

CBC International Service (Shortwave).—The International Service, inaugurated on Feb. 25, 1945, is operated by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation on behalf of the Canadian Government. Its aim has been to tell the people of other countries about Canadian life and thought, and to add a friendly note to the conversation of nations.

During five years of operation, the International Service has grown to meet the requirements of Canada's expanding interest and influence abroad. Its two 50,000-watt transmitters at Sackville, N.B., are linked by approximately 600 miles of land lines with studio and program headquarters in the Radio Canada Building, Montreal, from which programs in 12 languages are broadcast daily. These languages are English, French, German, Czech, Slovak, Dutch, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. With technical facilities transmitting a signal unequalled by any other from the North American continent, the International Service has succeeded in reaching increasingly large audiences in Europe, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and the South Pacific area.

Over 150,000 letters have been received from listeners in all parts of the world attesting to the strength of the International Service signal and to a wide interest in Canada and Canadian programs. Many listeners request specific information on a variety of topics ranging from trade conditions to social and educational matters. These inquiries are answered by the language sections or are referred to the government departments directly concerned. Reception reports are also verified.

In addition to broadcasting Canadian programs approximately 14 hours daily, the International Service has developed a liaison with broadcasting organizations in other countries so that an increasing number of programs are relayed over national networks, thus reaching an even wider audience.

An important function of the International Service has been the coverage of United Nations activities. This is done by means of reports and interviews by the CBC correspondent at Lake Success and foreign language correspondents. The International Service also places its transmitters at the disposal of the United Nations Radio Division for the broadcasting of its official reports and commentaries to Europe and to the South Pacific.

Monthly illustrated program booklets designed for audiences in Europe and in Latin America are sent, upon request, by the International Service to listeners. These booklets contain broadcast schedules, program details in various languages, and frequency information.

Domestic Program Service.—During the year ended Mar. 31, 1949, 73,002 programs representing 23,076 hours of broadcasting were presented over the CBC Trans-Canada, Dominion and French networks. Of the total broadcasting hours, more than 81 p.c. were devoted to non-commercial and public service programs, and the remainder to commercial presentations. Of the total broadcasting hours in 1948-49, 68 p.c. was scheduled on the Trans-Canada network; the Dominion network released more than 9 p.c. and the remainder was released on the French network.

The CBC originated and produced 83 p.c. of its network broadcasts. Of the remainder 2 p.c. came from private stations and 15 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 drama, news, talks, semi-classical music, variety, agriculture programs, educational broadcasts, religious periods, and programs devoted to the interests of women,