

Senator ASELTINE: Isn't this entirely different from ordinary Crown corporations that are carrying the load themselves, making a profit and not coming to the Government every year for money? This seems to me to be something entirely different and the Government should have more control over it than they would have in the case of, say, the C.N.R. or Polymer or some similar corporation that is supposed to be carrying on without Government assistance each year.

Senator HAYDEN: You could justify a difference in language in the present statute because it is a combination of things. It is a regulatory body as well as one carrying on the business of broadcasting. Here you are dealing with an organization carrying on the business of broadcasting only, and, strictly, as a Government agency, a Crown company. So why shouldn't there be just as an immediate control there as you would have between, say, the Government and employees in the civil service?

The CHAIRMAN: Of course, what we are really worrying about at the backs of our minds is whether the wording should permit a political control of the President and Vice-President.

Senator KINLEY: Is it really politics, after all? There is a tremendous public interest in this thing and if you get a man who is not doing his duty I don't think the Government should be given the privilege to say "We have nothing to do with him." I think they should have that burden and observe it. I believe in democracy, as you do, and when we talk about politics, well, it is the science of government, and why shouldn't there be politics?

Senator McDONALD (*Kings*): You don't want the impression to go out to the people, as unfortunately many of them have it today, that C.B.C. and radio and television services are going to be interfered with for political reasons.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Senator KINLEY: You are getting on a lower level now.

The CHAIRMAN: Isn't that in itself some form of protection against what they might suspect could happen? Supposing the Government did appoint a man, and he must be a good man, as President of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and then they were to dismiss him without cause or for some trifling reason connected with political motives. I think the reaction from the country would be such that no Government would dare do that.

Senator MACDONALD: There is a suspicion, as Senator McDonald has said in the country today that the Government is getting political control over the C.B.C. I think it would tend to re-establish confidence in the public mind if we could get away from these words "during pleasure" and still allow the President and the Vice-President to be removed for cause at any time by the Governor in Council. Under the present act the minister, some minister, can fire the President and Vice-President without going to the Government or getting the consent of the other members of the Cabinet. That does not seem to be proper. We would be in a much stronger position if he had to be dismissed by the Governor in Council.

Senator ASELTINE: Didn't the minister assure us that would not happen?

Senator MACDONALD: I know but this is a bill and the person who is minister now may not be the minister next week. I think this is a great weakness in the bill and I believe we can strengthen the bill considerably without any strenuous objection on the part of the minister, by changing the bill in the way I have suggested.

Senator HAYDEN: Would it do anything to strengthen the section if you provided that the exercise of this "during pleasure" was to be by the Governor in Council?