

should not be possible to set up an appeal board, whatever you want to call it, to carry out the same function as the F.C.C. does in the United States. In other words, I do not see why your arbitrator should also be responsible for administering government policy?—A. I do not want to criticize anything in the great country of the United States, but I would think that our radio system in relation to the difficulties and conditions of our country is a good deal better than in the United States.

Q. I am not criticizing the technical administration or operation of the CBC. I hope this is the last time I will make my suggestion. I suggest that it might be fairer if you would set up an impartial body to arbitrate disputes between the two systems that you have in Canada, and I merely draw on the parallel in the United States.—A. My answer to that is it seems to me—and perhaps we are wrong—that the paramount interest is that of the listeners, and in my view the listeners' interests should be best served by having one over-all responsible body, a body responsible to parliament. To me that is the best way in which the interest of the whole listening public and all of Canada is likely to be best served.

Q. I think this is my last question. A dispute arises, and unless it is submitted to parliament the body which decides between the disputants is also the body which has an interest in one of the networks? Is that correct?—

A. You have to remember that the Board of Governors is composed of nine people who come from all across Canada and who serve in an honorary capacity, whose only interest is in—

Q. They will try to be fair. I do not think there is any question about that. They will try to be fair and certainly in 99 cases out of 100 they will be fair, but the hundredth case is going to arise, and it is the hundredth case with which I am concerned where one of the disputants thinks they have not been fair, and then he has not any recourse except to go to parliament. Then you have to go through all this procedure.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN: The same condition may present itself with any sort of board that you may establish.

Dr. FRIGON: May I offer a further remark? The F.C.C. is the Federal Communications Commission. It regulates the issuance of frequencies to broadcasting stations, to all communications organizations. It has no control of programme content. It does not regulate rates on stations. It is trying to get action on the part of the stations and networks to get better programmes in the United States, and there is a discussion as to whether it should have a lot of these powers you have been talking about this afternoon, but it has not got them yet. They are trying to impress on the minds of the broadcasters that they should produce better programmes because in the United States the programmes are not controlled at all and they find it is getting to a rather disturbing position over there. They have not got the system you are talking about in the United States at all.

Mr. COLDWELL: Was every member supplied with a copy of the Federal Communications Committee report?

Mr. FLEMING: We have the summary.

The WITNESS: I do not think we were able to get enough copies.

Mr. COLDWELL: It contains a devastating criticism of the radio in the United States.

*By Mr. Fleming:*

Q. May I take up some questions now? Mr. Dunton was referring to the White Paper in reply to some question of Mr. Hansell. May I ask if the board of the CBC is satisfied with the policy on political and controversial broadcasts laid down in the so-called White Paper?—A. Yes, we find it works pretty well.