

Subsection 4.—Programs.

The national program service has been expanded extensively since Nov. 2, 1936, by the introduction of new activities and an enlargement of the scope of the service generally. Surveys were made for the purposes of a stocktaking of current programs and of ideas and material for new programs, and also to seek new talent. Since these surveys, plans have been formulated which, however, can only be put into effect gradually, pending recruitment of additional trained producers.

Careful consideration has been given to developing a balanced schedule of programs. Although this is an ideal which can be reached only approximately, the variety of programs so far presented is evidence that no type of program is allowed to outweigh others. Table 8 shows the classification of CBC programs for the fiscal year ended Mar. 31, 1938, according to percentage of programs and percentage of time. In the realm of strictly musical programs symphony concerts, little symphony or string symphony concerts, vocal and instrumental recitals, choral concerts, and various instrumental ensembles have been presented regularly. Special consideration has been given to encouragement of Canadian symphony orchestras and of ensembles of a recognized professional standard.

The dramatic field has been surveyed with care and special emphasis has been placed on offering an incentive to creative writing of distinctively Canadian plays especially adapted to broadcasting. To this end the CBC instituted its first National Drama Contest; 199 dramas were received from all parts of Canada. Also, for the first time, the CBC broadcasted a series of Shakespeare's plays. The services of leading British and United States actors were obtained for the chief roles.

The talks schedule has been greatly increased and in addition to commentaries on the news, current topics, and book reviews, special series by eminent Canadians have been introduced. Advantage has also been taken of the presence of distinguished visitors to bring to Canadian listeners authoritative and timely talks. As a result of experiment it is hoped to inaugurate a panel of Canadian speakers especially gifted in the preparation and delivery of interesting talks. By the presentation of round table and other discussions, the CBC has contributed to the stimulation of general interest in controversial public problems.

Actuality broadcasts and special events have a predominant place in the schedule of national programs. The event which overshadowed all others in this field was the descriptive commentaries and associated programs on the occasion of the Royal Visit. All the arrangements and production for broadcasting were solely in the hands of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Other special events and sports broadcasted in 1938-39 were: Allan Cup Hockey; Canadian Basketball Championships; Canadian Amateur Golf Championships; Canadian Open Golf Championships; Big Four and Intercollegiate Football; Eastern Canada and Dominion Football Championships; Canadian Boxing Championships; Canadian Track and Field Championships; King's Plate Horse Race; Canadian Lawn Tennis Championships; Canadian Canoe Championships; Gold Cup Motor Boat Races; International Fishermen's Races; Canadian Lacrosse Championships; Opening Ivy Lea Bridge at which the Prime Minister and President Roosevelt spoke; Conferring of Honorary Degree on President Roosevelt by Queen's University; Opening Blue Water Bridge, Sarnia, Ont.; Centennial Celebrations, Prescott, Ont.; Transatlantic Flight by flying boat *Mercury*; Opening Ottawa Airport; Opening Trans-Canada Air Express; Opening Val D'Or-Rouya railway line; Armistice Day Ceremony, Parliament Hill, Ottawa; Royal Winter Fair; Opening Canada-Newfoundland Telephone Service; Farewell Banquets for Rt. Hon. R. B.