Finance

States, where the situation is similar in some respects, the National Gallery of Art in Washington is largely privately supported. They have many private donors for tax reasons. We do not have the same kind of tax situation here so we are never going to have a comparable kind of support for our collection in this country. We cannot compare it to that.

The National Gallery in London is based upon great collections which have found their way into this institution. It does not acquire contemporary work; nor does it support a circulating program like ours. Nevertheless, with a great collection already, it has had more money to spend on works of art each year than we have had.

Senator Hays: Per capita?

Dr. Boggs: I do not know about per capita.

Senator Hays: We have a population of 20 million people. Let us take the city of New York which has a population of 11 million people. What does it spend on its art gallery?

Dr. Boggs: I am sorry, but I do not have those figures, but I can produce them for you.

The Chairman: Perhaps you could produce them later on.

Dr. Boggs: The Metropolitan has something like \$3 million a year for acquisitions as against our \$750,000.

Senator Hays: But you come up with this figure in your Estimates, and this is your budget. What was your thinking when you worked with the Department in putting this Estimate together?

The Chairman: Do you mean that this is the increase over last year?

Senator Hays: Yes.

Dr. Boggs: \$250,000 of that is for the acquisition of works of art. The rest is for developing the program. A large part of it is the cost of the Centennial year program—the exhibitions we are putting on in various places.

Senator Hays: So next year this budget will be substantially reduced?

Dr. Boggs: No, it will not, because this is setting a precedent. We have to continue to grow. On June 1st I will have been at the National Gallery for a year. I realize what the possibilities are, and how much we really have to do in order to reach people in the other parts of the country. What we call an extension program has to be developed.

Senator Hays: You were in Winnipeg and had an art display there. How much money did you spend on that particular exercise?

Dr. Boggs: That was actually an exhibition sponsored by the Centennial Commission. I represented the minister there. We lent to that exhibition, but it cost our budget nothing. We do send other exhibitions to Winnipeg.

Senator Hays: Do you ever relate the audience participation to the expense?

Dr. Boggs: Yes.

Senator Hays: You do this?

Dr. Boggs: Yes.

Senator Hays: I would like to obtain some of this information. These are the questions I have in relation to expenditures and in regard to audience participation, as to what it is costing us to do this.

The Chairman: This would be very interesting information to have and I am sure Dr. Boggs will produce this information for us.

Senator Leonard: I should like to compliment Dr. Boggs and the gallery on the acquisition of the Rembrandt.

The Chairman: Hear, hear.

Senator Leonard: I do not know how you were able to get it at the price. I am inclined to think that, in regard to your expenditures, if someone came along and tried to buy it from you they would have to pay considerably more than you bought it for. That is a point I want to make. In the case of these expenditures you are really making an investment. Over the years, one would hope that the items bought by these expenditures might increase in value, so that we would have not only the cultural and aesthetic values but would also have the realization that the money was spent on something representing a real asset to the country.

In regard to the Estimates, you have two different accounts. One is an operating account, under section 8 of the National Gallery Act. The other is a purchase account.