

Mr. CARTER: That is the point I was wondering about. I wanted to know if the company would continue to operate that service or whether their operations would be curtailed by this bill.

Mr. SHAW: Section 10 of the bill refers to the acquisition of property. The Minister indicated, and it was confirmed in the brief, that \$4,000,000 has been set by the government as a proper value of the property. I understand the matter will become the subject of a reference to the Exchequer Court but have we any reason to believe that the Canadian Marconi Company will accept the \$4,000,000 figure?

The WITNESS: Well, Mr. Chairman, I do not think we can answer that question either yes or no. The negotiations have not even been started so I have no knowledge as to whether it will be accepted. We hope that we can acquire the assets for that amount or less.

Mr. SHAW: It is safe for us to assume that the government will start with that figure? They will use that as a jumping off point?

Hon. Mr. CHEVRIER: The government will start with a much smaller figure I hope.

Mr. HATFIELD: That would be no good now.

Mr. SHAW: How was that figure arrived at?

Hon. Mr. CHEVRIER: That is a \$64 question. If the committee insists I will give what information I have but I would prefer not to because there are people in this committee room with whom we will have to deal. I do not think that we should put our cards on the table before we know what is in the minds of the other side.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we can pass on.

Mr. CANNON: I am reading from the bill, clause 10—"For the purpose of this Act and with the approval of the Governor in Council, the Corporation may, by notice published in the *Canada Gazette*, take or acquire any real or personal property of Canadian Marconi Company or of Cable and Wireless Limited and—"

I would like to get clear in my own mind whether we are acquiring all the property of the Canadian Marconi Company or only that part of it which deals with overseas communications?

Hon. Mr. CHEVRIER: The question is answered right in the bill.

Mr. CANNON: Oh, I see; so the Canadian Marconi Company will continue to exist.

Mr. SHAW: I might suggest to the government that it is better business to start at a lower figure, especially when it is admitted that this is a higher figure than they anticipate paying.

Hon. Mr. CHEVRIER: We are not admitting that we will pay that much but we had to put some figure in the bill otherwise we cannot get it through parliament.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall clause 10 carry?

Carried.

Clause 11.

Carried.

Clause 12.

Carried.

Clause 13.

Carried.

Clause 14.

Carried.