

*External Affairs*

allegations which have been made by responsible people for some time that these broadcasts have been rather sympathetic to the communist point of view, and that men with known communist associations still have something to do with some of these broadcasting activities. I would not raise this point were it not for the fact that these allegations have been made by very responsible individuals, and also were it not for the fact that I have from other sources information which inclines me to believe very strongly that there is a great deal in the allegations which have been made.

Not in any way to suggest that these remarks apply exclusively to these particular broadcasts but rather to offer an example, let me specifically refer to the broadcasts beamed to Czechoslovakia. The allegation has been made by different speakers on different occasions that Mr. Martin Dudak, who is engaged by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation for some parts of this work, has had an active communist association in Czechoslovakia before coming here. One of the more recent statements to that effect which I have read was the report of a speech made by Robert Keyserlingk, which he made over the radio in a very comprehensive summary of this subject a short time ago. In that and in other statements I have heard and read, it was stated that Mr. M. J. Hronek, head of the communist radio in Bohemia, was welcomed by the C.B.C. with open arms when he visited Ottawa, and generally given very close contact with the Czechoslovak section of the "Voice of Canada". As recently as March 26 last, there appeared in the *Montreal Gazette* a letter from the Canadian editor of the Free Czech information service of London, England, in which he enlarged upon these same allegations.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest that in view of the fact that substantial capital expenditures have been made for the facilities which are required for this work, and the fact also that an increasing amount is apparently required each year for the services of those who carry out these broadcasts, and also in view of the obvious fact that we now have in Canada many people from all the countries to which we direct these broadcasts who have known and vigorous anti-communist sentiment, we should have the most unqualified assurance that it is the anti-communist group who are being consulted concerning the nature of the broadcasting that should be done. In the explanation given as to the nature of these broadcasting activities, it is explained that they are intended to be of an informative, entertaining and instructional nature in so far as Canada is concerned. It states that they

are intended to be objective, and to give a clear picture of what is happening here. The charge is made that, in the case of the Czechoslovak broadcasts as well as other broadcasts, there has been a noticeable absence of anything that would indicate that the "Voice of Canada" is being used for positive anti-communist propaganda. I believe we must decide whether this broadcasting is for the purpose of encouraging immigration to Canada, or whether it is for the purpose of legitimate Canadian propaganda being directed to the countries behind the iron curtain.

These broadcasts which are sent to countries outside the iron curtain from which we may expect immigrants would be, I should think, properly of the type that would encourage those people to come to Canada. On the other hand, it unfortunately may be a very long time before the broadcasting behind the iron curtain can have that as its purpose or intention. In that case, it would seem to me that the broadcasting should definitely have a clear propaganda purpose, and the propaganda purpose should be the undermining of confidence in communism, and to demonstrate that we in Canada are determined to have nothing to do with communism, by all the methods that are open to the people of a free democracy. It is said that, as an example, during the extremely critical and important elections in Italy, when one of the great cradles of our civilization stood at the crossroads, the broadcasts at that time were so objective that it would have been difficult for any Italian listening to the broadcasts in Italy to have the slightest idea as to whether or not we really objected strenuously to communism. Nevertheless, at that particular time most thoughtful Canadians were deeply concerned about the outcome of that election. I would agree that it would have been unwise for us to have appeared to be intervening directly in the Italian elections. On the other hand, I believe we should have been using our propaganda mechanism to demonstrate, by every legitimate device, how thoroughly undesirable communism is, and how untrustworthy every real communist is in any country in which he carries on his activities.

Those comments with regard to those two specific subjects I leave with the Secretary of State for External Affairs for the purpose of bringing them to his attention, in the hope that they perhaps may receive consideration and that he may be in a position, now or at a later time during the present session, to give us some information as to the intention of his department with regard to them.

[Mr. Drew.]