

The CBC International Service transmitters are located near Sackville, N.B. Linked by land lines with studio and program headquarters located in the new Radio Canada Building at Montreal, the two 50,000-watt transmitters used by the International Service can operate in any of the international short-wave bands. Frequencies used depend on the solar activity, the geographical area served, the season of the year and the time of day.

Completed in 1948 new 21-megacycle antennae are now used regularly for transmissions to South Africa and for special broadcasts to Latin America. Although the CBC International Service in 1949 had no South African service of its own the CBC facilities for reaching this area as well as Europe (including the USSR), New Zealand, and Australia were placed at the disposal of the United Nations Organization Radio Division for a certain period of time, daily except Saturday and Sunday, to relay official reports and commentaries.

During the time the CBC International Service has been in operation its various sections have received altogether about 100,000 letters from listeners in all parts of the world. It is repeatedly stated in these letters that the Canadian programs are heard with unusual strength, and both the number and the contents of the letters testify to a keen interest in Canada aroused and satisfied by CBC International Service programs. Many listeners ask for specific information on a variety of topics ranging from trade conditions to social and educational matters. These inquiries are attended to by the language services or are referred to the Government Departments concerned. Reception reports are also verified.

Listeners in Europe and Latin America receive upon request an illustrated monthly booklet giving broadcast schedules, program details in the various languages, and the frequencies on which the transmissions may be heard. These monthly booklets also feature different aspects of Canadian life, further enlarging the comprehensive picture of Canada conveyed to listeners in 12 languages by means of news, commentaries, actuality broadcasts, interviews, documentary programs, talks, stories, music and drama.

Domestic Program Service.—During the year ended Mar. 31, 1948, 60,714 programs representing 18,234 hours of broadcasting were presented over the CBC Trans-Canada, Dominion and French networks. Of the total broadcasting hours, more than 82 p.c. were devoted to non-commercial and public service programs, and the remainder to commercial presentations. Of the total broadcasting hours in 1947-48, 65 p.c. was scheduled on the Trans-Canada network; the Dominion network released more than 7 p.c. and the remainder was released on the French network.

The CBC originated and produced 80 p.c. of its network broadcasts. Of the remainder 3 p.c. came from private stations and 17 p.c. were exchange programs from the United States and the British Broadcasting Corporation. Various categories of light music made up the greatest number of broadcast hours, followed in order by news, drama, semi-classical music, variety, agriculture programs, talks, educational broadcasts, religious periods, and programs devoted to the interests of women, sports enthusiasts, and children. Table 6 shows the proportion of time devoted to sustaining programs as compared with commercial programs, and analyses those made up of music as compared with the spoken word.