

Miss Nora Connolly.

# RADIO



## STAFF MAGAZINE DU PERSONNEL

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**Vol. 4**

**MARCH, 1948**

**No. 3**

# EDITORIAL:

## THERE ARE TWO SIDES

(Contributed by Council Secretary W. C. Hankinson)



MAGAZINE DU PERSONNEL

# RADIO

STAFF MAGAZINE

A publication for the staff of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, RADIO is published for the purpose of exchanging ideas and information about the industry, in the interests of the further development of national radio in Canada.

Revue mensuelle des employés de la Société Radio-Canada. RADIO a pour objet de faciliter l'échange d'opinions et de renseignements de nature à contribuer au progrès de la radio-diffusion nationale.

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**PUBLISHING ADDRESS:** Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, 354 Jarvis St., Toronto, Ont.  
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"DELEGATES to the National Staff Council meetings have a pretty good time. A nice trip, three or four days in Ottawa at the expense of the CBC. Management smiles nicely, pats the delegates on the back, tells them what fine people they are, and grants a few minor requests to divert attention from the main issues."

As I stagger back to my feet from the impact of the 7th annual meeting of National Staff Councils, and recall the above and similar staff remarks about our work, our relationships with management, and the effectiveness of our organization, there come to mind several things I should like most emphatically to say.

1. The Ottawa meetings are far more exacting and trying than the usual routine of work. Anyone who worked through the 6th or 7th annual meetings would never choose to go to Ottawa for a week's rest. (Pharmaceutical note: After last year's experience I took a box of aspirin, and brought back a pocketful of I O U's, signed by different delegates.)

2. It is a healthy thing for Staff Council leaders to learn about CBC policies and problems—to discover what is happening on the other side of the fence. Strange as it may seem, problems always have two sides. In the early days of industry the employer chose to see staff problems only from his own viewpoint: the employee could accept the conditions of employment or starve. There was often little to choose between the two. Today we are living in a period of reaction, in which the employee is frequently strong enough to insist that all problems be seen from his viewpoint. Unfortunately, we have in the CBC a few individuals whose thinking in employer-employee relationships has not yet progressed beyond the first primitive stages.

The procedure which has long since been traditional in civil and municipal affairs, and even between many leaders in international affairs, is producing the most satisfactory results in those firms which have made it their policy in employer-employee relationships. Both employer and employee state their problems plainly and frankly to each other, and honestly and openly try to arrive at solutions which are most advantageous to all. In National Staff Councils we have a type of organization which can use this method of achieving the best possible working conditions. A most desirable by-product of this method is a working atmosphere which makes it worthwhile—some of us feel—to stay in the CBC, rather than accept more remunerative positions elsewhere.

3. Contrary to previous strong impressions of the awe in which management should be held, it was with amazed incredulity that I discovered at the 6th annual meeting that members of staff and of management could sit down around a table as we did, in the conference room, in the general manager's office, and at the management luncheon, and talk man to man, frankly and openly, with a willingness to understand each other. Just so long as this relationship exists, the staff of the CBC can hope for continually improved working conditions, and the management can hope for progressively increasing interest and efficiency.

4. One item of major interest at this year's meetings was a demonstration and discussion of a proposed scheme of supervisor training. Speaking personally, of course, it has been painfully evident that many of our supervisors know little or

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Improvisation was the word during first few days of Toronto's power cuts. Snapped by R. S. Macpherson during CBC commercial "cut-in" are Beth Lockerbie, Elwood Glover, Murray MacKenzie and Roger Greig. (For story please see page 16).

OUR COVER THIS MONTH

## ARTICLE NO. 2:

# WHAT IS THE CBC?

## LET'S LOOK AT NATIONAL RADIO

By

CBC Chairman A. D. Dunton

**Y**OU OFTEN hear the CBC spoken of as "government-controlled" or "government-operated". The CBC is neither. Nor is it an ordinary private corporation in business to make a profit.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation has a very special constitution, for special reasons. Canada decided it needed a national broadcasting system supported by the public. Two important considerations soon became very plain. One was that to do a good job with the volatile elements of broadcasting a public body needed much of the flexibility and freedom of a private organization.

The other vital point is that broadcasting is a powerful means of reaching the minds of people. Therefore possibilities for political partisanship or influence should be obviated. This can be achieved only if a public radio organization is independent of the government in carrying out its broadcasting activities.

For these reasons the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation was set up as it is by a special act of Parliament. Under the Canadian Broadcasting Act the Corporation is independent of the government in carrying on its broadcasting service and in managing its own affairs. Its sources of revenues are secured to it by law—the proceeds of license fees plus its own commercial earnings.

The CBC is a public corporation owned by the people of Canada. It has no issued stock as have most companies, but in effect the public make up its shareholders. It is answerable to them through Parliament. It is not responsible to the government, but is of course subject to the overall jurisdiction of Parliament, representing the people, and must regularly give an account of its stewardship.

The very special constitution of the corporation sometimes leads to misunderstandings of its position. Sometimes, just because it is a public body people say it is "government". The answer is that its constitution deliberately established it as

independent of the government in carrying out its work. When you explain that to some critics they snigger wisely and suggest that the autonomy doesn't really exist. It does, by law; and the Corporation would not be carrying out its responsibility if the independence did not exist in practice.

Sometimes people lump the CBC in a general category of Crown corporations with the inference that it is as much under government control as many of them are. The facts lie in the special constitution of the CBC. The Canadian Broadcasting Act provides for its autonomy.

There have been court discussions on the question of whether the CBC is or is not an "emanation" or an "agent" of the Crown. These are legal fine points which do not need to concern us greatly. All we need refer to is the Canadian Broadcasting Act which lays down the independent powers and responsibilities of the Corporation.

It is sometimes suggested that the Corporation must be under government control because its Governors are appointed by the Government. It is not easy to see how under our system of responsible government such appointments to a public body could be made in any other way. The important fact is that on appointment Governors take an oath of impartiality. By law and by oath independence and impartiality are laid down.

In the Broadcasting Act there are several provisions designed to give Parliament means of keeping an eye on the finances of the Corporation. Its accounts are checked by the Auditor General, an officer of Parliament. The Governor in Council must approve agreements entered into by the Corporation for large sums or long leases. This provides a means of keeping a check on large commitments, since the Government is answerable to Parliament for any such act of approval or disapproval. The Corporation can borrow money only from the Government,

but must of course pay back such loans with interest.

The Hon. J. J. McCann is the Minister with whom the Corporation takes up any such matters with the Government. It is also through him that the Corporation makes its annual report to Parliament. And it is he who deals on the floor of the House with questions relating to the Corporation.

Parliament, of course, has sovereign power, including the right to get information. To review the work of the Corporation it sets up special committees whenever it chooses. Questions may also be asked on the floor of the House. The Minister is not responsible for the activities of the CBC, but through him information which a member of Parliament wishes is often provided. In some cases there is no obstacle to the provision of such information. On the other hand at times it would handicap the work of the Corporation to make public certain information about its business or members of its staff or its internal workings, just as it would affect a private corporation trying to do its job.

None of these checks detracts from the

*(Continued on page 23)*



A. D. Dunton



*COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES\* gathered in general manager's office for this group photo.*

**T**HE SESSIONS of the 7th national meeting of Staff Councils were held in Ottawa from February 10 to 13. Meetings began at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning in the board room. In the absence of the chairman, C. R. Delafield, who had been called away on urgent personal business, the meetings opened with the secretary, W. C. Hankinson, in the chair. This responsibility was later shared by James Gilmore and Andre Ouimet. Mr. Delafield joined the Council on Thursday morning.

A message from Mr. Delafield was read to the delegates as follows (in part): "You all have an important part to play in staff organization. We are here as a team to take action for the year ahead. Remember, we are working toward a goal of getting things done, not on the last day, but on each of the several days we meet here."

The general manager, Dr. Frigon, then welcomed the delegates, and discussed briefly the proposed changes in the salary scales, current developments in the plans

for expansion, the steps being taken to cope with the emergency in the Montreal area due to the explosion at the King's Hall Building, and developments in television.

Col. R. P. Landry, management contact in Staff Council affairs, addressed the meeting briefly, and answered a number of questions.

Further opening formalities included the approval of minutes of meetings, reports from each of the locals, and the secretary's report. There follows a brief summary of the highlights of the meetings, to be supplemented later in the full minutes:

#### **Welfare Committee**

The report submitted by the welfare committee (Howard Hilliard and J. P. Massé) dealt with group life insurance, civil service insurance, hospitalization, and the pension plan. After some discussion, and on the basis of instructions received from locals, the delegates voted

to adopt the suggestion of increased coverage of group life insurance. For the benefit of interested staff members, the delegates were requested to publicize the civil service insurance plan.

Staff Councils representatives on the welfare committee for the following year were elected as follows: Mr. Hilliard, Mr. Massé, and, as alternate member, W. R. Mortimer.

#### **Radio**

A report from the chairman of the editorial board of RADIO, Harry J. Boyle, was read to the meeting. V. Frank Segee

*\*Left to right: Gratien Vian (standing), Fraser Cooke, John Benson, Barry MacDonald, R. L. Reed, Helen James, Guy Fontaine, C. E. L'Ami, Roland Dallaire, W. C. Hankinson, Andre Ouimet, W. R. Mortimer, C. R. Delafield, R. M. Robitaille, S. R. Kennedy, James Carlisle, Doug Nixon, James Gilmore.*

# STAFF COUNCILS MEET IN OTTAWA

*Being an interim report by  
National Secretary W. C. Hankinson*

then discussed briefly the physical and policy aspects of the publication, and answered a number of questions. He laid stress upon the importance of increased employee participation in the magazine content. The function of the editorial board was explained. Mr. Delafield was recommended by the Council to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Boyle's automatic withdrawal after three years on the Board.

## Salary Scales

Needless to say, discussion of the proposed changes in the job analysis salary scales occupied a considerable part of Council deliberations. On February 12, the national secretary wired to all locals the national executive's understanding of the agreement with management as it obtained at that time. Further discussions have been carried forward by the national executive since then. A report will be issued as soon as available.

## Job Analysis Revision

Submissions by locals indicated that misunderstanding of the nature of the establishment at some points had brought about a situation in which employees of

## New Executive

*W. R. Mortimer,  
Secretary W. C.  
Hankinson, Chair-  
man James Gilmore,  
Vice-Chairman R.  
M. Robitaille,  
Fraser Cooke.*



two different groups were doing identical work and carrying identical responsibilities. It was requested that a review be carried out by local management in conjunction with Staff Councils, with a view to recommending proper changes to national management, and that an establishment list by position and group be made available to local Staff Councils.

There was also a detailed discussion about job analysis as it applies to the treasurer's division. The meeting strongly recommended that a re-analysis of all positions in the treasurer's division be

undertaken. The director of P. & A. services agreed that these matters would be investigated.

The opening of Group 7 for operations staff has now been approved. Copies of the job specification were handed to all delegates, and it was specifically requested that operations personnel at each location review this specification and submit promptly to the national secretary any pertinent remarks. The matter will then be carried forward with Operations Engineer Norman Olding upon his return to Montreal.

## Outside Work

The committee on outside activities presented a detailed report. It was felt that at times the present restrictions deny the possibility of outside employment of a temporary or immediate nature, because of the length of time required to obtain permission through the normal channels. A revision of the first part of bylaw 6 (D), having to do with outside work, is being proposed in an attempt to obviate the above difficulty.

## Commercial Fees

Submissions in connection with the present method of payment of commercial fees were discussed. It was decided that the national executive should prepare and submit a proposal to management based on submissions from any locals interested.

## Other Items

The national meeting also discussed the payment of free lance fees to CBC em-

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*ROUND TABLE discussion followed management luncheon for representatives.*

# AU SUJET DU BILINGUISME

Par Don McGill, annonceur à CBM

*Don McGill, élevé dans un milieu anglophone, diplômé de deux universités de langue anglaise, ancien directeur de poste privé, surprend tous ses camarades de langue française par sa connaissance non seulement du français, mais encore de tout ce qui touche à notre culture aux points de vue peinture, sculpture, musique, littérature et même cuisine!*

*Nos lecteurs ont pu se régaler, le mois dernier, d'une très jolie poésie due à sa plume. Notre correspondant montréalais a voulu savoir où Don a puisé ses connaissances de tout ce qui est français.*

*Il en est résulté le charmant article que voici.*

— N.D.R.

**D**EJA PETIT garçon, j'étais un lecteur acharné; les livres me fascinaient. Je lisais tout ce qui me tombait sous la main. Je me souviens de ma mère disant son inquiétude à mon père de me voir lire d'une façon excessive des livres qui n'étaient pas de mon âge. Mais mon père répondait qu'il ne fallait pas frustrer ma soif ardente de savoir, qu'il est probable d'ailleurs que je ne comprenais pas la moitié de ce que je lisais, et que par conséquent cela ne me faisait pas de mal! Aussi laissèrent-ils le petit dévoreur — de livres — à lunettes que j'étais, continuer à avaler les tomes bien aimés!

Mais il restait quand même un endroit où j'étais frustré. Les livres écrits en langues étrangères me fascinaient particulièrement. Il m'arrivait d'en sortir un de son rayon, de l'ouvrir soigneusement et d'en parcourir les lignes énigmatiques, fixant ses mots étranges comme si le fait de concentrer son attention pourrait faire franchir la frontière de ces symboles inconnus et que soudain dans une éclair de compréhension le sens de ses pages se révélerait lumineux. Finalement, avec un soupir de regret, j'étais forcé de le replacer sur un rayon, pas plus avancé qu'auparavant, pourtant fortement intrigué par le charme mystérieux que j'attribuais à ces ouvrages.

Quand pendant mes lectures, je rencontrais une phrase ou une citation en français, "j'y mettais la langue" en essayant d'en former les sons, que j'imaginai devoir représenter les syllabes. Quelquefois d'après le contexte et la similitude de certains mots avec ceux de ma langue, je pensais avoir découvert leur signification. Quel sentiment de

satisfaction j'éprouvais alors! Comme un cryptographe qui a finalement réussi à déchiffrer un rébus compliqué!

La seule vue de ces mots étrangers incitait mon imagination à des échappées fantastiques. Dans mon esprit surgissaient des mondes de sensation entièrement nouveaux. Pour moi ils avaient le parfum de tout ce qui est excitant, de l'exotisme, de l'aventure, du merveilleux.

— l'antithèse de ma petite existence anglosaxonne quotidienne, ordonnée et sans histoire. Je résolus, alors, de trouver un jour la clef des arcanes des langues étrangères — le "Sésame, ouvre-toi" d'un royaume prodigieux et nouveau.

Mais je découvris bientôt que seul un travail souvent prolongé, permettait l'acquisition de cette clef. Le "Sésame, ouvre-toi" était souvent le résultat de luttes courageuses avec une syntaxe complexe, la laborieuse absorption des règles et de leurs exceptions. Mais, avec la phrase magique, la caverne s'ouvre avec toutes ces merveilles inexplorées! La pensée acquiert une nouvelle dimension et une plus profonde compréhension de l'énigme de la personnalité de chacun.

C'est peut-être à cause de mon ancêtre gallois (il semble toujours qu'il existe quelque affinité entre Écossais et Français) que je suis devenu ce que certains se plaisent à appeler avec plus ou moins de condescendance, un francophile. Mais dans la métamorphose, je dois dire que d'ailleurs, je n'ai perdu aucune de mes caractéristiques raciales, j'en ai seulement préconscience.

Posséder l'usage d'une autre langue enrichit sa propre expérience; rend plus averti, plus tolérant. Cette tolérance vient de la compréhension que l'on y gagne, compréhension qui enseigne à accepter et finalement à aimer ce que précisément dans son ignorance, l'on condamnerait.

Qui reniera les plaisirs de la littérature française: les ballades passionnées de François Villon; le lyrisme exquis de Ronsard; l'alexandrin élégant de Racine et Corneille; le romantisme délicat d'Alfred de Musset, celui incomparable de Victor Hugo et de Lamartine; et la sensibilité merveilleuse dans Baudelaire et dans Verlaine.

On ne peut ignorer ces philosophes qui ont si bien contribué à clarifier la pensée humaine; ces romanciers avec leurs penchants pour sonder les abîmes de l'âme,



L'AUTEUR

pour circuler à travers les labyrinthes de l'esprit et du cœur, avec une grande humanité; ces musiciens qui ont su traduire les éléments du tempérament français; ces peintres qui furent souvent des précurseurs. Et il n'a pas vécu celui qui n'a pas goûté à la cuisine française, qui n'a pas remercié la Providence d'avoir créé un Brillat-Savarin, un Escoffier et ces autres bons génies qui ont élevé la cuisine au rang des Arts.

Ceci est le monde magique que vous livre le "Sésame, ouvre-toi" du bilinguisme.

Au Canada particulièrement, nous ne pouvons pas continuer à vivre dans l'isolement d'une seule langue. Ici dans la province de Québec existe une culture qui ne peut échapper à l'attention de tout Canadien anglais cultivé. Un champ libre d'action et de pensée attend l'âme aventureuse qui saura franchir la barrière des deux langues.

On peut avoir à Montréal la surprise d'une "première théâtrale" — une pièce d'un jeune et brillant Canadien, Pierre Dagenais — pièce qui a déjà soulevé des vives controverses le Temps de Vivre.

Nous avons d'ailleurs, déjà profité de la renaissance du Théâtre français au Canada avec la troupe — l'Équipe — de cet auteur ainsi que celle des Compagnons.

En un mot on peut profiter des fruits de notre bivalence, anglaise et française, et en tirer une vie pleine de richesse.

Une des premières histoires que j'ai lues en français était "La Dernière Classe" de Daudet, et je me souviens de l'accent avec lequel le vieux maître de l'école exhortait ses élèves à chérir leur langue comme "la plus belle, la plus claire du monde". C'en fut fait pour moi. Je sus que c'était une langue que je devais faire mienne.

# Le Personnel En Vedette



A l'enterrement de vie de garçon d'André Langevin. De g. à d.: Paul Barette, André Langevin, Lucien Godin. Debout: Jean St-Georges, Harry Shane, Jacques Guay, L. Bélanger, S. D. LeMyre, R. Bourbonnais, A. Gravel, Raymond Laplante.

## Je me souviens

NOS COMPAGNES montréalaises, comme toutes les Canadiennes d'ailleurs, sont des adeptes convaincues de ce qu'on est devenu d'appeler le "New Look". Et même chez les messieurs, cette mode révolutionnaire — qui pourtant ne semble être que la renaissance d'anciens styles — provoque les commentaires les plus variés. Dieu sait pourtant si les Radio-Canadiens sont des gens sérieux! Quoiqu'il en soit, ils semblent avoir réussi à convaincre la secrétaire du directeur du réseau français, Jacqueline Bergeron, à raccourcir légèrement ses jupes. Jacqueline, avec sa réputation d'élégance, réussira-t-elle à faire école et à entraîner bien des disciples? En attendant, le sage Miville Couture se console de ce camouflage de jambes, en se répétant: "Heureusement que nous avons bonne mémoire".

Mais à propos de modes et de chic, le *Standard* de Montréal a rendu un bel hommage à une de nos collègues dans un numéro récent. Il rappelle le choix fait à travers tout le Canada des dix femmes les mieux habillées. Le journal trouve la décision des "experts" assez judicieuse, mais il exprime le regret qu'on n'ait pas choisi la discothécaire de Radio-Canada, Marie Bourbeau.

"Depuis toujours, dit-il, Mlle Bourbeau est incontestablement la femme la plus chic de Radio-Canada, ce qui n'est pas peu dire. L'occasion était pourtant belle de lui rendre le témoignage qu'elle mérite." Nous applaudissons de grand coeur à cette mise au point.

## Les flèches de cupidon

André Langevin, brillant rédacteur aux nouvelles, qui malgré son très jeune âge — il n'est pas encore majeur — est reconnu comme l'un des meilleurs critiques littéraires de Montréal, a quitté le clan des célibataires.

Le 28 février il a épousé devant Dieu et devant les hommes mademoiselle Lucie Beaudet, soeur de l'ancien directeur du réseau français, Jean Beaudet. Après trois jours de congé accumulé il nous a annoncé la nouvelle pour la semaine suivante. Ah! ces hommes timides et renfermés, ce sont eux qui nous réservent les surprises les plus extraordinaires. Aurait-il voulu suivre l'exemple de son patron Paul Barette? Quoiqu'il en soit les collègues d'André ont pu lui offrir une petite fête intime au cours de laquelle on lui a remis comme cadeau de noces un fer à repasser à vapeur afin paraît-il d'aplanir les difficultés qui pourraient survenir chez le jeune ménage.

Décidément le conjugo a fait de graves ravages dans les rangs de nos nouvellistes. J'en connais tout de même un (le seul maintenant) qui résiste et comment! Vous aussi vous le connaissez très bien, il a un nom tout à fait d'actualité. A M. et Mme André Langevin nos voeux les plus sincères de bonheur.

## Les cadeaux de cupidon

On signale l'arrivée de deux nouveaux au sein de la famille Cbjiste... une fille, Yolande-Gisèle, née le 15 février enfant

d'Aimé Simard, opérateur à l'émetteur, et un fils, Jean-Yves, né le 22 février pour former trio avec Yolande et Bertrand chez les Laval Raymond. Félicitations à tous les responsables!

## Art et Sports

Le directeur de CBJ s'est révélé une fois de plus un "maître-organisateur" en présentant à la population de Chicoutimi et de la région le régal artistique de deux concerts les 8 et 10 mars de la célèbre artiste Erna Sack. Yilmont Fortin a sûrement réalisé un coup de maître en disposant de ses 1.500 billets en 18 heures!

Le commentateur sportif Robert Quenneville jubile en décrivant les reportages de la finale de hockey de la Ligue Intermédiaire "A" du Saguenay surtout que les "Volants" semblent devoir remporter le trophée.

Le grand sportif Rémi Dallaire, opérateur à CBJ a raison d'être fier de ses succès comme organisateur d'un concours de skis sur les monts Ste-Anne. L'idée du concours lui serait-elle venue lorsqu'il a remplacé Théo Tremblay aux manettes de l'émetteur, au haut de la colline? Théo revient au contrôle des studios où son dévouement sans bornes et sa jovialité l'ont fait accueillir avec joie.

## A Québec

S'il faut en croire une rumeur persistante, Roland Lelièvre de CBY voyagerait beaucoup l'été prochain. Délégué au titre de publiciste par les "Lacordaire" du Québec, il irait jusqu'en Suisse, participer aux assises d'une conférence internationale groupant les adeptes de l'abstinence totale. Bien entendu, notre collègue saurait profiter de son séjour outremer pour entreprendre son tour d'Europe. La jeunesse voyage et ainsi, paraît-il, élargit ses horizons!

Histoire de voyage, Paul Legendre de CBY en prévoit un que l'on ne fait qu'une fois... Il est à fixer les derniers points de l'itinéraire de sa lune de miel. Il compte beaucoup sur la collaboration constante d'une nouvelle Chevrolet dont il prévoit la livraison sous peu.

Yvan de Champlain visite une autre fois la Gaspésie! Après en avoir apprécié les charmes l'été et l'automne, il vient de

(Suite à la page 10)



Dr. A. Frigon  
General Manager

# Management Memo:

*Budget meeting • Hornby tests successful • Second  
expansion stage soon •*

WE ARE NOW preparing the budget for the year 1948-49 which will be submitted to our Board at its March meeting. As usual, total estimates submitted by all divisions greatly exceed even an optimistic estimate of next year's revenues. Some fifteen officials of the CBC will meet next week to trim down those estimates to the proper level. I appeal to everyone not to forget that small economies build up to large figures and the more we avoid non-essential expenditures the better the job we can do. It is difficult at times for individuals to understand why their enthusiasm must be curtailed; but we, of management, who have to consider a thousand and one activities scattered across the country, are well placed to realize how essential it is to watch closely all expenditures, large and small.

OUR construction projects at Carman, Lacombe, Toronto and Chicoutimi are progressing according to schedule. It was a great relief to hear that full power tests at Hornby proved that the calculations of our engineers were correct. The two frequencies of 740 CBL and 860 CIBC were fed to the same aerial without any difficulty whatsoever—a feat which has never before been tried in Canada and is only applied at very few points anywhere in the world.

As soon as we have definite news that the loan of \$1,250,000 we have applied for, has been granted, we will proceed with the second stage in our expansion program. This will complete the bulk of our coverage and the only big job remaining will be to provide permanent headquarters in Montreal, Toronto and possibly at other points. All these projects should be self-supporting.

I HAD the pleasure again this year to meet Staff Council representatives who had their annual meeting in Ottawa. A number of questions were discussed, the most important being that of the adjustment in our salary schedule.

At the time of writing this memo, I am told that a sentence in my Management Memo in the February

issue of RADIO did not convey clearly the principle behind salary adjustments this year. Employees have been accustomed to getting a so-called statutory increase every year within their respective salary ranges which amounted to one-bracket increment. Nevertheless a few, in the past, have been refused that increase, on recommendation of the supervisors. The same principle will apply this year except that a double-bracket increase will be considered the normal increment on April 1, 1948. This is composed of one increase, which is an adjustment of our salary ranges to correspond to new economic conditions, plus a normal increase as paid in previous years.

All this is to explain that everybody on the staff will get one definite increase and that those who have served the Corporation faithfully will get the two increases promised in my last memo. On the other hand, those who would not have received any increase if our salary set-up had not been adjusted, will get only one increase this year. Furthermore, some employees, because of commitments made to them or because of outstanding performance in the discharge of their duties will be considered for a third increase. I must warn the staff, however, that these will be few. I hope this further explanation will fully clarify the situation.

In order to complete the picture I would like to add that during the current 1947-48 fiscal year we have allocated approximately \$100,000 towards a bonus. At the request of the Staff Councils this was paid out in five monthly installments which added together amounted to half a month's salary for the whole year, although considered monthly it meant ten per cent on each salary cheque for five months. It is absolutely wrong to assume that a ten per cent bonus on the basis of a year's salary is being paid during the last five months of this fiscal year. This was fully explained and understood by the Staff Councils' representatives.

As is always the case where new salary ranges are applied, there will be a limited number of abnormal cases. These will be very few, however, and they will result in some employees getting more or less than they probably expected. *(Continued on next page)*

Such anomalies is the price we have to pay from time to time for the benefit of having an orderly and substantial salary scheme.

Some will notice that their cheque for the month of April will not be as high as that for the month of March. This is the result of the fact that we will be collecting income tax as we go along instead of leaving it to each individual to settle with the income tax inspector, as is the case with the bonus now being paid out. The overall result of the new salary adjustments is that the bonus paid during the last five months of 1947-48 will be replaced by a permanent increase in salary; this is preferable to a bonus that could be stopped at any time.

The other points brought up by Staff Councils concerned matters that have been under discussion for years and to which there is no easy answer. At the time of writing this memo we have not received the final report of Staff Councils following their annual meeting.

## P. & I. REPS MEET

**P**RESS AND information representatives from points east and west gathered in Toronto on February 18 for a three-day conference, with the chairman in attendance at the first session. The main purpose of the P. & I. meeting—the first national conference in three years—was to review past performances and to lay plans for future operations—exploring all avenues (in relation to rising costs and the budget!) of getting information about the CBC and its programs to radio listeners coast to coast. Re-organization of P. & I. for more efficient operation was also discussed.

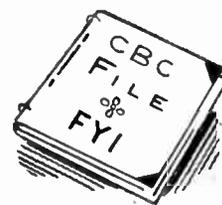
Shown in the accompanying photo are: seated—clockwise—Jean St. Georges, Mabel Cotton, A. Davidson Dunton, Harriett M. Ball, D. C. McArthur, R. B. Hamilton, Ron C. Fraser, June Graham, R. H. Bryden, June Lawford. Standing, rear—Pat Keatley, Vancouver; C. E. L'Ami, Winnipeg; Tom Fairley, international service.

### Sackville Chairman

Allan E. Stapleton has been elected chairman of the Sackville transmitters Staff Council, replacing Fraser G. Cooke, who has become a member of the national executive Staff Councils.

MARCH, 1948

# WOULD YOU LIKE to KNOW?



### Maximum Working Hours

**Q.** Under the five-day week the maximum working hours are 42. Does this also apply if a six-day week is worked?

**A.** Yes.—R. P. LANDRY, DIRECTOR OF P. & A. SERVICES.

### Unemployment Insurance

**Q.** Is any permanent employee contributing to the CBC Pension Plan liable to deductions for Unemployment Insurance?

**A.** The fact of contributing to the CBC pension plan has no bearing on unemployment insurance coverage. At the present time staff earning \$3,120 or less a year are contributing to and are covered by unemployment insurance.—R. P. LANDRY, DIRECTOR OF P. & A. SERVICES.

### Salary Comparisons

**Q.** How do CBC salaries for clerical staff compare with those in other organizations—such as Bell Telephone, Civil Service, Metropolitan Life Ins.? What is meant by clerical is stenos, office boys, file clerks, etc.?

**A.** The CBC tries at all times to pay rates that are comparable to those paid for similar jobs elsewhere in Canada. These rates are under careful and constant review and the adjustment last May of starting rates for Groups 1-4 inclusive is an example of action taken to meet market rates.—R. P. LANDRY, DIRECTOR OF P. & A. SERVICES.

### Rest Room ?

**Q.** Why do we not have a suitable rest room for the staff where we can sit down for a half hour or so at noon hour and relax in a comfortable chair? This room could also serve as a lunch room and would give members of the staff an opportunity to meet others from the various departments.

**A.** At CBC-owned operating points, consideration has always been given to providing for the comfort of staff. Where office and studio space is rented, it has not been possible in every instance to arrange for rest-room facilities that are as fully satisfactory as either the staff or the management would wish.—R. P. LANDRY, DIRECTOR OF P. & A. SERVICES.

### Summer Hours ?

**Q.** Will official summer hours ever be allotted to the clerical staff?

**A.** The official hours for clerical staff are the same for all seasons of the year.—R. P. LANDRY, DIRECTOR OF P. & A. SERVICES.

### Accumulated Leave

**Q.** I have 15 days accumulated leave (from April, 1947 to January, 1948)—this time has been accumulating because of program exigencies. Why can't I take this leave—when I have a chance.

**A.** If the accumulation is on account of working on holidays or normal days off and it has not been possible to use the accumulated leave according to the regulations, you should present these facts to your supervisor. He will make a recommendation through the line of authority with a view to settling the matter equitably.—R. P. LANDRY, DIRECTOR OF P. & A. SERVICES.

P. & I.  
Session



## LES HAMS SONT PARFOIS GENS BONS

EN VOYANT nos techniciens consacrer leurs loisirs à leur appareil de radio amateur on pourrait s'imaginer qu'ils obéissent tout simplement à leur tempérament si bien expliqué dans les pages mêmes de ce magazine par Marcel Vidal dans son article "Technicien jusque dans la moelle". Ce qu'on ignore généralement ce sont les services immenses qu'ils rendent si souvent à leurs compatriotes et parfois même à des gens habitant les régions ou les pays les plus reculés. Nous laissons à quelqu'un qui voudra écrire plus longuement sur la question le soin de donner une idée exacte de leur travail souvent magnifique. Nous ne pouvons, cependant, résister à la tentation de souligner l'aide que certains Montréalais ont pu rendre ces jours derniers.

Ce jour-là un ham des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, un facteur de la compagnie de la Baie d'Hudson posté à la Terre de Baffin, aux environs du cercle arctique cherchait à se mettre en communication avec quelqu'un de Montréal par l'intermédiaire d'un Ham de Winnipeg. Jerry Hudon, du Maître Contrôle de Montréal se trouvait à l'écoute. Il apprend que la femme du *facteur* tombée soudainement malade a été conduite par avion à Montréal. Il cherche à avoir de ses nouvelles. Jerry appelle Dorval, apprend que l'avion s'est bien rendu et que madame est à l'hôpital. Le lendemain, Jerry annonce que l'opération a réussi. Chaque jour depuis, vers la même heure, Jerry Hudon, ou Marcel Henry quand Jerry est au travail, se font messagers d'amour en transmettant les "love and kisses, honey" de la gentille malade au mari transi de la Terre de Baffin.



Le concours de ski organisé par Rémi Dallaire (Extrême droite) près de lui la Reine des Sports de Chicoutimi, Nicole Gaudreault, et le gagnant de l'épreuve, Guy Gagné.

## FM et Télévision

LE DIRECTEUR du réseau français a assisté à New-York, les 9, 10 et 11 février, aux "NBC Workshop Meetings". Marcel Ouimet, qui représentait la Société, est revenu enchanté de son voyage et parfaitement renseigné sur le travail radio-phonique de nos voisins.

Le développement rapide de la télévision là-bas l'a particulièrement intéressé. Par exemple, on trouve actuellement aux États-Unis vingt stations tandis qu'on en construit 193.

De plus, les appareils récepteurs, au nombre de 175.000, se chiffreront à la fin de l'année par plus d'un million! En 1951, peut-être avant, on aura organisé un réseau transcontinental de télévision. Voilà qui indique que la télévision existe bel et bien chez les Américains et qu'elle y est pour rester. Ces chiffres devraient entraîner un optimisme légitime sur notre future télévision à nous.

En attendant, notre FM fait des pas de géant. La station de fréquence modulée de Radio-Canada CBFFM vient de porter sa puissance de 250 à 3.000 watts. C'est là la confirmation d'un bel esprit d'initiative chez les Radio-Canadiens. Tout le monde voudra maintenant se procurer un appareil nouveau. C'est là que nos annonceurs devront surveiller la qualité de leur voix. Dans quelque temps, vous n'aurez plus d'excuses, messieurs!

Il serait sans doute intéressant de savoir si cette innovation signifiera un surcroît important de travail pour les ingénieurs et opérateurs. On se fera une petite idée

de la tâche d'un poste par une lettre adressée par Léo Ducharme, chef opérateur au poste CBF, à Verchères, à la rédaction de RADO. Il nous écrit: "Un membre de notre personnel, doué ou affligé d'un penchant pour la statistique... Maurice Guimond, a compilé le total des lectures prises par les opérateurs depuis dix ans pour CBF et depuis sept ans pour les postes à ondes courtes". Il inclut deux feuilles de lecture pour les trois postes, donnant un aperçu du nombre de voltmètres, ampèremètres, indicateurs, etc., qu'il faut vérifier à chaque heure. "Le chiffre total pour les trois postes — ajoute-t-il — est intéressant, 6.351.000 lectures ou vérifications, soit une moyenne de 1.111.633 par opérateur et presque autant de maux de tête, croyez-vous."

La rédaction française du magazine conserve les deux feuilles de lecture dans ses dossiers, à la disposition de ceux qui croiraient les chiffres exagérés ou de ceux qui peuvent se plaindre parfois des tracés que leur cause leur travail. Merci à Léo Ducharme et Maurice Guimond des précieux renseignements.

Et toujours dans le même domaine, J. E. Roberts, chef du personnel technique de CBJ est rentré de Montréal où il a assisté à une réunion de techniciens fort prometteuse si on en juge par l'enthousiasme avec lequel il a repris sa tâche quotidienne, presque entièrement consacrée à la construction des nouveaux studios et de l'émetteur de 10 K.W.

### PERSONNEL EN VEDETTE

(Suite de la page 7)

la visiter l'hiver. Très sûr que les Chemins de Fer Nationaux, instigateurs de la tournée publicitaire à laquelle ont participé

Lelièvre et de Champlain, profiteront au centuple de la verve intarissable qu'entretient ce dernier sur le pays de ses amours.

Léon Baldwin, technicien à GBV, le Ham le plus conquis de la région de Québec, voit du meilleur oeil l'initiative de RADO au sujet des adeptes de la radio amateur. Léon, dont le champ d'action s'agrandit à chaque nouvelle expérience, est enthousiaste d'une collaboration étroite et entière. Avis aux intéressés.

### Départs et arrivées

Thérèse Bolté, du Réveil Rural, a démissionné. C'est elle qui tapait les prévisions atmosphériques. Nous lui souhaitons un avenir au beau fixe.

Huguette Côté, autrefois du pool au King's Hall et téléphoniste au Crescent sera dorénavant au service de la Légion Canadienne.

(Suite à la page 11)



# 713 MacDonald Hotel EDMONTON

by Dan Cameron

**W**E HOPE that the good, kind, generous editor of *RADIO* will use our address for a title—it's the latest addition to the list of addresses of the CBC—"The Alberta Offices"—as the sign says on the door.

**Edmonton** —Gateway to the North (trade name).  
**Rail Mileage** —To NPO—2007.7 miles. to Winnipeg—800.9 miles.  
**Phone tolls** —To NPO—\$5.30 for 3 minutes. to Winnipeg—\$3.30 for 3 minutes.  
**Population** —113,000—an increase of 20,000 since 1941 (census figures).

**Recollections**—(1) wartime Yankee "invasion" — Quarters re-placed dime tips.  
 (2) Occasional visits of Russian officers during the same period—contrary to rumor, Russian lady fliers were not seen in Edmonton.  
 (3) The Alaska Highway and related tall tales—have you a moment?

**Current boast**—Neighboring year-old Leduc oil field (CBC News Round-Up for latest flashes).

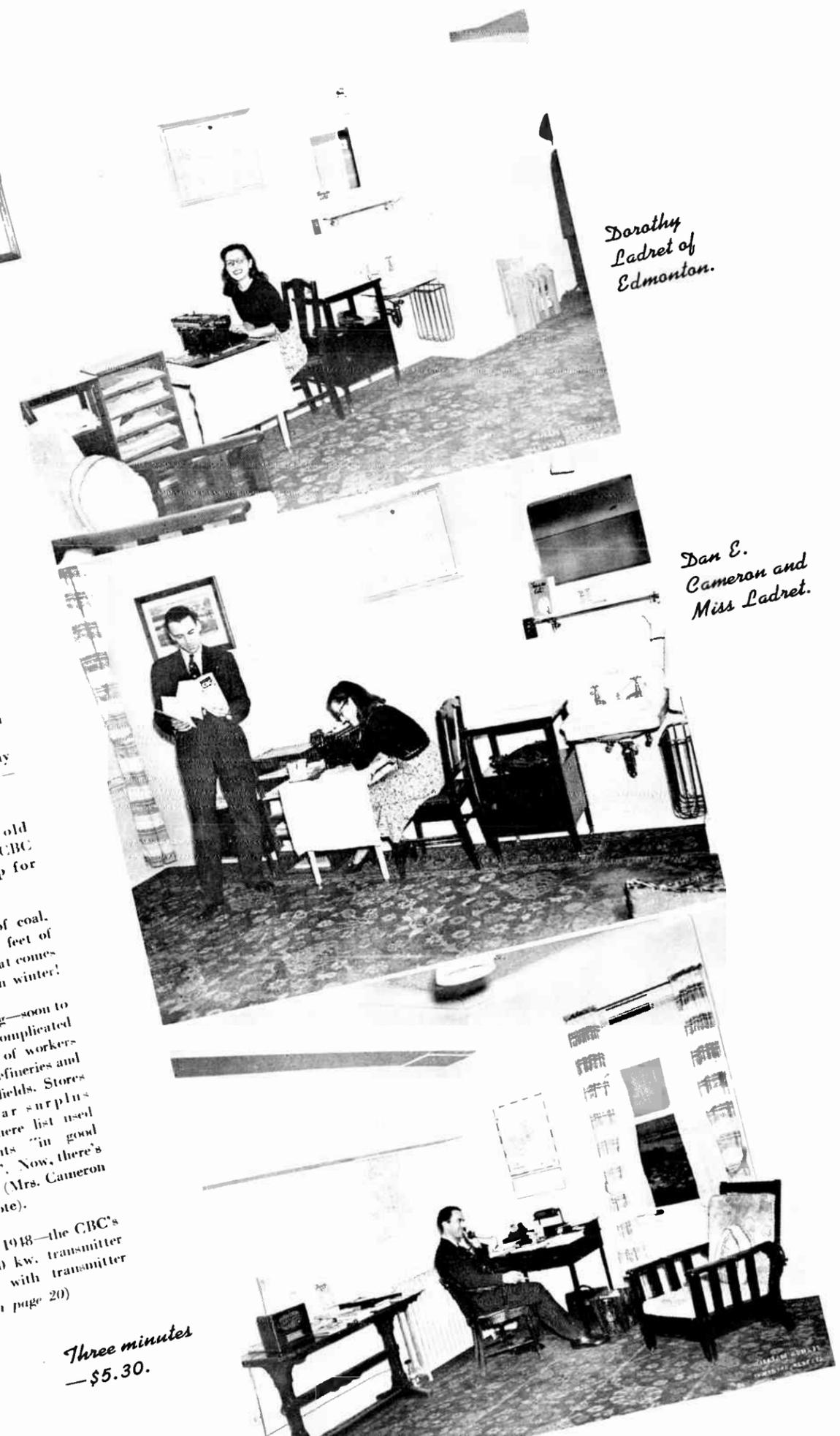
**Conveniences**—Tons and tons of coal. millions of cubic feet of natural gas—heat comes in handy here in winter!

**Problems** —Lack of housing—soon to be further complicated by an influx of workers for the new refineries and adjacent oil fields. Stores selling war surplus materials here list used Army tents "in good condition". Now, there's an idea! (Mrs. Cameron please note).

**Things to come**—July 1, 1948—the CBC's new 50 kw. transmitter CBX, with transmitter

(Continued on page 20)

Three minutes  
—\$5.30.



Dorothy Ladret of Edmonton.

Dan E. Cameron and Miss Ladret.



Forty-four square miles of "Great Outdoors".

# Grapevine Network

## ODE TO A PRETTY FREE-LANCER

or  
*All The Wolves Aren't At Your Door, Honey!*

Twinkle, twinkle, lovely star,  
In your shiny motor car!  
I've a low-down dirty lunch  
When you take me out to lunch,  
You've a theory, and you judge it  
To be based on program budget.  
But the fact you get more shows  
Every week proves, heaven knows,  
When we meet, or when you phone  
us,  
By my cost-of-living bonus,  
Lunch with you is heaven my  
sweet  
More than that—it means I eat!  
—*Cha Chorny.*

## IS Third Birthday

More than 150 guests attended the Third Birthday Party at international service in Montreal during the month. International service staff turned out in force to meet one another and to greet guests from all branches of the domestic service.

The photo shows Priscilla Mackinnon being greeted by Ira Dilworth, general supervisor and host at the reception. Looking on are Assistant General Supervisor C. R. Delafield and Mrs. Delafield and Dr. Frigon.



*I.S.  
Reception*

## *L'Hommage Cordial*



## Engaged

Sylvia Isenor, secretary to Syd Kennedy, Halifax, is flashing the glass these days . . . and after the barrage of congratulations and queries she withstood, all you have to do now is raise an eyebrow and the reply is forthcoming. "Sometime before Easter."

## Married

Floyd G. Estabrooks, assistant mechanical rigger at Sackville transmitters, February 12, to Miss Florence Mae Fillmore . . . Peggie Mathews of Toronto production pool and Johnny Grozelle of Toronto engineering, February 7. Johnny was "staged" by studios men before the wedding, and presented with a radio.

## Presentation to Massé

J. Paul Massé is now the owner of a gold pocket watch, symbolizing his long association as national secretary of Staff Councils—from 1913 to 1947.

Presentation of the watch was made by Charles Delafield, former national chairman, in company with members of the national executive, Andre Quimet and William C. Hankinson. The inscription on the back of the watch expresses "L'hommage cordial" of last year's Staff Council representatives who contributed towards its purchase at the 1947 meeting.

## Misleading Headlines

(Tune—"Bonnie Dundee")  
**Rye, \$23.40 a Barrel**

Come fill up your glasses, and let's all get high  
At twenty-four dollars a barrel of rye,  
For life can be fun at a nickel a go  
For Walkers' or Wiser's or Seagram's V.O.

Modulate to Minor Key  
No, turn up your glasses, for life has turned sour,  
The new price list applies not to whiskey but flour.  
We must stick to our beer for dear God it still hurts  
To buy Corby's, Lord Calvert, or Gooderham & Worts.

## OU SONT-ILS DONC?

par Jacques Guay du Service des Nouvelles

— Mais qu'ot, parbleu?

— Quoi? Mais les livres: oui, ces bouquins aux pages vierges ou cornées où chacun d'entre nous pourrait puiser, avec avidité ou indolence (selon les tempéraments et l'opinion qu'on se fait de l'œuf qui nous repose placidement sur les épaules) où chacun pourrait puiser les connaissances qui lui manquent dans l'accomplissement efficace de son travail quotidien.

Et, surtout, n'allons pas écarquiller les yeux et répondre d'un air bête:

— Ah, vous, vous en avez des idées, ça paraît.

... ou encore prétendre, avec une mine faussement assurée ou hautement indignée:

— J'la connais ma "job".

... car, même si nous possédons notre profession ou notre métier à fond, il nous reste toujours quelque chose à apprendre. Et souvent beaucoup plus qu'on ne se l'imagine.

Et puis, si d'aucuns sont "ancrés" dans la conviction qu'ils n'ont plus rien à apprendre dans leur domaine, il reste toujours celui des autres.

Il n'est pas question de piétiner les plate-bandes de ses camarades, mais, au contraire, de leur aider en leur fournissant des suggestions qui, souventes fois, pourraient s'avérer des plus utiles. Mais, pour leur présenter de telles suggestions, il faut tout de même connaître un peu leur travail, savoir ce qui s'y fait et comment on se prend pour le faire.

Il n'existe que deux façons d'acquérir ces connaissances: ce sont, en sens inverse, par ordre d'importance, la pratique et la théorie dont l'une ne va pas sans l'autre.

Comme la pratique nous est offerte tous les jours, il reste la théorie qui, elle, est beaucoup plus difficile, sinon à peu près impossible à acquérir dans des études personnelles, soit à cause de la difficulté de fréquenter assidûment les bibliothèques publiques, soit à cause du prix des livres.

Ne serait-il donc pas avantageux, dans cet ordre d'idées, de posséder une bibliothèque bien à nous dans laquelle nous pourrions trouver tous les renseignements qui peuvent nous être utiles?

Il ne s'agit pas de quelques rayons où l'on trouverait, ici et là, entre un roman de la bibliothèque Rose et un autre de la collection "Ma Fille", un traité de douze pages sur les débuts, comme camelot, de Marconi ... soit dit sans intention de critiquer les biographies qui pourraient,

avec le temps, venir s'ajouter à la collection.

Pour débiter, il suffirait de quelques uns des travaux les plus intéressants dans chacun des domaines qui touchent la radio: génie, langue, diction, réalisation, etc.

Même si les débuts ne se faisaient qu'avec une cinquantaine de livres, ce serait un pas de fait, voire un pas de géant car le principe de la chose aurait été accepté et l'intérêt des "sociétaires" serait éveillé.

On pourrait, ensuite, petit à petit, augmenter ce noyau de différents travaux suivant l'intérêt qu'ils comportent pour en venir à posséder une bibliothèque complète.

Cette bibliothèque verrait également à faire circuler, parmi le personnel intéressé, les différentes publications périodiques auxquelles des abonnements auraient été pris.

Et puis, plus tard, qui sait s'il ne serait pas possible d'agrémenter la collection, la "Bibliothèque de Radio-Canada", de livres divertissants ... mais holà, ne plaçons pas notre cheval devant la charrue.

Deux grands problèmes se posent maintenant: où nicher les livres et comment se procurer les fonds nécessaires à leur achat.

Au premier, je ne puis malheureusement offrir de solution car si j'en connaissais une, on m'aurait d'ores et déjà nommé à quelque haut poste administratif où une telle compétence m'aurait désigné. Mon bon cœur me porterait bien à offrir un coin de la salle des nouvelles, mais il y a déjà trois candidats au poste de di-

recteur, outre le directeur lui-même qui n'a pas, que je sache, l'intention de céder son fauteuil.

Pour ce qui est des fonds, ne serait-il pas possible d'organiser, chez les employés, une souscription (encore une, mon Dieu!) qui pourrait rapporter environ \$150.00, en taxant chacun d'un dollar et en excluant les ... (hum, hum).

Cette somme initiale permettrait d'acheter les quelques bouquins avec lesquels la bibliothèque prendrait forme. Puis, il ne fait aucun doute qu'ensuite, le trésorier de la société se ferait un plaisir de retirer cinq ou dix sous des chèques des abonnés. Cet argent permettrait d'augmenter le volume de la bibliothèque, de la mettre au point et de payer les abonnements aux périodiques qui nous intéressent.

Il est bien entendu que l'argent versé au fond commun y demeurerait. D'ailleurs, les contributions seraient si minimes que toute question de ce genre serait éliminée.

Alors, qu'attendons-nous et ... où sont-ils donc, ces bouquins?

## PERSONNEL EN VEDETTE—(fin)

Enfin dernier départ, Emile Genest, censeur de textes au service commercial, haut en couleur et sympathique comme pas un, a pris la direction de toute la réclame française d'une importante agence de publicité. Il saura certainement nous faire honneur.

Chez les opérateurs de CBF-M un nouveau venu: André Giroux. Bienvenue!

Nos sincères condoléances à Gérard Lamarche, réalisateur à Radio-Collège, qui a en la douleur de perdre son père au cours de février.

Impossible d'accepter votre invitation... Eusèbe dirige la Philharmonique ce soir.  
Can't accept your invitation... Zeke directs the Philharmonic tonight.  
(Gilles Langevin-Opérateur CBF-M)





*Six  
of  
300*

### Halifax Radio Ball

The second Annual Radio Ball was held in the Nova Scotian Hotel, Halifax, January 29, attended by some 300 people from all over the Maritimes. As was last year's do, the Ball was a huge success . . . as witnessed by the happy group caught by the camera midway through the evening.

### Income Tax 1947

Copy one and copy two of T-4 Supplementary Forms showing total salaries or wages plus bonus paid by the Corporation during the calendar year 1947 have now been delivered to each employee. If you have not received your copies please apply direct to the treasurer at Head Office, Ottawa.

In the case of artists receiving fees, the necessary forms are in the hands of the local treasurer's representatives for distribution upon request.

Employees who have not earned more than \$3,000 in 1947 have the option of making their 1947 income tax return on the T-4 form, provided they can answer "no" to each of the questions listed on the reverse side of this form. If entitled to use this form, employees may fill out the information required on the front and back of copy number one and mail it immediately to their District income tax office without computing the tax due. The income tax office will do this for you and each employee will be advised by mail of any balance of tax still owing or refund payable by the Government. Copy number two should be retained for the employee's own purpose.

Employees not entitled to use this form, due to answering yes to any question on the reverse side of the form, and employees earning more than \$3,000 must fill out and file Return T-1 Special or

Return T-1 General, which are available at any post office, and attach the T-4 Supplementary Form and figure out their own tax and pay the balance due.

All returns must be filed on or before April 30, 1948; otherwise 5% of the amount unpaid will be added as a penalty (minimum \$5.00).

### Toronto Drama Draws Crowd

Nearly 100 people turned out to see the first workshop production of the Toronto studios Dramatic Club, and everyone was most complimentary about the performance.

The club chose Barrie's entertaining one-act play, "The Twelve Pound Look". From start to finish there was a professional touch to the production.

It was a workshop production, so there were no special costumes, but the actors

carried their audience right along with them in the spirit of the play.

The props included two flats and furniture borrowed from offices and the artists' lounge.

The narrator was played by Ken Beal of the duplicating department. Harry Sims was played by Len McColl of continuity. Lady Sims was Rosemarie McKay of news roundup. Kate, Harry Sims' ex-wife, was played by Margaret McDermid of the farm department. Tombs, the butler, was Gerald Pratley of continuity. Dorothy Robb of continuity directed the play. Prompter was Bev Chambers of traffic. Stage manager and assistant were Earl Anderson of traffic and Doug Sackfield of continuity.

Esse Ljungh, CBC drama producer, willingly helped with the production with advice and direction.

The workshop production had two strikes against it because it was held at 5.15 on a Thursday afternoon, a poor time to expect a big audience. The only reason for the excellent turn-out seemed to be the high praise last year's productions received.

The dramatic club plans to do one workshop production a month, as well as a major production in April.—*Phil Carscallen.*

### Farewell Party

Miss Berthe (Betty) Baril has resigned from the CBC French department at Watrous. Members of staff and wives turned out en masse to a farewell party and presentation for this very popular fellow-worker at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Norm Micklewright. Betty's future plans are indefinite, but she left to spend some time with her parents at Vancouver.

*Watrous  
Party*



# POWER CUT-OFFS PUT TORONTO ON TOES

by Phil Carscallen

**I**T'S BEEN "on again, off again, in again, Finnigan" at the Toronto studios ever since February 16. Finnigan being electric power.

The first cut-off came at 11.17 a.m. without the slightest warning. "Big Sister" on CBL and the Trans-Canada, and the June Dennis show on CJBC were blacked out. The transmitters called in and found out there had been a power failure and both of them flipped on their turntables and played discs.

The clocks (which could tick) ticked off half an hour before the power came back on. In the meantime "What's Your Beef", a delayed show to the network, had its biggest beef. It didn't get on the air that day. Montreal "filled" to the network. Laura Limited from Montreal was "patched through" to the CBL transmitter from the network, by-passing master control. CJBC continued to fill from the transmitter.

The second power cut-off came around 3.45, also without warning. By this time Toronto studios had been advised that the blackouts were caused by power cut-offs and not by power failures, so arrangements were made with Ottawa and Montreal to take over the programs usually fed from Toronto. Winnipeg was asked to originate a Women's Talk, scheduled to come from Toronto.

By this time we knew that the power cut-offs would be daily for an undetermined period—probably until the spring thaw.

The third cut-off was around 6.40 and lasted 15 minutes. Local programs were missed and the transmitters again "filled". At CBL transmitter, Art Holmes, newly appointed supervisor of CBL and CJBC, took over, making station calls and spinning discs. Ken Foster, too, took over as operator. At CJBC the men filling the breach were Joe Demert and Jack Spalding.

Before the day was out the engineering department had one studio operating on an emergency basis.

Lighting the studio was a problem. The engineering staff put their heads together and came up with the idea of automobile lights. Someone hot-footed it over to a supply house and came back with four clear glass seal-beam fog lights. Three of them were connected to a car battery in the studio and supplied the lighting there. The other one was hooked up to another battery in the control room.

The next morning a small portable generator was set up in the garage. Toronto studios are built in the shape of a "U". The garages are at the base of the south "U". A power line was looped from the door of the garage, across the courtyard, then down through the window of Nairn Mogridge's office and around the corner to studios "A" and "B" (CJBC and CBL booths) and to master control.

The little generator supplied the power to keep both the studio consoles going: one turntable in each studio and one light in each control room and each studio.

All the equipment at Toronto studios runs on 25 cycles, while the portable generator supplies 60 cycle current. That meant that the six cutting tables in the recording room and all of the turntables in the studios could not operate. The single turntables in each of A and B booths were 60 cycle tables the engineering department was able to assemble by installing 60 cycle motors.

Later a bigger power plant was brought in from CJBC transmitter to replace the smaller one. It will operate A and B studio consoles and master control. Flashlights and fog lights supply the light.

One morning a pianist was playing on the international service during the power cut-off period. He had a fog light on each side of him, shining on the music. The announcer used the third studio light and the operator used the one in the control room. The program went off without a hitch.

"Big Sister" used to be recorded in Montreal, but following the explosion, the show was transferred to Toronto for recording. Now, because of an emergency in Toronto, the program is shifted back to Montreal.

During the second day, four complete quarter-hour shows were taken out to CJBC transmitter by Johnny Grozelle of engineering. Announcer Larry Henderson, who lives not far from the CJBC transmitter, drove over for two days and announced the programs.

The day is not far away when power cut-offs will mean nothing to Toronto studios. A 25 kw. 25 cycle generator is on order. It will be powerful enough to drive all the studio consoles in the building, all of master control, all of the equipment in the recording room, and give adequate light in each studio and in each control room. Furthermore, the equipment will be automatic. As soon as the power fails, the generator will automatically start up and supply the necessary juice.



*All  
Canadian*

## Radio & Screen

Radio actors successfully turned to screen acting recently in the all-Canadian film, "Sins of the Fathers". In one of the photos, Frank Heron, C.B.C. staff announcer in Montreal; Austin Willis, Toronto actor and announcer, and Beryl Dann of Montreal listen patiently to a pontifical speech by A. G. Dann of Montreal. The cast of "Sins of the Fathers" is entirely Canadian. The screen play was written by Gordon Burwash, radio writer and actor.

## Listener's Limerick

From a letter to the program of sails, surf and chanteys—"Harmony Harbour". . .

"It is a fact that our organist last Sunday as the people rose to retire, struck up a free adaptation of Shenandoah; and though he had not completely memorized the air, by judicious modulations and variations he produced a fairly creditable voluntary. He told me afterward that mainly as a result of hearing his wife humming the air, he, like many others, became enamored of it and promised me he would carefully listen and work up a better voluntary. His choir refrained from breaking in with "Away you Rolling River" and dutifully retired. And, along with my own, let me present the appreciation of the choir of the United Church of Kelowna."

To point up the story, the listener closed his letter with the following original limerick:

*"A Kelowna church organist bled  
After 'Harmony Harbor' so-called  
Gave the flock sailor chanteys  
'Steal of fugues and andantes  
And say, was the preacher appalled!"*

## Born

To Norman and Mrs. Moore (CBO transmitter), daughter, Deborah Mary, February 3 . . . To Hugh and Mrs. Clark (Toronto), son, Charles Gordon, February 2.

## Editors Conference

One of the functions of the CBC news service is to report to the people in one part of the country on the activities of people in other parts of Canada. Special emphasis was placed on this responsibility at a conference of senior news editors, under Chief Editor D. C. McArthur, in Toronto early in February.

Caught by Radio's camera man during the three-day meeting were: clockwise—Dick L. Elson, Charles G. Gunning, William H. Hogg, James Kinloch, Marg. MacDonald, Dan C. McArthur, W. H. Brodie, A. E. Powley, Lawrence Duffey, Paul Barette.

A good deal of the discussion centred around a proper balance between Canadian news and international happenings, and it was agreed that CBC news bulletins should include all significant international news. But it was agreed also that unless there were new international breaks, good regional or Canadian news should be given preference.

MARCH, 1948

# . . . AND THERE CAME A GREAT CLOUD

Wherein is the aftermath of the King's Hall explosion as it appeared to a staffer at international service.

AND WHEN the year was nearly new, St. Catherine felt a sharp thud. There followed a great clatter of many wings. The international service shielded eyes from a great harsh white brilliance which lighted the cloud which was CBM-CBF. And the air was filled with great sound. Upon Crescent Street the horde descended in all its numbers and the floors groaned with weight.

Bravely the IS staff stood ground, but as a crested spring tidal wave combs on resisting sand, so the horde broke upon their number. Upstairs, under door and desk, it eddied and swirled by switchboard, studio and turntable.

Brave were the shouts in many IS tongues—

"En Garde. . . !"

"Det var dog Pokkers!"

"England expects. . . !"

"Donnerwetter noch ein mal!"

Flanking were the movements—Flit were the guns. Typewriters were hastily stuffed in hip pockets. Favorite stenographers were carefully wrapped in microphones and locked in cupboards. A hand-

ful of old War Assets padlocks were pressed into service on recording machines, janitors, and on drinking fountains. One European, who braved a marching host, offered cunningly forged commercial contracts by an open manhole. Gallant was the central registry courier who laid a false trail of soap flakes away from the scene, down Crescent Street.

But with the night the moon shone dully on a wasted scene. The gentle patient maturity on the IS vanquished faces was one of tolerance for the women of the victors; for John's Other Wife Laura and her Big Sister and their Ma Perkins who smirked amid the ruins of a Right to Happiness.

Time passes and the shrine grows calm. The eyes who see the liberation plan the plaques to mark the gallantry: the Siege of Studio X, the Charge of the Listening Room Free-Lancers, the Retreat From the Broom Closet.

Yet the brightness of the westward sky, unsullied by the cold hard white light which once again shines from afar, has returned. The horde's ragged remnants lurk in corners. But again in the crisp fresh calm of peace, goes out the Gospel According to Saint Laurent.

And the studios? You've never seen anything so clean. Just imagine the amount of soap that has been swilled out of them!

Editors Meet





# STEVIES SCRAPBOOK



A. J. BLACK

I'M SORRY for those guys in "Stores", they have to do the darndest chores; like "stokers" working below decks, they're oft-times buried to their necks in shipments, as they "come" and "go", details of which they have to know and are expected to keep track, be it a "desk" or "Record rack"; and to the endless needs be wise of Stationery and supplies, consumed so free by everyone, that melt like snow beneath the sun. I sure don't envy them their job when someone gets to raising "hob" around the Fall when shelves are bare and items "low", with none to spare, and they are scared a "special call" will get them heck from Montreal! Theirs is a gruelling, daily round, and they the "fox" chased by the "hound" who's seeking this, demanding that, as though it came out of a hat, or who expresses great surprise commodities have various size; that canvas binders (with a lock) are not a "standard" thing in stock, that it's no use to fuss and fret for steel equipment, hard to get, or fancy gadgets, done up swell, when "plain Jane" style will do as well; or leather "covers" with three rings and numerous other "special" things; who looks upon the poor Stores clerk as just a "flunkey" or a "jerk",

and orders all in sight because he thinks "S. C."\* means "Santa Claus"! Oh, no, indeed, I envy not the poor, hard-working Stores clerk's lot as daily "down below" he sweats (for which darned little thanks he gets) in our behalf to keep on hand the things for which he's daily "pained". Believe you me, it is no joke to cater to three hundred folk whose requisitions come apace from every corner of the place; who want a shipment packed, addressed, and on its way somewhere "expressed"; or have some "Notice", strange and weird, that from the Customs must be "cleared"; or for some "crated" piece will rant that he, the local "elephant", must lug upstairs and put in place, that first "this way" then "that" should face. Darn few dull moments may be found within the Stores clerk's daily round as he, perspiring from the heat, with calloused hands and blistered feet, climbs up and down the endless stairs with desks and tables, stands and chairs, transcriptions, paper stock and such, till he feels he'll end on a "crutch". The more I think of him, poor lad, the more I've reason to be glad the "difference" I can enjoy in being just the "OFFICE BOY"!

\*Stores Clerk.

**NEXT  
DEADLINE  
Is  
Saturday  
MARCH 27**

## TWO SIDES

(Continued from page 2)

nothing about supervising. They may be experts in some skill or field of knowledge, but there is little or no relationship between being an expert and being a supervisor. I feel confident that when the supervisors come to understand and execute their responsibilities as such, many or most of the little grievances which annoy staff and feel the atmosphere of unrest and dissatisfaction which prevails in many centres, will be eliminated.

May I urge you to believe that the history of National Staff Councils would seem to indicate that the utmost confidence may be placed in their achievements and their effectiveness. Just how those achievements and that effectiveness continue to merit confidence will depend upon the active enthusiasm of all locals.

It would constitute a serious omission to bring these remarks to a close without attempting to pay tribute to the work that has been done by our retiring national chairman, C. R. Delafield, during his four years of office. He has shouldered the responsibility of National Staff Councils during the formative years of an organization whose future has been shaped, to a large degree, by the early policies and traditions established under his leadership.

"Charlie" has been the kind of leader men like to work with. Courteous but firm, capable and efficient but never overbearing, his personality and forthrightness have been such as to inspire confidence on the part of both management and staff. As a Staff Council organization we owe him a debt of gratitude which perhaps only those who have worked directly with him can truly appreciate but for which all those who have followed staff matters closely cannot but be grateful.

### Transfers and Promotions

Geoff Gordon recently landed in Halifax from central newsroom to take over from Editor Fred Brickenden transferred to IS... At Keefer, J. C. Carlisle appointed assistant plant engineer, March 1.

### Newcomers

To Vancouver: Assistant Talks Producer Nora Gibson from U.B.C. extension department; Stenos Diane Cherry, Pat Starr; Office Boy Ken Buhr; Bobby Patrick back in newsroom after U.B.C.

## COLLECTOR'S RECORD

By Pat Patterson

&

John Rae

Hi 'Ya Sophia, Baby Have Ya Got A Little Love To Spare—Benny Goodman Sextet; with Mel Powell, piano; Red Norvo, vibes; Al Hendrickson, guitar; Harry Babison, bass; Louis Bellson, drums and Goodman, clarinet. (Capitol No. B462); Hi 'Ya Sophia, written by Mel and Benny, is an uptempo riff characterized by the precision ensemble work of all concerned. We picked this side, we confess, for the piano solo by Mel Powell and the relief it provides from the odd thousand small 'hop' groups that are jumping at us. Baby Have Ya, etc., is typical Goodman Sextet, but listen for the inane lyrics put together by Harry Warren and Ted Koehler and sung by guitarist Al Hendrickson. He doesn't like them any more than we do. Surface, excellent.

Bela Bartok—Concerto for Violin and Orch. (1941)—Menuhin, with Dora; and Dallas Symphony. (Victor—10 sides); Wish we'd had time to hear this one three or four times before commenting. Collectors of conservative taste will no doubt be scared off by its dissonance, but we'd suggest they hear it several times before making up their minds about it, because we have a feeling even they might fall for it in time. One American critic recently said, "This is conceivably the greatest violin concerto since Brahms." In any case it is an interesting one, and Menuhin plays magnificently. There doesn't seem anything wrong with the recording.

Rachmaninoff—Songs—Jennie Tourel, mezzo-soprano. (Amer. Columbia—6 sides); We welcome this set heartily for it contains some of the lesser-known songs such as "The Drooping Corn" and "Lilacs", as well as the rather too familiar "In the Silence of the Night". Tourel sings in Russian and sings well, but sometimes we wished the pianist had been either a little closer to the mike, or a little less self-effacing. "Floods of Spring" has a particularly beautiful piano part and it seems to us best treated as a voice and piano duet.

### Departures

Members of head office staff gathered recently at an after-five party to bid farewell to Mrs. C. Campbell, secretary to the general manager, who has resigned, in order to devote her time exclusively to housekeeping . . . L. R. Radburn, clerk, accounts, head office, has resigned . . . Elmer McLellan has left Vancouver newsroom to join the staff of New Westminster "Columbian".

PLEASE DON'T  
TREAD  
ON THE FLOWERS



Being a series of remarks on English usage by W. H. Brodie, CBC supervisor of broadcast language.

Those who are too hot in their pursuit of certainty concerning "the" correct pronunciation or "the" correct usage in English will often get a dusty answer from authority. People generally do not seem to be aware of the very large number of words for which different pronunciations are admitted not only by different dictionaries, but by a single one.

I was led to make these remarks by two questions which were recently submitted to me, and to which I was required to answer clearly "yes" or "no". Is the pronunciation "clerk" for "clerk" wrong? and Is it wrong to say "different than"? My enquirers will not get the sort of answer they seem to require from either the Oxford or Webster; answers to these questions are set out below.

What is one to do when authorities differ? As regards pronunciation, use the pronunciation to which you are accustomed provided you can find authority for it in a good dictionary; but remember this: if there is a pronunciation to which nobody objects, use that in preference to one which will raise objections from some people. Among variant usages, there is nearly always one which is generally accepted. Try to find out from your authorities which that is, and stick to it. Do not depart from this rule without good and sufficient reason; be prepared to meet any criticism by reference to reputable authority and by explaining why you adopt a usage which is unusual even though it may be correct.

Clerk.—Webster says "clerk, British usually 'clark'". The Oxford (1936) says "'clark or clark'", and notes that "in U.S. and of late occasionally in London the pronunciation is 'clark'". In these circum-

stances I advocate the use which comes most naturally to your tongue; certainly in North America *clerk* is more usual.

Different.—Webster says "usually followed by *from* but also by *to*, especially colloquially in England, and by *than*". Fowler stoutly defends *to*. The Oxford says "construction *from*, also *to*, *than*". The consensus is strongly in favor of *from*; without condemning other forms, I recommend the use of *different from* as generally preferable.

Euphemism, euphuism.—I heard somebody the other day referring to the avoidance of an accurate but harsh term and the substitution of a milder one; he called this milder word a *euphuism*. He meant *euphuism* (stress on the first syllable). *Euphuism* is a literary critic's word, and rare at that, which can be applied to a very flowery and affected style of writing.

Parisian.—An English word. The first *i* should be pronounced as in *fizz*, not as in *freeze*.

European.—The *pean* should not be pronounced in one syllable *pean*; there are two vowel sounds, and the sound pattern is rather *pee'an*.

Practicable.—Is applied to what can actually be done with the means, etc., at one's disposal. If, for instance, the money, time, equipment, etc., necessary for a certain course of action are indeed available, then that course is practicable.

Practical.—Means suited to actual conditions. A suggestion might be practical, i.e. calculated to meet and solve a certain problem; but it might be impracticable for lack of means to carry it out.

Of course both words have also other meanings that are not likely to be confused. (See any good dictionary).

# Pass The Orchids, Please!



## Work or Play?

COMES APRIL, comes salary increase; and at least one member of the staff is making novel use of it. Peter Whittall, prairie farm broadcaster, has plunked down \$349 to buy himself a Brush Sound-mirror magnetic tape recorder.

The CBC prairie region is scheduled to obtain a magnetic recorder this year, but Peter believes that his extra one will not be amiss. After July 1, in the prairie region, three farm broadcasts will be fed each day to three 50 kw. stations and the extra recorder should come in handy for the increase that will be necessary in "on the spot" interviews.

The work that Peter will do with his recorder, however, is not the only consideration that led him to part with his cash, at least in the opinion of some of his fellow workers in Winnipeg. They point out that frequent chortles and occasional wild bursts of laughter can be heard from the farm broadcast office as Peter and his associates experiment with "off-the-record" recordings.

## Fifteen Years to the Thirteenth

"Poon to Friday the thirteenth!" say staffers at head office in Ottawa.

And they point to Col. R. P. Landry as a perfect refutation of that old superstition about Friday and the thirteenth being unlucky.

For it was on Friday the thirteenth that Col. Landry joined national radio. And it was on Friday the thirteenth of February, 1918, that he celebrated his fifteenth anniversary in the service.

Col. Landry joined the staff of the Canadian Radio Broadcasting Commission as secretary on Friday, February 13, 1933. When war was declared in September,

1939, he was appointed a member of the Censorship Co-ordination Committee and on September 26, 1939, was appointed chief radio censor. At the request of the CBC, he resigned from Censorship in May, 1942, to devote his full time as secretary of the CBC, and in November, 1944, he was appointed director of personnel and administrative services.

Col. Landry's dexterity in performing card tricks is astounding. Notwithstanding his dexterity, however, it is rumored that even a child can beat him at "Chômeur" which is the favorite game when senior P. & A. officers gather together.

While Col. Landry is an ardent fisherman and has a large assortment of gear for that purpose, no one in national radio has ever seen a fish that he has caught, except for the gold fish and guppies which he keeps in aquariums.

He is also what might be termed a periodic gardener. One year he will have a lovely garden complete with pool; but having worn himself out in the effort, it takes from one to two years for him to recuperate and until he is sufficiently recovered, his four sons carry on with the gardening.

Officers who attended the recent P. & A. conference in Ottawa presented the Colonel with a beautiful gold wrist-watch on his fiftieth birthday, not only as a token of esteem and affection, but no doubt as a gentle intimation that P. & A. personnel are never, NEVER, late in the mornings.

Col. Landry is not only admired for his ability, fairness and unflinching kindness, but is regarded with the greatest affection by all who know him. In fact, it is probable that he was the inspiration for the song "He's a Jolly Good Fellow"—*Ruth O'Halloran*.



R. P. Landry

## ROOM 713

(Continued from page 13)

80 miles south at Lacombe, and studios in Edmonton, will begin its regular schedule of broadcasts—on clear channel 1010 kilocycles.

## Alberta Personnel

*At Lacombe*—W. W. (Bill) Grant—in charge—Bill is a legendary figure in the history of radio in Alberta. Ron Backhouse—of Watrous and Sackville.

*At Edmonton*—Dan E. Cameron—manager for Alberta. Miss Dorothy Ladret—an Edmontonian who is catching on quickly to c'e's.

## Present Office Facilities

The accompanying pictures were taken in order to preserve for posterity our birthday-suit appearance. The literature belongs to the Corporation—so does that shiny new phone—number 26525. But the "fixtures" are all hotel property—even to that lovely tablecloth which supports the typewriter "desk"! No, you're wrong—that's *not* a British India rug! The "Great Outdoors" is a southern exposure from our seventh floor office window—with Low Level Bridge crossing the North Saskatchewan River to Bonnie Doon district in South Edmonton. This picture gives some indication of how the city is scattered over almost forty-four square miles. It's a nice view though, isn't it?

## Establishment Estimates

*At Lacombe*—five engineers and a modern 50 kw. transmitter.

*At Edmonton*—a dozen or so—including Bob Graham of the farm department and Miss Ainsley Shannon) and small modern studios and offices.

## Our Aims

- (1) to bring the CBC to Albertans,
- (2) to bring Albertans to the CBC,
- (3) to receive correctly addressed mail from other CBC offices.

## CBC ENGINEERS GATHER AT MONTREAL



**T**HE ENGINEERING division operations department held its annual meeting in Montreal this year at the Ritz Carlton Hotel from February 2 to 5. Usually these meetings assemble in the board room at engineering headquarters in the Keefer Building, but on this occasion all available office space at Keefer, including the board room, was occupied by the Montreal studios staff who had been forced out of their offices in the King's Hall Building as a result of the recent explosion.

The operations engineer, N. R. Olding, presided at all meetings, which were attended by Assistant Chief Engineer J. A. Ouimet, by engineering supervisors from Vancouver to Halifax, and by members of the headquarters operations office.

The four days of the meeting were discussion-packed and all phases of the CBC technical operations were dealt with.

In connection with personnel, it was announced that management had approved the opening up of the group 7 salary classification to operators. The chairman emphasized to the delegates that while this new operator classification would make it possible to recognize the abilities of outstanding operators, it could not be considered as a reward for seniority and long service. It would be necessary, he said, for supervisors to examine each case carefully and to be certain before making recommendations that the need for an operator having the higher qualifications existed and that the man recommended possessed these qualifications.

Another subject which was discussed at some length was the proposal to use announcer-operators more extensively. This is a new policy on the part of the CBC and is being instituted in the interests of efficiency and economy. There was general agreement that the use of announcer-operators would not decrease operating efficiency.

Recording and nemo activities were also discussed and it was brought out at the meeting that a pressing need for portable recording equipment of the tape and wire type has developed within recent months. It has not seemed advisable, however, to place a large number of these machines in service until their reliability can be proven. It was agreed that the development along these lines would be watched closely and as soon as equipment of adequate reliability could be obtained, it would be provided wherever needed.

On Thursday the chief engineer played host to those attending the meeting at a luncheon in the Vice-Regal Suite at the Ritz Carlton. In a brief speech of welcome to the delegates, Mr. Olive pointed out that the coming year would be an important one for the CBC, during which two new 50 Kw. transmitters would go into operation in Alberta and Manitoba, power would be increased and a new transmitter would be placed in operation in a new building at Chicoutimi, P.Q., and the FM service, in which the CBC had pioneered in Canada, would be extended and improved. He expressed the hope that the delegates would receive much value and information from their discussions and would go back home determined to

develop the highest efficiency in the areas under their supervision. Following the luncheon, the chief engineer remained in attendance at the concluding meeting when many of the items which had been discussed were reviewed for his benefit.

Although there were no formal meetings held on Friday, most of the visitors remained in Montreal and took this opportunity to discuss various problems with the headquarters staff.

In the accompanying photo are: Seated, l. to r.—J. A. Canning, supervising operator (Halifax); H. M. Smith, Maritimes regional engineer (Sackville); J. A. Ouimet, assistant chief engineer; G. W. Olive, chief engineer; N. R. Olding, operations engineer (and chairman of meeting); H. B. C. Hilton, chief operator (Vancouver); A. B. Ellis, B.C. regional engineer (Vancouver).

Standing, l. to r.—R. D. Cahoon, senior engineer, international service (Montreal); E. C. Stewart, supervising engineer, operations dept. (Montreal); H. E. S. Hamilton, technical liaison officer (Toronto); H. R. Hilliard, area engineer (Toronto); M. Gilbert, area chief operator (Ottawa); M. H. Mosher, supervising operator, IS. (Montreal); J. E. Roberts, chief operator (Chicoutimi); C. Frenette, chief operator (Quebec) (directly behind Roberts); W. C. Little, supervising engineer, operations dept. (Montreal); M. Bernard, departmental clerk, operations dept. (Montreal); H. Audet, area engineer (Montreal); A. A. Bourke, supervisor of maintenance, operations dept. (Montreal).



## Tape Recorders

Sir:

It is evident that Mr. Herbert's letter in the January *RADIO* was prompted by a strong desire to solve a purely local problem. It is regrettable that he should convey the suggestion that the engineering division is obstructing the use of tape and wire recorders.

In discussing Mr. Herbert's problem with him, we thought we made it quite clear that we were most interested in the use of this kind of equipment when it became available. Furthermore, in reviewing this matter in some detail with Mr. Herbert, we were of the impression that we clearly covered the following points:

1. That in our opinion wire and tape recorders are still far from perfect instruments. In the laboratory, under controlled conditions, they can be made to perform very well and they show great promise.
2. That engineering head office has been investigating various kinds of commercial wire and tape equipment.
3. That much of the tape equipment now available is made for other uses than broadcasting and is not suitable for our work unless modified. The modifications are not difficult to make, but the fact still remains that the equipment leaves much to be desired from the standpoint of portability, reliable performance and high quality. In view of the imminent possibility of better designs becoming available in the very near future, we felt it better to wait rather than purchase equipment which would become obsolete in a very short time.
4. That at the time of our discussion there was no 25 cycle equipment of this kind available but that some Canadian firms were doing development work and we hoped that they would have something to offer in a very short time.

We also made it known to Mr. Herbert that regardless of how portable 60 cycle equipment might be, we in the 25 cycle power areas would always have to have portable power supplies to develop 60 cycle power, which are heavy and awkward devices to carry about.

Whenever new equipment appears on the market, it always creates a great deal of interest in both the technical and non-technical groups associated with broadcasting. Unfortunately the non-technical groups often seem to be misinformed about the true quality of new products, which leads them to believe that technical people are reluctant to adopt these new devices. Also it seems unfortunate that this misinformation always tells of

the good qualities and little or nothing of the bad. The fact that we have had tape recorders in Toronto for almost a year and that under actual operating conditions they have not been entirely satisfactory proves this point.

I think we can safely say that we would welcome a more universal use of this kind of equipment because of the many potential advantages which it offers; but above everything else, it must be reasonably reliable even though the quality may not be up to the standard of other methods of recording.

H. R. HILLIARD,  
*Engineer in charge,  
 Toronto Area.*

## It Came To Me In A Flash

Sir:

To encourage contributions to *CBC News Roundup* which seems to be an established network feature, may I suggest that a yearly award be made for the three best items aired by CBC personnel.

This idea, I feel, has two things to recommend it. To publicize to a greater extent than is done at present the outstanding contributions and the people who made them, and to provide some tangible reward for the effort, which in most cases is beyond the ordinary routine of duty. As to what form this award should take I leave to others to decide, but perhaps a chronometer or something which could be suitably inscribed and be a permanent token of recognition. The selection would necessarily be in the hands of a committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Carscallen and should only be for *Roundup* spots whose excellence is due to individual initiative.

While in a constructive mood, may I also suggest that recorded programs, network and otherwise, be limited, except in special cases, to a thirteen-week cycle with at least a new title and format being substituted, if not the program content. Variety is the spice of life!!

JOHN BENSON,  
*Announcer—CBO.*

## SW—IS—IBS

Sir:

The above three abbreviations have been used in different memos, reviews, newspapers, etc., to designate the international service of the CBC. These become confusing after a while and I believe that only one should be adopted and publicized as such:

I.S.W. — International Short-Wave,

I.S. — International Service,

I.B.S. — International Broadcasting Service.

My proposal would be to use I.S., — International Service — and add to it the words "studios" or "transmitters" if it is necessary to distinguish the program and engineering offices from the transmitting plant. "I.S." would be the general term to represent the international service in a general sense: "I.S. studios", the program and engineering offices in Montreal; and "I.S. transmitters" the transmitting plant at Sackville.

J. M. LAPORTE,  
*Sackville, N.B.*

## "Anything For A Story"

Sir:

Being the *RADIO* correspondent at CBO studios finds me regularly calling up various members of the staff and entreating, threatening or somehow extracting from them a promise of some copy for the magazine.

In the normal course of events, I called on Norm Moore, operator at CBO transmitter, with the usual line . . . "Give me some copy," I said. "A beef, a story, . . . ANYTHING!!"

Now Norm Moore, being a conscientious sort of chap, took my plea to heart and promised then and there to do something about it.

That was some time ago, just how long, we'll find out later!

Well, the other day, the phone rang. To my surprise it was Norm! "Jane," he said, "I've done it!" . . . "You have?" . . . "Yep, I always fulfill a promise. Got a pencil?" . . . "Oh, the story!! Yeah, just a sec., ok, go ahead."

"To Mr. and Mrs. Norm Moore, February 3rd, a daughter, Deborah Mary."

LONG PAUSE . . . "Phew! . . . That's grand, Norm, but really, you didn't have to go to all that trouble just for a story!!?"

JANIE OVANS,  
*Ottawa.*

## On Recitals

Sir:

I send this to the editor with somewhat the feelings of a man who knowingly reaches out and touches high tension wire. It is about recitals. For months I have been fighting back the urge with a supreme effort, but there is a limit to repression.

Here at Vancouver, with our times well ahead of the rest of the country, we receive each day some sort of recital at the rather unexpected hour of 1:30 p.m. Sometimes these quarter-hour periods are very pleasant, but unfortunately most of the time they are not.

Obviously, there is a reason behind this business—to give the newer and younger artists some opportunity to appear on the network. However, surely, unless the artist is very good, the interest of the public is only there because of the fact that said artist comes from a nearby town, or is remotely related to "those people the Smithers whom we met last summer at the beach."

Out here in Vancouver we have two programs a week, in the mornings, on which our new discoveries are presented. But, we only send them to the Pacific network. The other day there was a soprano from either Montreal or Quebec whose effort can only be referred to as a regrettable incident. Perhaps in Montreal or Quebec she sounded good, I don't know, but the addition of some two thousand miles of line really turned the thing into one of present-day civilization's minor horrors. Then there was a baritone, who attempted to demonstrate his entire repertoire in fifteen minutes. His attempt met with notable lack of success.

Don't think that I mean for a minute that out here in Vancouver we don't do the same thing—we occasionally do, but at least we present them only to our own folk. In other words, the young lady from

the Cariboo who sounded quite well at the audition but whose debut is not one of national appeal is heard only in the group interested in her. And they can sit through it, because there is the interest of locality. I frankly doubt that some unfortunate soul at Gaspé would last the full course.

At this point, I find myself looking up with what I hope is a shy and self-effacing smile, towards the mountain tops where I imagine frowns are gathering on the faces of the Gods assembled there. For this is criticising programming, a thing which does not appear to be de rigueur. In the January issue of *RADIO*, the editor's note asking for material seemed to omit rather definitely any mention of programs or program policy. Criticism without full knowledge of the facts is a dangerous thing, but admittedly the subject is one which I feel is important and therefore I send this along.

I know that I am not alone in my feelings; in fact, from other expressed opinions here, I am one of a multitude. And I am sure that should opinions be polled at Toronto, or Montreal, or Halifax, there would be a preponderance who agree that although the wisdom of the policy of giving young artists a chance through recital periods is undisputed, surely it might better be done on a local or regional scale. It would be interesting to find out whether this assumption is so.

*Vancouver.* DENNIS SWEETING

● Any omission of programs or program policy from the editor's request for more material was definitely not definite. *RADIO*'s Letters column is open for discussion of broadcasting problems.—ED.

### Important Development

Sir:

I am writing to tell you how much one listener enjoys the Wednesday evening programs of the CBC. They represent an important and imaginative development in the history of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and one which, I am sure, is gratefully appreciated by all Canadians who feel that the radio can do more than provide casual entertainment. The Wednesday night programs provide entertainment on a very high level indeed, and I hope that every success will attend the Corporation's efforts to maintain the standard they have already set in this contribution to Canada's cultural and national development.

Yours sincerely,  
L. B. PEARSON,  
*Under-Secretary of State  
for External Affairs.*

### Operations Trophy

Sir:

How would it do for the chief engineer to offer a suitable trophy (shield, cup, etc.) for the transmitter and/or studio group showing the best record for operation over a given period—say six months or a year?

We seem to remember a competition of this nature in the U.S. WOR received recognition for an almost perfect record for keeping on air.

In addition to evoking the good old competitive spirit, it would be interesting proof to the visiting public of an efficiently operated plant.

*Sackville N.B.* E. F. MACDUFF.

### VU Twitch

Sir:

We at Sackville haven't had an explosion; we haven't been concerned with the pros and cons of tape recorder versus remote recording gear, nor have we worried too much about "Fearless Fosdick's" ability to cope with a Chippendale chair.

We have had to chase the neighbor's cows off our front lawn on numerous occasions (s true) and some of the operators have been snow-bound overnight. We have also had trespassers out on the field, below the European array. Namely two Red Foxes who were watched by the distaff side, armed with envying glances and loaded pistols.

The two preceding paragraphs are just incidental music to the theme of this letter and are aimed at proving that basically we are a happy, peaceful tribe.

Now comes the blow! Sackville is a transmitter point and *not* a program centre, therefore there are only two announcers. We do our own operating and at present I, personally am suffering from the malady known as "VU Twitch". This is caused from watching the meter and controlling the level. Trying to change the point of visual fixation in a second, from meter to continuity, is difficult. The arm on the meter becomes super-imposed on the continuity sheet and I invariably find myself reading fluttering exclamation marks into my sentences. It can be compared to the spots in front of your eyes after coming in out of the snow. (My vision is 20-20.)

There is a solution to this problem I know, but what? Could I wear a croupier's green eye-shade or could the meter glass be tinted? And if I wore an eye-shade would the CBC term this a contradiction to the anti-gambling law? Gentlemen, the defence rests . . . at the local steam bath, where I usually go to get the kinks taken out after a busy day. The "twitch" you know.

*Sackville, N.B.* SHERRY NELSON,  
*Announcer.*

### Greetings OM: Calling CQ!!!

Sir:

How about starting a little Ham News in *RADIO*? There must be many amateurs in our ranks. Why not send photos of your station, along with news of your activities and the bands you operate. If each district would do this I am sure we could have some grand "Round Tables".

To start the ball rolling, here is the news of the Sackville amateurs:

VEIGH—Operator Merrill Young will soon be on the air with phone. He is looking for a modulation transformer. All the old timers have been asking for him, so keep an ear on 20 and 10 meters for IGH.

VEIWT—Operator Ed. MacDuff has his antenna up, also an AR88 receiver. He has almost completed his transmitter and soon will be trying it out. Ed. is a newcomer to the ham fraternity.

VEIHF—Operator Bruce Taylor hopes to be hitting the air in the near future. He is busy, just now, training a new junior operator, but will soon have time to do some operating and he already has the antenna up.

VEIRY—Operator Mo. Smith is not on the air yet, but we hope to talk him into it. Photography seems to occupy most of

his spare time. If we can get him on the mike a few times I think he will return to the active fold.

VEISH—Operator Max Corkum has his station ready to hit the air in a week or so. He will operate 40, 20 and 10 meters, phone and C. W. So look for Max, boys. By the way, he is making good use of the antenna poles left behind by Vic Rowe and Ron Backhouse. Max is also training a junior operator on YL.

VEIKC—Operator Lawrence (Nip) Dryden is on the air working all bands phone or C. W. Nip is on the look out for any of the CBC boys. His station consists of 6L6 Osc., 3 6L6 Doubler and 813 final modulated by pair of 811's. Power 125 watts daytime and 250 after midnight. Reason—boarding house AC-DC sets. Hi! Receivers, S-20 and 1155 converted and 1851 pre-selector. Nip has heard VE5NB (ex VEISY) Vic Rowe, on 20 meters. Hope to hook up with you soon, Vic. We are still listening for ex VEIQF, Ron Backhouse. Hurry and get on the air, Ron. The Sackville hams were sorry to lose such active members as Ron and Vic.

Reg. Hawley is gathering parts to build a rig. He already has a reconverted 1155 receiver and we hope he will soon have enough parts to get going. He thanks Ron and Vic for his share of their antenna.

Al Stapleton has a dipole antenna up, also a reconverted 1155 going. It is only a matter of time till you will be hearing his signal.

We hope to have photos of the Sackville boys' transmitters in the near future, and hope the other districts will send in photos and news of their activities.

*Sackville, N.B.* <sup>73's</sup> "NIP" L. E. DRYDEN.

### WHAT IS THE CBC?

(Continued from page 3)

fundamental position of the CBC as a body set up to serve the public on its own responsibility, and answerable to the public through Parliament.

We of the CBC should carefully nurture the independence and impartiality of our service in the public interest. With our freedom comes responsibility—responsibility to do the very best job we can for the listening public and to maintain true impartiality. Because we are a public body we should not be any less keen and efficient and creative than any private organization—we should be more so because we have the single overall aim of serving the public. The CBC needs all the flexibility and initiative and drive possible, combined with a high sense of responsibility for the great trusteeship conferred on it.

### Regular Council Meetings

In order to tighten up the efficiency of Halifax Staff Council, it has been decided to hold meetings regularly the first week in each month. And for those who need an added attraction the meetings are going to be preceded by a half-hour showing of documentary movies.



### To Winnipeg Citizen

Jean Hinds has resigned from the CBC to write a daily column for the new "Winnipeg Citizen". She will also do free lance work in radio as time permits. Miss Hinds first broadcast during the early part of the war a series of short stories directed to women, called "Our Knitting Circle". Then she was on the CBC staff at Winnipeg as woman commentator for the Prairies. Later she joined the press and information department in Winnipeg and did two weekly broadcasts to the Prairies on CBC activities. After a short term in the Winnipeg newsroom, Jean went to Toronto to handle the job of woman commentator on CJBC. When she left the Corporation she was working with the CBC women commentators and developing new talent in this field.

**STAFF  
COUNCILS  
MEET**

•  
(Continued from page 5)  
•

ployees, Section 13.12 of the leave regulations, car mileage allowance for transmitter operators, the clarification of the regulation on the payment of meal allowances, and the posting of vacancies in the higher groups. These and other items are to be carried forward by the national executive.

### Election of National Executive

The feeling of the national meeting was that the constitution should be amended to permit the election of national officials from any point represented, thus assuring to all locals equal participation in national

Staff Council activities. On the new basis a national executive for the ensuing year was elected as follows: Past Chairman, C. R. Delafield; Chairman J. P. Gilmore, Vancouver; Eastern representative, Fraser Cooke, Sackville; Ontario representative, W. R. Mortimer, Ottawa; Quebec representative, R. M. Robitaille, Montreal; French network representative, Andre Quinet, Montreal; secretary, Wm. C. Hankinson, Montreal.

At the conclusion of the meetings, Mr. Gilmore, speaking on behalf of national

### *62 CBC Hams*

**P**LANS ARE going ahead for Rvpto's "ham" column, which we hope will get under way in the April issue.

A committee to advise the editor on all "ham" news has been appointed, and has met with the editor to lay down general principles for handling "ham" news. The committee has been selected from among Toronto ham operators, in order to facilitate the rapid handling of last-minute news for the column.

Operator Archie McDonald is chairman of the committee, and has Norman Hollingshead and Frank Edwards as fellow committeemen. This committee will scan all ham news and will make recommendations to the editor regarding its proper handling.

In order to make it as easy as possible for you to contribute items and ideas for the ham column, the committee has decided to take advantage of the present correspondents for Rvpto across the country. If you have any news or ideas, just pass them along to your correspondent, or drop them in the mail to the editor, or send them direct to Archie McDonald at Toronto studios. Whichever route you choose to use, your material will be WELCOME and will receive the careful consideration of the committee.

Deadline for "ham" news is a few days ahead of our regular deadline for Rvpto. "Ham" deadline is the 25th of each month.

Staff Councils, presented Mr. Delafield with a marble desk set bearing two Parker 51 magnetic base pens. In making the presentation, Mr. Gilmore spoke of the achievements of Staff Councils under Mr. Delafield's leadership and of the unselfish manner in which the retiring chairman

had served the cause of staff welfare during his four years of service.

### Halifax Hockey

Bloody but unbowed (and we're not referring to legs!) about covers the current situation of the CBC-CPT "Rockets". Three games in February netted scores of 8-1, 7-6, 9-5, all in favor of CHNS "Town-clockers". Hope that their fortunes might revive when operator "Flash" Fraser hit the ice with his 199 pounds of blond brawn, were lost when CPT player Harry McGillyray crashed the boards and broke his knee-cap. But, as they say, anything can happen yet.

### Promoted to Sales Representative

Hugh Clark of the engineering division and studio supervisor at Toronto has been promoted to sales representative in the commercial division. He will assume his new duties April 1.

Hugh was with a well known Toronto advertising agency from 1937 to 1940, and much of his work with the CBC has had to do with contacting agencies and facilitating their radio production through the Corporation. In 1930 Hugh assisted in building CKPC, Brantford, and was attached to the technical staff of that station until 1937. To his agency and practical radio experience he has added special courses in electrical and radio engineering.

He joined the CBC in 1940.

Last May when the five-day week came in, the entire operating staff in Toronto was pooled so that the engineering department could maintain efficiency. The result was that the five-day week was inaugurated without additional staff, and every member of the department staff got two consecutive days off each week. Hugh was given the job of assigning the staff—a total of nearly 40.

Hugh is married and has two children: Godfrey, three and a half years, and Gordon, one month.



Hugh Clark