

In this five-year period, the English network has increased its weekly service output from 49 hours to 59 hours, and its French network output from 55 to 67 hours. English and French CBC stations average 85 and 77 hours respectively on the air as compared with 73 and 61 hours five years ago.

Today there are 3,500,000 households with television sets --- compared with less than 2,000,000 five years ago. Where only 51 per cent of Canadian homes had television, 83 per cent are now equipped.

Apart from these figures, which are dramatic enough in themselves, there are less tangible but nevertheless very real and important achievements. Canadians who remember can compare with pride the improvements in quality of production, quality of programming, picture quality, and network reliability.

These accomplishments were achieved over this short period of time, in complete English and French systems, which combined have resulted in a much larger operation than any of the United States networks, at a fraction of the costs.

The costs of television in public funds have never been underestimated by the Corporation. For more than 10 years -- since before the start of television in Canada -- the CBC has advised governments, Parliamentary Committees, Royal Commissions on Broadcasting and the general public, that the cost per home in public funds, for a basically Canadian service, in black and white, covering up to 75 percent of the population, would be about \$15 per home.

The CBC has always kept under that figure of \$15 per home and, in addition, has extended service to within range of over 90 percent of the population. However, generally rising costs and any development of the medium will affect the Corporation's ability to stay within the \$15 figure.

The Corporation refers to this aspect of its financing because of the Committee's reference last year to steep rises in the costs met by annual vote of Parliament. It must be re-stated that the present order of costs were first forecast by the Corporation ten years or more ago, before Parliament authorized the start of Canadian television.