whether it is because of any sense of direction, but those who are in the driver's seat at the present time are certainly those who understand propaganda better than we who are sitting opposite.

I felt that I should make my position clear on this important item, and I join with the hon. member for Muskoka-Ontario in appealing to the minister to lay this to one side until we can deal with the whole bill and accept the consequences in the session of next year.

Mr. JAQUES: I assure hon. members that I am just as anxious to get home as they are and I have a much greater distance to travel. When I left the house this evening what did I see? Right across the front page of the evening paper were these words, "House voting millions in rush to close." That sounds very well to the public, I should think, especially since we have voted ourselves an extra \$2,000 a year so that we can

[Mr. Case.]

carry out our duties. It would be interesting to have a vote to-night to see how many hon. members have gone home.

I put it to this committee and I should like to put it to the people outside whether it is fair to bring in a motion like this in the last day of the session. Those people who feel very strongly about it are shut off, because the incessant cry is "carried". That is the atmosphere of this house.

An hon. MEMBER: No.

Mr. JAQUES: Yes, it is. I have listened carefully to this debate, but I have not heard one argument to show that there should be government control of radio any more than government control of the press. Reference was made this afternoon to an alleged attempt by the Alberta government to control the press. There was an immediate outcry from the very people who are now clamouring to have monopoly of the radio. What was the proposal of the Alberta government? Without going into details, it was simply that the government should reserve one corner, less than one-half of one per cent if I remember correctly, of the space in order to make sure that their statements appeared as they were made. The press could then have all the rest of the paper to tear them to pieces, but the government wanted their statements shown correctly. That was the so-called control of the press and there was an outcry from one end of Canada to the other.

Here is an item which proposes a complete government monopoly of radio. That includes news, but news is the least part of it. The part I object to is that the government—I do not know what the government is these days as a matter of fact—is to have a monopoly, not just over giving out the news, which they cannot alter if they stick to the truth, but of interpreting the news and moulding public opinion. That is what I object to. If I could stop it by staying here until Christmas I would do so.

It has been said that this is a Conservative motion. I have no objection to the C.B.C. as a regulating body.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: C.B.C. or C.C.F.?

Mr. JAQUES: Both. What I do object to is that, if this goes through, it will be not only a regulating body but a controlling body, and I know very well where the control will come from. The other day I mentioned General Chisholm who, I understand, has a good international job.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK: What did he say about Santa Claus?