

Arts Board. From the long term point of view we should like to see a full-fledged Ministry for Cultural Affairs established with very wide powers for service.

Another proposal is that there should be a commission. A board or commission would be acceptable to us if it fitted into the set-up. It might operate as a branch or unit of the Department of Reconstruction during the reconstruction period. Its name is immaterial. We should like, at the same time, to go on record as saying that we should prefer a permanent body ultimately; you will find various references to this in the material we have submitted to you. I think all of the artists' bodies as well as a great many others are united in the belief that such a government body should be established as soon as possible.

Mr. DUPUIS: I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if this distinguished delegation here presenting this report to us have made a survey or have any census showing, for instance, what is going on in the larger centres of the country; I have in mind such things as music and culture generally. I understand that in our larger centres such as Montreal, Toronto and similar places that they have organizations. For instance, in connection with art in Montreal we have the Montreal Art Museum, or the Museum of Fine Art. We have numerous playgrounds. We have St. Helena Island which is a central playground and provides a place for recreation; and in Toronto and all the other centres of this nation we have similar accommodation provided. I was wondering if any attention to the making of a survey or the taking of a census of such places had been given by the delegation who are appearing before us which might be placed at the disposal of the new organization which is suggested by these people in this brief.

Sir ERNEST MACMILLAN: I cannot give you particulars regarding most organizations concerned but with regard to orchestras, I have in mind what has been done largely through government help in England. As I mentioned, the London Philharmonic Orchestra has been on tour during practically all of the war years giving concerts to industrial workers at places where such concerts had not been heard before.

Mr. MACNICOL: Could we not have that in Canada too?

Sir ERNEST MACMILLAN: I see no reason, sir, why we should not. On April 1 of this year four of the major symphony orchestras in Great Britain entered into full association with the Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts with a view to extending their functions. Then, too, there is the suggestion of our music committee that assistance be given to what is (not very accurately) called provincial orchestras. This should be of advantage and because it could make concerts of a high type available at many places where they have not been heard before. Of course, the details would have to be worked out through a central organization. Similar principles would apply to smaller concert groups. Many places might have no accommodation for an orchestra—I do not mean seating accommodation for the audience so much as seating accommodation for the orchestra itself; that is something that will have to be kept in mind. That is part of what we have in view; and I think certainly the larger centre should be expected to co-operate. In our outline of services for community centres, the provision of travelling concert organizations is one that we have in mind. One or two other things are outlined in the various briefs but I do not wish to take up the time of the committee in dealing with them at the moment.

Mr. MACNICOL: I do not think we could have our time taken up by any better talent. There is something in what Sir Ernest has told us; take a place like the park at Eugenia Falls, Ontario; a fine platform is provided there and it is a very fine natural amphitheatre. I have seen as many as 10,000 people