

The Canadian development has been the quickest in the world so far, the steepest upward rise, in spite of the hard conditions set by our country for television. This rapid development has come about through co-operation within one system, between public and private enterprise. The Canadian system is unique in this partnership between public and private organizations to carry national network service throughout the country.

In Canadian television the CBC has had certain funds for and responsibility for two main things in addition to the operation of necessary key stations: (1) production of Canadian programs of a national standard, (2) distribution of national network service consisting of both Canadian and imported programs to the public throughout the country. It carries out the program production at the main centres of Toronto and Montreal and in addition at regional centres where it has stations - at Halifax, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver. National service reaches the public in these areas through CBC stations and in all others through the 25 private stations, but it is the job of the CBC to get the service to these stations. The CBC depends on the essential co-operation of private stations to broadcast these programs, including imported programs, to many parts of the country. The private stations have a considerable amount of programming supplied through the national service which comes to them free and also carries revenue for them with respect to commercial programs included in it. Undoubtedly, quite a number of these stations have been enabled to get established only because they could count from the beginning on the sure provision of the national service.

All stations in southern Ontario and as far East as Quebec City are fed national service by the CBC through direct microwave connection providing for simultaneous transmission of good quality. So far the other stations in the country - 19 of them - receive a service by means of film recordings, often called kinescope recordings. Under this system the CBC, with special electronic equipment, makes recordings directly from the transmissions of programs. These are then sent out by plane to stations in other parts of the country and played within a week or two weeks after the original hour in which they were scheduled on the interconnected network. In Canada this network operation by recordings has itself become a huge operation. It is, for instance, using about 40,000,000 feet of raw stock film a year at the present time. In the meantime the nation-wide interconnected network for which the CBC has contracted is moving ahead. Later this year there will be direct connection as far West as Winnipeg, in 1957 with the Maritimes and the Prairies, and then right through to the Pacific Coast the following year. Then Canada will be linked directly by television from one coast to the other -- one of the great communication developments in our history.

The system has been supported from a kind of admission fee to television, paid by members of the public in the form of a 15% excise tax on the wholesale price of the television sets, and also from advertising revenues. To help carry out its part of the work of the system, the CBC in addition to funds coming directly from the television public, has the advertising revenues from commercial activities on its own stations and networks, and the private