

Costs". This definition is quite vague, and I do not want to deal so much with commercial advertising as with consumer advertising. Expenditures went up from \$2,127,177 to \$7,439,999.

And further on, under the same heading, the item Consumer Advertising was added, and further below, the item Information.

The funds granted under this item went up from \$2,655,000 to \$5,616,000. I wonder if there is a difference between publicity and information or whether information and publicity are different for accounting purposes. However, I feel that when we add up all those figures under the item publicity, the total of \$9,805,000 goes up to \$20,928,000. This is therefore an increase of \$11 million for the publicity item alone.

Mr. Speaker, as most Canadians, I was delighted by Expo. Like everybody, I saw in it a way for Canadians to really show the world that they were talented, that Canada was a country worth discovering and that it offered great opportunities to all. In Canada, even if we are somewhat remote from Europe, and in spite of a population smaller than that of other countries, there are enough qualified persons to carry out a project which has been envied by all countries.

Nonetheless, Mr. Speaker, like all Canadians, I was pleased with this manifestation which did much to make Canada known throughout the world. During the world exhibition, there was a slackening in several areas of the administration and I might prove my point by giving an example that will undoubtedly impress the minister, because those are things in which I have been personally involved.

One day, I had been asked to represent the Canadian government and to replace the protocol officer, I believe. The hon. Lionel Chevrier had asked me to represent the Canadian government—in short, parliament—at an official gathering. I think it was to welcome on that day the representatives of Czechoslovakia. I had accepted offhand to replace the chief of protocol. On the eve of that official reception at Expo, I had forgotten to inquire as to the means of transportation available to me from my residence to Place des Nations. Therefore, I telephoned the Protocol Office to ask them at what time I could be picked up at my place to be taken to Place des Nations, since I had noted, as did many others, that several limousines were available to the directors of the Corporation

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and a few other high officials. I was told—and I must add to further illustrate this funny situation that for such receptions the lady has to wear a formal gown and the gentleman must be in formal attire, which means the striped pants—I was told quite naturally that I would have to take the subway to get to Place des Nations.

I do ask the minister to try to visualize what kind of a figure the representative of the Canadian government would have cut, since I was not attending as a private individual. In fact, I had been asked to represent the Canadian government and there was no limousine available for my transportation. At Expo, that Corporation which had become all powerful at one time, which had the right to decide what it wanted—as can be seen by its deficits—had not realized that representatives of the Canadian government should have been entitled to the limousine service, and we were asked, my wife and I, to take the subway to get to Place des Nations. I have difficulty picturing how a representative of the Canadian government travelling by subway would have looked, in the eyes of the people.

I might then have become as famous as the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) during his election campaign, through the strangeness of my garb. Mr. Speaker, although there is something cynically amusing in that incident, I feel that the Corporation may not have understood that it held its authority, its responsibility, from the government. When a corporation provided with hundreds of millions of dollars goes along so merrily in such things as that, I am not surprised that it did not make it a point to balance its budget, and that today we should have to ask the people of Canada to foot the bill.

I trust that, after those remarks, the minister will go before the parliamentary committee feeling duty bound to answer the questions which, when one really wants to get to the bottom of things, must be asked.

I have no intention, through my remarks, of casting any doubt on the integrity of the administrators of the Corporation. I do feel there was an element of urgency. There was much to be done, in very little time. As one of our colleagues said a while ago: no one has more than 24 hours in a day and, obviously, there was much to do and very little time in which to do it. However, that does not justify the fact that funds were spent without reason.