

There are other areas which demand special consideration. They are difficult to deal with for a variety of reasons, partly because of what look to be unjustifiable expenses having regard to the number of people to be served—although I do not share that view—and partly because of geographical and other difficulties. Two areas of Canada in our opinion at the moment are getting wholly inadequate service and, in my opinion, have very legitimate cause for complaint. The first is, southwest Ontario, and the second is British Columbia. In British Columbia the C.B.C. programs do reach over two-thirds of the population; but there is a vast area both in the interior and in the northern part of British Columbia which does not receive C.B.C. programs. There are two reasons for this. The first reason is to be found in the mountainous nature of the country and the difficulty of the terrain; the second in the fact that nearly all of the population of British Columbia is concentrated in one corner—and a very pleasant corner it is. We are not quite sure what the solution is. It has been suggested that increasing the power in Vancouver to 50,000 watts may solve some of the problems. Personally, I doubt whether it will solve the main problem we want to solve, namely, to reach the people in the north and interior. It may be that we may have to establish, as soon as we are able, a chain of subsidiary stations or something of that kind. It may be that our engineers can find some ingenious way of doing it. All I know is that we are contemplating both an increase in power and the addition of subsidiary facilities. Steps will be taken early this spring to see what can possibly be done to help that district. There is something I do want to tell any gentlemen here from British Columbia—and I think Mr. Turgeon comes from Cariboo; at least he mentions Cariboo to me every time he sees me—and that is that we will try to bring the people in the hinterland better service as soon as possible.

Southwest Ontario, apart from the fact that it is pretty close to American stations, I believe is labouring under a sense of injustice; and I am quite prepared personally to admit that that sense of injustice is to a great extent justified. Once Mexican interference is finally taken away—and I might say that the Havana agreement to which I referred last year has been signed by everybody but Mexico, which is not very helpful, but we are still hoping—CBL will no doubt give much better service in southwestern Ontario than it is now giving. In the meantime, we have asked the government for permission to erect a thousand-watt station or to re-erect it in better shape outside of the city of Windsor. This station, we are advised, will give 100 per cent day and night service under all conditions to the whole of Essex county and to certain adjoining areas in Kent and Lambton counties. It will give effective daytime coverage to Sarnia. Sarnia, however, can only be adequately served at night either by the implementing of the Havana agreement and, therefore, a release of much more power to CBL; or if the Havana agreement is not implemented, then by an exchange in wave-lengths and frequencies which will probably have to take place in any event.

I have one other interesting announcement which I am sure we as Canadians will be glad to hear. The neighbouring dominion of Newfoundland has recently instituted a national broadcasting system. It has founded it on the Canadian idea and the Canadian Act. It has established a licence system. It has set up a board of governors. It will operate at the present time one station only, a station of 12,500 watts, I believe. On March 13 the station will be officially opened by joining up with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Newfoundland has paid for lines from Montreal to Drummondville and proposes to take from the C.B.C. all our sustaining features, which we give to them willingly for nothing. We are hoping, and they are hoping too, that some of the commercial features which are obtained from the United States and elsewhere may be extended to Newfoundland to give them some little additional revenue. I would say that I believe that the life of both our countries is going to be enriched by the exchange of cultural features that can take place between us. Newfoundland