

Supply—C.B.C.

I am telling the minister through you, Mr. Chairman, and because I know the gentleman for the C.B.C. is here I am telling him too, that they are Canadians with 100 per cent Canadian money, ready to put up a million and a half dollars for a television station. They will be spending money that is provided to them in part by Canadian advertising people who want to sell Canadian goods to Canadians through a Canadian television station. Now, if there is no sense to that argument, if I am not on the right track, let someone tell me. They have not been able to tell me that in two television committees, and I do not think anyone can argue against the proposition now. All we are asking is to take Canadian advertising money out of United States hands and put it into Canadian hands.

I am quite sure that somebody will make the argument here that we must not violate this single coverage policy. I am not too sure that Mr. Fowler is sympathetic to that point of view. He talked to me quite a while about the single coverage, as officials of the C.B.C. know. He could not see the fairness of it, either. He perhaps did not argue the way I would, but there were some doubts in his mind as to whether British Columbia—he confined his remarks to that—was being treated properly, because he had had the opportunity of viewing United States television stations sponsoring Canadian advertising.

I have mentioned this fact many times in the house. I have put up the best arguments I can in the television committee. I have everybody in Burnaby behind me; the Burnaby council; the South Burnaby board of trade. Everybody who carries any weight in Burnaby-Richmond says he wants a private television station. We are coming to the point now where we are suspicious of our own policy, because we have appointed a commission to either justify that policy or make some changes.

Let us make the changes cleanly. I am not asking for private television stations right across Canada. I am not saying that every little two-bit operator with a million dollars should be allowed to put up a television station. I am not saying that Horsefly, British Columbia, should have a television station because there are 35 people there. I propose to the minister and the C.B.C., in all sincerity that they give us a television station within the confines of the B contour.

The C.B.C. told me in the committee that they did not propose to build another C.B.C. television station in Canada. That is what Dr. Dunton told me in reply to questions. If I am wrong I know I will be corrected.

The answer was given to me that there will not be another C.B.C. television station in Canada. All right; if that is true they have arrived at the point where they have no further proposals to spend capital money in building stations. Then let someone else give Canadians in British Columbia some Canadian programs.

Lately the argument could be used that we have allotted a licence to Victoria, B.C. That only substantiates my argument. No one is going to say—and the C.B.C. has the final say on these things—that Victoria will not overlap the B contour in Vancouver. No one will argue with me that Hamilton does not overlap the B contour in Toronto, because the officials of the Department of Transport will tell that story. I am only saying that if you can give me a directional signal that will reach the boundary between Vancouver and Burnaby I will be satisfied. You cannot do it, but I am willing to go along with that. I am supporting as best I can the request of 80,000 people of the second largest populated area of British Columbia, who says, "We want to spend our money in television; we want Canadian goods televised and advertised to us by Canadian money through Canadian stations". I am going to fight in this house whether I am in order or out of order until Burnaby gets its own station.

Mr. Barnett: May I ask a question, Mr. Chairman? I should like to ask the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond whether he considers the sole function of a television station to be that of an advertising medium?

Mr. Goode: No. No one with any sense would say that a television station should be only an advertising medium. I will tell my hon. friend that my riding is, I think, not more than seven or eight air miles from the C.B.C. installation in Vancouver, yet I have many hundreds of people in my riding who cannot receive Canadian television of any kind.

Mr. Low: Mr. Chairman, I do not often speak on the C.B.C. estimates because that has not been my particular responsibility in the group which I represent, but the hon. member for Macleod, who usually takes care of this section of our responsibilities, is not here at this time. Illness in his family makes it necessary for him to be away. I did think that today I would take just a few minutes of the time of the committee to comment on some of the things that have been said, and particularly on the policy under which the C.B.C. operates.

I can imagine that as the chairman of the board of governors sits in this committee in