

to the new. You can make that trip now in less than a few hours. The Concorde has it down to about half the time it used to take. We live in a world that is condensed and shrinking, and I submit that if we are ever to have peace or understanding in the world in which we are living we need not a constriction of communications but in fact an expansion of them. As a nation we should be trying not only to extend to the United States but to virtually every country and culture which exists in this world.

I submit that if there is anything that we need in our living rooms it is a bigger dial on our TV sets. To take a position, for whatever reasons, that we ought to be cutting back and watching fewer programs is simply a step in the wrong direction and does not take into consideration the world in which we are living.

On that theme I would like to express some thoughts which demonstrate that in the last couple of decades we have been living in a world that is different. Let us take, for example, the resistance in the United States of the young people to the Viet Nam war. We see here a very unique and interesting concept. It was the first war in history against which the citizens of one of the combatting nations rose, the first war which was the cause of opposition to a government which was trying to tell its people that they should involve themselves in that war. It was also the first war in history which the people watched day by day and night by night in the living rooms of their homes.

I submit that what has happened is a cultural change and a change in attitudes which took place because of television. I also submit that one of the things that should be happening in Canada is that we should have more communications coming in, not just from the United States, not just from Canada or from the north European countries, but from virtually every corner of the world.

Let us take a look at some of the situations at present. I suggest that the government has no business trying to restrict, control or shape the minds of its citizens. If we take a look at the border stations that are giving service to Canada—I think we have to underscore that it is a service that they are providing—we find that we are getting a service which we are purchasing in the same way in which we purchase products or any other services that are imported from another country. One of the agreements we have when we bring in products or services from another country is that one pays for them. We also have an agreement under GATT that we should not tax a product once it is imported. But that is in effect what this bill is doing.

Under this bill we are importing a service from another country, and then when it gets here we propose to apply a tax to it. It is inconsistent to suggest that Canadians who have the privilege of living next to a friendly and important country should simply overlook the spirit of GATT, bring in a service which is supplied to Canadians, and then place a tax on it. I make that statement in the sense that I think there is a marked difference between a government which questions where we are going and one which is intent on destroying the traditions that made up the fabric of our past.

It is one thing for any government to say that it may want to change the direction in which the country was going, but that is not what is happening. This government

Non-Canadian Publications

is saying "let us destroy what we had." In effect what would happen is that irrespective of the feelings of many people who have watched, in some cases for more than two decades, programs with which they have become associated, irrespective of all the traditions in the past, stations such as KVOS in Vancouver, or other border stations in Canada, will be destroyed.

It is the wrong position for the government to take, even if it is of the view that things should be changed in the future. One might respect the notion that one should look at the situation and make recommendations for a new and different future, but it is quite different to cancel out and take a hard line on all that has gone on before.

So we have a situation where we need to broaden our scope and our understanding of the world. We note that television should be a service like any other service in the spirit of GATT, but I wish to put forward the view that there is an inconsistency in the government's position which is so striking that it really confuses me to think that in good conscience it can take a position against the border stations while at the same time allowing its own CBC stations to commit the same sins for which it is branding others. In effect it is saying that KVOS, to be specific a station which has a gross income of around \$22 million per year, 20 per cent of which stays in Canada, which means that \$17.6 million goes to the United States, is not acting in conformity with the regulations and the government will pass legislation to prohibit that station, when in fact the government's own CBC imports \$35 million worth of American programs into the country.

The government may look at the mirror, but all it will see is its hypocrisy not only in this legislation but in other pieces of legislation. The truth of the matter is that all TV stations in Canada spent considerable amounts of money bringing foreign products into this country. To take the position that some of the border stations should be condemned for doing what all of us are doing is simply inconsistent, especially when we note that stations such as KVOS have made such an effort to be good Canadian citizens. It was that station which put many Canadian programs on the air.

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It was that same station which established—and in part in my home province of Alberta—Canawest, a film company which not only makes animated films for Canadian advertising but also sells them into the United States and into other countries of the world. It has also done a tremendous job as a good corporate citizen, yet the kettle is calling the pot black, or vice-versa, on the notion that it is of the opinion that it wants to kill, censor, and stop border stations from doing the same thing that its own government-run operation does with regard to other Canadian television stations.

I should like to refer to something which has previously been referred to, and that is that in many cases the citizens who listen to these stations do so because they want to listen to them. It amazes me that any government would say, "We do not care what you want; we know what is good for you." It is amazing that any government dealing with matters affecting the minds of people and what they choose by way of entertainment should try to make those