

Supply—National Film Board

Mr. Pickersgill: There were three different firms, and four films were produced.

Mr. Castleden: What is the picture with regard to productions by the national film board for television use across Canada?

Mr. Pickersgill: Roughly 78, in both languages.

Mr. Fulton: In the details on page 347 under "Distribution of Films" we find items covering administration, Canadian non-theatrical, commercial, international, etc. Would the minister say what is meant by Canadian non-theatrical? Is it everything except what is shown in a commercial theatre?

Mr. Pickersgill: Everything except what is shown in a commercial theatre or is used for television.

Mr. Fulton: That would really cover mainly the distribution of films in the rural areas?

Mr. Pickersgill: I think that is really the biggest part of the film board's work.

Mr. Fulton: Can the minister let us know the comparable figure, if any, expected to be received by way of revenue from the sale and leasing of films? Does anything come under that heading during the current year?

Mr. Pickersgill: The estimates for this year?

Mr. Fulton: Yes.

Mr. Pickersgill: Does the hon. gentleman mean non-theatrical or all revenues?

Mr. Fulton: The total revenue expected to be received by the film board for the current year, or the figures for last year if the estimate for this year is not available.

Mr. Pickersgill: The actual amount for 1954-55 is \$196,195 for rentals and royalties; sales, \$1,016,502. I think this is misleading because it includes sales to government departments. The rentals and royalties are, of course, all outside. I have another revenue summary here. The theatrical revenues are, for Canada, \$10,593.16; United Kingdom, \$3,609.15; United States, \$12,148.05; others, \$8,583.40; making a total of almost \$35,000. Then for television inside and outside Canada the total amount is \$122,800; print sales and rentals, \$82,000; total revenue, Canada, \$144,000; abroad, \$95,800.

Mr. Fulton: I notice that there was an item last year for research which was not repeated in this year's estimate. I paid an interesting visit 18 months ago to the film board offices here, and although I have no technical knowledge in the field, I was very much impressed by the evidence I was shown of the research and development being done by the film board into new methods of producing and

processing films. I am wondering whether that has been discontinued, as would appear on the surface, or whether this is now found in some other detailed items.

Mr. Pickersgill: I am told that this \$5,000, which struck me as being a very small amount for research, is really the salary of one man who was specially engaged last year and no longer is. The ordinary research is part of the general services vote. It is carried on this year on approximately the same scale as last year.

Mr. Nicholson: Mr. Chairman, I was unfortunately called out and did not hear the question asked by my colleague. Has the minister told the committee at what stage the new building is at Montreal, what is the estimated cost, when it will be opened, and how many of the staff will be at Montreal and how many will be retained here?

Mr. Pickersgill: I think that all the questions except the last two could be asked of my colleague the Minister of Public Works, because I do not know the answers and I ought not to give them if I did. As for the last question, the great bulk of the staff will be in Montreal but there will have to be some staff here at Ottawa. As I think the Prime Minister indicated early last year, the present plan is that the chairman of the board, the government film commissioner, should be in Ottawa.

Mr. Nicholson: Mr. Chairman, I understand that it has not been proposed to provide air conditioning in the building. Is it too late to recommend that for the consideration of the Minister of Public Works?

Mr. Pickersgill: That question was dealt with when the hon. member was not here.

Mr. Montgomery: Has the film board offices in each province, or is it approaching a new policy of opening offices in some of the provinces? If so, what provinces and what are the duties of the officers?

Mr. Pickersgill: There is an office in every province. In most provinces there is more than one office.

Mr. Montgomery: Would the minister mind saying what they do? Do they distribute or act as agents?

Mr. Pickersgill: They are for distribution.

Mr. Hansell: I have a question or two in respect of films produced for television purposes. Would the minister care to tell us for what particular use these television films are produced? I know they are produced to be televised, but what I mean to say is this. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation evidently has a film production department