

board functions actively under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Ilsley). It is a board consisting of ten members, including a chairman. Occupationally they run all the way from a leading banker to a former university professor who, I might add, is perhaps the nearest approach to an agricultural representative on the board. So far as I can see, however, labour is not represented. I ask this question: who comprise the great consumer population in Canada if it is not the working men and their families? Because production, distribution and consumption are to a great extent controlled by the board in a fashion which affects the everyday lives of these two great classes in the community, surely from an occupational point of view there should be a different set-up on the war-time prices and trade board. There are some excellent men on the board; I shall not make a single comment about any one of them. But I do urge that from the occupational point of view much is left to be desired, if the board is to hold the confidence of the producers—yes, and of the consumers in our country.

I now come to an organization which is the subject of discussion of people throughout the country and sometimes of hon. members. I refer to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Here is a body which ministers, or should minister, to the needs of the people I have mentioned. The majority of its listeners are to be found in those areas where working men and their families abound, and in the rural areas of the dominion. It is controlled by a board of governors, the personnel of which includes, first of all, its chairman who is a trust officer. Its vice-chairman is a motion-picture man. There are on the board two men of the church as well as an authoress and, I believe, three lawyers. During last session the radio broadcasting committee brought down a report to this house, in which report the board of governors was censured. I believe the hon. member for Renfrew South (Mr. McCann) will corroborate me in this. They were not censured as much as I should have liked to see them censured. I think they should have been asked to resign. However, everyone did not see as I did, and the result was that they were not specifically asked to resign. Even at that, I think the hint should have been good enough.

Mr. HOMUTH: Not with salaries like that.

Mr. GRAYDON: I am not going to say that they get high salaries, because I do not think they do. That was not the point I was

[Mr. Graydon.]

trying to make. When they came to appoint a new general manager, these nine members of the board of governors could not find anybody in the whole eleven and one-half million people in Canada to appoint except one of their own members. The hon. member for Waterloo South (Mr. Homuth) can now make his interjection about the high salary paid to that official.

The report of the committee went further and asked that on the board there should be adequate representation of farm and labour. Where is it? When Doctor Thompson left the board a vacancy was created which has remained ever since. No working man has been appointed to the board. When great authority is placed in the hands of government owned corporations, the government should be particularly careful about the composition of the boards from occupational and other points of view. This care has not always been exercised.

I ask the government to give consideration to a policy which will bring back the supremacy of parliament once more, not just in theory but in practice, in order that some abuses which apparently have grown up shall not be allowed to continue and to extend. For quite a long time a clamour has arisen from all parts of this house for a better distribution of work. That clamour has not arisen just from one or two members on a certain side of the house. It has not been confined to any one political party. It echoes pretty generally the feeling all over the house that appropriate use should be made of the membership of the House of Commons, to say nothing of the embarrassing position in which the members of another chamber find themselves during this time. If the government's policy for the efficient use of man-power is demonstrated by the way in which it uses the man-power in this and in another chamber, then I think some criticism must be offered of this master man-power plan.

There is another matter which has been in my thoughts for a long time. As members of the house we have a responsibility which perhaps we do not always shoulder, which perhaps we do not always realize. With every ounce of emphasis at my command I say that we should try to elevate the prestige of this chamber to a point higher than it is to-day. If we are to be proper instruments of democracy, we should so conduct ourselves in this chamber—we are all sinners in this regard and what I am saying applies to myself as well as to other members, but that should not stop me—that the men and women who fill these galleries, whether they be from the farming sections, whether they represent labour, or