

Mr. SLAGHT: Quite so.

*By Mr. Martin:*

Q. I should like to ask a question, a purely local one, arising out of one of your last answers, Mr. Charlesworth. You said that the commission had the power to make leases based on orders in council. Is that right?—A. Yes.

Q. It is purely a local question, but I think it is convenient for me to ask it now. With respect to the lease by the commission of space in Windsor with regard to the radio station there, was that lease submitted to the governor in council?—A. No. Just on matters of securing additional floor space or larger floor space and accommodation, the government does not expect us to go to them.

Q. That was a new building altogether?—A. The government does not expect us to go to them on a matter of that kind. The matter is reported usually to the minister, because the payments have to come under the control of the Treasury Board. But a matter of acquiring space or something of that sort is not submitted to them. But, for instance, when we acquired three stations from the Canadian National Railways—that was at Ottawa, Vancouver and Moncton—the government had to pass on that. Then, when we leased station CKCW in Toronto, the government had to pass on that. But it does not expect us to come to it for everything in the way of putting in air-conditioning or matters of that sort, or acquiring extra floor space.

Q. That was taken over completely?—A. The matter was referred, and a report made to the minister, but I do not think it goes up to the government.

Mr. BERTRAND: Could we get from the members of the Commission a resumé of the complaints that have been made by the general public against the present radio commission. I do not mean complaints as to the administration. I mean, if we had a resumé of the complaints made by the public against the commission, either on account of the program or anything else, we would be in a position to take cognizance of them. We would know where we were at and what we could do.

Mr. HOWARD: There would be some volume.

WITNESS: We are in the happy position that we have not received more than half a dozen complaints against our work as broadcasters during the past year. Any complaints that come to us are lack of coverage, where they do not hear our programs properly. Those complaints are usually accompanied by a statement of their admiration for our Canadian programs, and that is why they desire to hear them. The letters are kept and filed. Of course, a program that suits one man does not suit another person. As the Hon. Charles Stewart said the other day, you have got a wildcat by the tail, because the fellow that likes old music does not like jazz, and the fellow that likes jazz does not like old music. However, we try to reconcile all interests. The only organized attack on the commission in connection with its programs, sir, occurred early in 1933, and in fact throughout the summer of 1933, when we were attacked for carrying French programs on the air. A good many of those people had the idea that you could wall up the air within the province of Quebec, and that there was no other program in Canada. In fact, a celebrated radio authority, Mr. Ashcroft, got out a manifesto that the use of French on the air outside of the province of Quebec was an affront to every British speaking home. But that was the only really organized campaign against the commission in connection with its programs that I have encountered since I became Commissioner. For instance, we have a "Young Tim" program, a thing everybody loves, or at least a great many people love. Other people do not like it. We are up against that all the time. But we got, as a matter of fact, very few complaints, except for this organized campaign that I spoke of. The complaints against the radio commission would not number more than about one-tenth of one per cent of the listening public of Canada.