

The CHAIRMAN: CKY as a government machine has been in existence for a long time.

Mr. HANSELL: With a commercial licence.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, the policy to which you refer is one which has not been in for a long time—I could not tell you when—but the representative of the government, Dr. McCann, I suppose, could tell us when, approximately, this policy was decided upon.

Mr. SMITH: The chairman has given us some useful information as he comes from Winnipeg, and that is that there was a time lag. That time lag is over a year since the notices were sent out to these various stations whose wavelengths are being taken; and for more than that time the other provinces—certainly the province of Alberta—have been endeavouring to get a commercial licence, which has been refused. Is there any time limit set as to when the Manitoba station has got to cease having a commercial station?

The CHAIRMAN: I do not know. I think Dr. McCann said it was a short time. There had not been a specified date mentioned. Personally I have no knowledge, but I think I heard Dr. McCann say that a moment ago.

Mr. SMITH: Let him tell us now what he thinks is a reasonable time.

Mr. BEAUDOIN: It would be a matter which the licensing authority could answer.

Mr. SMITH: That is what I want to know.

Hon. Mr. McCANN: That has not yet been determined.

Mr. HANSELL: My point was that this station has been operating for quite a number of years with a commercial licence, during which time other provinces have applied for commercial licences that have been refused.

The CHAIRMAN: That would undoubtedly appear to be correct, although that is not within Mr. Dunton's province; it is none of his business, in fact.

Mr. SMITH: I agree with that; I was asking Dr. McCann.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes. I know. I do not want any misunderstanding. I wonder if you would allow me to interrupt for a moment. I have received a telegram from the manager of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters. You know that earlier we had fixed a date for meeting them, and this telegram suggests a different date. The telegram I received reads as follows:—

Further to our telephone conversation re date of our appearance before your committee we respectfully request consideration of June second or third if at all possible since annual meeting commitments make later date very difficult. We are most anxious that our full delegation be able to attend to insure that complete information on all points will be available for your consideration.

Now, the date we fixed fell on a Thursday. That is the 5th. I must say again what I said to the committee on another occasion, that I told Mr. Dawson by telephone that I personally felt pretty sure we would be able to hear them in the first week of June. I think that is what he said in his letter was the date he would like. Of course, we gave him a date in the first week of June, but it is two or three days earlier that he mentions here. I am not recommending any change, but I think it is a duty to you and a courtesy to them that I should, as quickly as possible, inform you about this telegram.

Mr. COLDWELL: What is the date of their convention?

The CHAIRMAN: I do not know, but I thought it was around the middle of June. I do not like to speak with any definiteness, because it was not something that I had to remember.