

*Canadian Policy on Broadcasting*

in the *New York Times* and the key Washington press, I find that there has been a substantial and disturbing difference. Our influence on many problems, our ability to cope, is influenced by how much we know. It was Chairman Mao in his celebrated speech at the Yenan forum who declared that today the media is the greatest revolutionary weapon in the world. If we rely on this media to cover public affairs we must use it fairly and with balance.

I must speak now, sir, of the representations we have had from ACTRA. Of course, every Canadian wants more Canadian talent to be used. I think it is very important that the ACTRA people—I notice some of them in the gallery—as a group realize regarding this wonderful broadcasting team that has been developed with all their skill, that their future as well depends on the integrity with which their skills and abilities are actually used. The *Toronto Telegram* speaks about the C.B.C.'s strategic position for propaganda and refers to precious people like LaPierre, Watson, Haggan and Leiterman. "Without them in the strategic positions the indirect but very effective left-wing manipulation of public opinion in Canada could suffer a temporary setback". I feel that Canadians deserve to understand these influences and are entitled from now on to the fullest and fairest treatment of public affairs.

The great David Sarnoff, suckled on the Old Testament and the prophets, truly believed in his new country, America, in her people and goodness. He ushered the United States into the electronic age. Indeed, his faith helped build the modern United States. I would beg our C.B.C. producers to think better of themselves and their potential worth to our own good society. I would invite them to give leadership in the creation of what may become the first modern, technological, prosperous, humane and reverent civilization. They have a unique part to play in tracing the grand design for Canada, the design in which wholeness becomes holy, in which love leads to the mountain top. We would invite our producers to experiment, to risk, to be alive and to be relevant. Above all, we urge them to become involved in their country and to show by their works their faith in Canada and its people.

I recall the very moving message of the new president when President Kennedy was assassinated. He asked all who speak, all who teach, all who preach, all who publish, all who broadcast and all who read and listen to

[Mr. Matheson.]

reflect upon their responsibilities to bind up our wounds, to heal our souls, to make our society well and whole for the task ahead of us. As a visitor to Expo declared, Canada's prospects are far greater than her problems. Now we must venture on to far greater achievements, confirmed by faith and hope in the search for ever larger freedom. Thus may we continue in that love of mankind and that loyalty which Ruskin said was the noblest concept that man had found in his long wanderings through the wilderness.

[Translation]

**Mr. Roger-E. Régimbal (Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes):** I thank you, Mr. Speaker. The few comments which I would like to make are not exactly a criticism of Bill No. C-163 but are the thoughts coming to my mind now that the bill is before the house.

Due to the special character of my comments, allow me to continue in English.

[English]

When a member of this house rises to speak on the subject matter of a bill, especially as comprehensive as Bill No. C-163, his natural temptation is to try to cover every point made in the bill in order to offer his ideas and comments on each one which he accepts or rejects. I should like to resist that temptation, sir, and limit my remarks to two specific points, not because no more could be said but rather because I believe that other speakers will cover the other points adequately. My decision is made much easier by the fact that the Secretary of State (Miss LaMarsh) in her opening statement and the hon. member for Royal (Mr. Fairweather) in launching the opposition's stand have already pinpointed, and very creditably so, the main areas of agreement and disagreement and have also indicated the kind of treatment to which this legislation will be subjected in the ensuing stages of the debate.

My remarks, which will be brief, are almost entirely inspired by clause 2, sub-clause (g), paragraph (iv), which reads as follows:

The national broadcasting service should...  
(iv) contribute to the development of national unity and provide for a continuing expression of Canadian identity.

A quotation from the objectives of the bill as detailed in the white paper reads as follows:

The determination to develop and maintain a national system of radio and television broadcasting in Canada is an essential part of the continuing resolve for Canadian identity and Canadian unity.