

REPORT TO HOUSE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

THURSDAY, July 27, 1944.

The Special Committee on Radio Broadcasting begs leave to present the following as its

THIRD AND FINAL REPORT

Your Committee was appointed by a resolution of the House adopted on February 25, 1944. It has held twenty-five (25) meetings during which it heard the Minister of National War Services, the Chairman of the Board of Governors, the Acting General Manager and various officers of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, as well as representatives of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters. It also had representations made to it by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, the Canadian Association for Adult Education, the Periodical Press Association, the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association of Canada, as well as a number of other persons.

Your Committee would like to preface its recommendations by stating its confidence in the Canadian Broadcasting Act, 1936.

In the reports of 1942 and 1943, a number of principles governing national broadcasting in Canada were enunciated and emphasized. Your Committee now desires to reaffirm these principles and to point out that since 1932 there has been unanimity by all political parties on the national control of Canada's place in the radio realm as a public utility. In the years since the report of the Royal Commission under Sir John Aird in 1929, experience has demonstrated the soundness of the Canadian policy, namely, "National Service in the interests of Canadian listeners and in the national interests of Canada."

Your Committee wishes to state that we believe it is of paramount importance to have a single national authority in control of radio in Canada.

The Committee's attention was directed to the operations of the Corporation since the last Parliamentary Committee sat in 1943 and reviewed the policies and aims of the Corporation and its regulations, resources, expenditure and development.

Your Committee is pleased to note that many of the recommendations made by the 1943 Committee have been implemented, and we believe that such changes have worked out to the betterment of the Corporation and also the listening public.

We note that the vacancies on the Board of Governors have been filled by persons of outstanding ability and include people representative of various points of view. We believe they are capable of commanding the confidence of the Canadian people, and we trust they are willing to devote a large part of their time to this national service. The more frequent meetings of the Board held during the year would indicate such a desire. Your Committee recommends that the Government progressively strengthen the Board, when vacancies occur, by appointing persons selected because of outstanding ability and genuine interest. The success of the Corporation is clearly the responsibility of the Board of Governors.

We regret the resignation of Mr. Rene Morin as Chairman of the Board of Governors. Mr. Morin has been connected with the Board of Governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation since September 10, 1936.