

gathered together there on occasion in the summertime. I can visualize what a wonderful thing it would be if the talent could be supplied and we could get together groups of say 10,000, 20,000 or 30,000 people all at one time; it would be marvelous. What I am trying to picture is the procuring of these wonderful opportunities that we people of the city enjoy for large groups of people in the country who would just love that kind of thing but very seldom have an opportunity of enjoying it. What I have in mind is this: take, for instance, the large orchestra from Toronto out to a place like Eugenia Falls, or any one of a large number of places of that kind, natural ampitheatres, of which we have many in Ontario—for instance take Riding Mountain Park in Manitoba or down East at Louisburg—any one of these rural centres where the people would just love to have a chance to enjoy the things of that kind. We should try to get this type of culture out to the people who are off the beaten track. I think the proposal which has been submitted by the delegation who appeared before us to-day is a good one, and that this committee should take and study it with a view to finding out what improvements could be made to see that these fine things are carried out to other parts of the country.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Miss Wood will reply to the larger questions raised by Mr. Dupuis.

Miss WOOD: Implicit in our whole program, Mr. Chairman, is the idea of decentralization and distribution of opportunities throughout the whole nation so that the rural districts and remote frontier districts may enjoy these things. That is implicit in our whole program, and that is specifically the reason why we suggest that local activities alone, such as those being carried on here in Ottawa by the RA, are not adequate to bring these advantages to people in the outlying districts; we feel that there should be some central pooling and distribution of the amenities. I should like to add also to Sir Ernest MacMillan's reply to Mr. Dupuis by saying this; the whole of Canada has been inspired by what Quebec has done, both through provincial aid to cultural life; particularly educational and post-educational endowment and also by the genius of the French-Canadian people. We should like to be able to spread a greater knowledge of this throughout the country; we should like to be able to carry it out to the west so that people all over our country may know and receive some benefit from the work that is being done so well in Quebec. Then, too, by this circulation of work we shall be able to distribute something that is fine from all of our minority groups, not only French, but Ukrainian, Chinese, Indian—something of their institutions which will be an honour to them and of benefit to all to whom they come. As I said, we have not attempted a scientific survey. We have, however, information of what has been, and is being, done in Quebec, by the people and for them; and it certainly is very encouraging. We are pleased to note these activities and we should be glad to see them more widely known. Assistance is needed in informing the whole country about this work and in circulating exhibitions of the work itself.

Mr. Ross (*Middlesex East*): This, I believe, has been of great interest and importance to the committee, and I believe the Czechoslovakians have made very outstanding strides in the development of cultural community life of late years. I observe mention is made of that in the report which has been presented to us and I am wondering if there is some one here who can either through their personal experience or knowledge give us further information in regard to these matters.

Miss WOOD: I am sorry, sir, that we have no Czech representative. I have had a little to do with the Czechs in connection with handicrafts, and they are very capable craftsmen. They have brought their skill to our land but they have had very little opportunity of showing it, or selling it. But the Handicrafts Guild shops do exhibit and sell it. Recently there have come