

do not have one man going on all the time; they are changed usually every week on different programs or a regular rotation or system of changing. A list of the observers from Ottawa commenting on national affairs during a year would be very long.

Q. A commentator is the man who comes on the air and gives the news which is given to him to read?—A. Just the opposite. He is asked to go on, say, report from Ottawa and give his analysis or interpretation of what has happened in Ottawa during the week. Well, naturally opinion is going to come into that. And his own personal views of what has happened will come out on the air. Well, that is what it is. That is not news; that is a commentator giving his views of what has happened and we change those people from week to week so that you do not get only one person's opinion.

*By Mr. Fulton:*

Q. You do have one permanent commentator whom you employ abroad, do you not—Matthew Halton?—A. Well, as I explained the other day, I think it better that commentators be non-staff people. Halton has been a war correspondent and it is advantageous to have him there, but we do have other people just for the sake of variety.

Hon. Mr. McCANN: Mr. Chairman, I am going to suggest that in my opinion there are only two methods of getting the news—either the present method where we buy it and pay for it from news agencies and have it edited as we do now, or set up an entire news agency of our own throughout the country.

Now, the Press Gallery is an institution of its own. How do we know that putting two or three reporters there to act for the C.B.C. is going to be acceptable to them? I do not say they are a union, but I presume they have a code of their own and it might be a closed shop—I do not know—but do you think for a moment that they are going to admit three or four reporters who will give the C.B.C. the news that comes from the House of Commons and then use their press agencies for the news throughout the country? I do not think for a moment that it would work, and I am sure there would be some pretty hot fights within the first months that they would be in there.

Mr. FULTON: In addition would it not be highly questionable that they would be accredited? I think only bona fide news purveyors are entitled to have reporters in the gallery in the C.B.C. major seats. The C.B.C. could hardly be classified as a news purveyor.

*By Mr. Murray:*

Q. Would it be necessary to set up a whole corps of news gatherers in the capital?—A. As I understand the suggestion it was that the C.B.C. consider doing this thing, gathering parliamentary news through its own men. We have pointed out that it would be too much expense and a development of other facilities and would also raise the question of ensuring the impartiality of such coverage.

Q. You have not a representative now in the Press Gallery for the dissemination of news?

Mr. FULTON: There is no room in the gallery anyway.

Mr. MURRAY: For the newsman for the C.B.C. I think you should have one of the seats in the gallery and a very capable man, a man who will certainly be persona grata with the other men of the gallery, assisting in the editing and discussions of the things arising from the capital news items.

Mr. FLEMING: I think I can assure Mr. Dunton that if the C.B.C. ever did that the news broadcasts would be watched much more carefully than at the present time.