

Parliament. The capabilities of the elected representatives in these respects should be strengthened and employed; in no sense is it the Government's intention to diminish the proper role of the private member in representing the views of his constituents.

STAFF AND ORGANIZATION

To achieve these three objects we plan an organization whose new staff, exclusive of three component units being transferred from other government agencies, will total less than 150. Of this total, which will include administrative and clerical workers, most will come from the existing Public Service. Information Canada will have about 25 information officers whose role will be to deal with information which is outside the normal concern of any single department and to assist the departments, on request, when supplementary resources are needed for particular occasions. The rest of the staff will be engaged in such tasks as answering public enquiries, co-ordinating existing departmental information work, advising on the application of modern technology to government information organizations, providing reports on public concerns in immediate or long terms, and developing efficient reference services both for pictures and the printed word.

The organization will be divided into four branches - one for planning and research, one to produce and distribute information, one to gather and publish information on the views of the public, and an administrative branch. The Exhibition Commission, the still photo library of the National Film Board, and the publishing and selling functions of the Queen's Printer will be transferred to Information Canada to be components of the production and distribution branch.

COSTS

The net cost of the new organization, excluding amounts being subtracted from existing departmental information budgets, will be in the order of \$1 million in 1970-71. When we add the current budgets of units being incorporated, the total budget will be about \$7.5 million. Information Canada will be expected to achieve economies to offset part of its own costs after it has been established and operating for some time.

In summary, Information Canada is to be a small federal information unit along the lines of the Task Force's proposals. Every modern government maintains an information organization, many of them more centralized or larger than the one we contemplate for Canada. But their role is generally only to produce and distribute information. Information Canada will be equally concerned with what citizens wish to say to their Government. Whatever they say through opinion surveys will be public information. Subject, of course, to the protection of personal privacy, all reports on public viewpoints will be made public. I believe this material will be of substantial value to

all Members of this House in effectively representing the Canadian people.

We welcome the recommendation that information policy be referred to a committee of Parliament. I would go further than the Task Force and suggest that a Parliamentary committee review not only the objectives, policies and operations of Information Canada but also the information objectives of all departments. This Parliamentary scrutiny would, I think, be a healthy process, especially if the committee were to consider its role as not only a surveillance but also as the more positive task of proposing means to bring government ever closer to the people....

CANADIAN ACADEMY EXHIBIT

The Royal Canadian Academy of Arts celebrated its ninetieth anniversary with an exhibition of nearly 300 works at the National Gallery of Canada that opened on January 30 and ended on March 1.

The display included paintings, sculptures, architecture, graphics, industrial design and films. A group of diploma works from the time the Academy was founded supplemented the exhibition, which was essentially of contemporary works.

Dr. Clare Bice, President of the Academy, said that in "taking a fresh look at contemporary society", the Academy had enlarged its design section (graphics, industrial design) and had, for the first time, added films. "Cinematography has become so important that we must include it if we want to be in step with our times," Dr. Bice said. "The same thing applies to graphics and industrial design - they have become a part of our everyday world."

Christopher Chapman, who directed *A Place to Stand* for the Ontario Pavilion at Expo 67, was in charge of the film program. The design section was under Allan Fleming, Toronto, who created the Canadian National Railway monogram. Hard hats, a manufactured kayak, a stereophonic unit and books are examples of what was included.

The Royal Canadian Academy of Arts was founded in 1880 by Princess Louise and the Marquess of Lorne, at that time Governor General of Canada. An honor society with a membership that has been expanded to 60 with 90 associates, the Academy was instrumental in founding the National Gallery.

This year the Academy's council, which is elected, appointed four juries for the selection of paintings, sculpture and architecture, as well as a Western jury which sat in Vancouver. Each juror was entitled to have one work in the show, and another to be considered; everyone was allowed two entries. Films and designs were chosen separately. Dr. Bice said that 60 per cent of the works were by non-members in the Academy.

"Our concern", Dr. Bice observed, "is to recognize outstanding artists rather than to maintain the *status quo*".