to give these two constituencies the feeling that they were understanding and generally on their side. It is difficult to avoid having some problems, but I do not anticipate that in future the Canada Council will have more and more troubles of this nature.

I think, for example, the Canadian public will come to realize that the arts of this country involve almost as many people as professional sports, and that politicians will also come to realize that they may be dealing with almost as wide a public when they show concern for the development of the arts as they do when they deal with other segments of national activity. The arts have become a very important element of our national life. Certainly in 1967 and at Expo they were not an insignificant part. The success of 1967 was very largely due to the contribution of Canadian artists. So they are not a negligible segment, and I think they will become-even from the point of view of Canadian politicsaccepted as a significant part of our national activity.

• 1220

Mr. Martineau: May I add one word, Mr. Schreyer. As I sit here I can see myself sitting at the Canada Council table—it is a place much like this-and we discuss these things in the very same way as we discussed them today. I am satisfied that when the 21 of us go over something and agree, that we can generally have the same agreement at this table with the parliamentarians. We may disagree between ourselves on a few things, but on the whole we do not, and I am sure that we can satisfy you every time we come here. You may not be completely of our opinion but I am sure you will be satisfied that we are trying to do our best and that we make a minimum of mistakes and that nobody could do better.

The Vice-Chairman: I am sorry to interrupt this interesting discussion for a moment, but I would first invite you to speak as closely as possible to your microphone. Second, we want to give everybody a chance. I think from now on I will allow two or three questions and then we can come back if you have some other questions.

Mr. Rose: I had a supplementary on this particular one but I can come back to it.

The Vice-Chairman: Mr. Rose, we will not recognize supplementary questions from now on but I will put your name on the list so you 29033—2

can ask your questions. There are a few members who have not had a chance to question yet, so we will give them a chance now.

Mr. Dinsdale: I think I should also have equal time, Mr. Chairman. I do not see why the restriction should apply at this particular stage.

The Vice-Chairman: If you want to sit here for hours, I do not care, but...

Mr. Dinsdale: No, but I had my hand up at the beginning and I do not think we should change the rules in the middle of the game.

The Vice-Chairman: Should I come back to Mr. Schreyer, then? Go ahead, Mr. Dinsdale.

Mr. Dinsdale: I wanted to get back to some fundamental issues here. I was interested in the Canada Council when it was first formed. It endured great travail when it was being born, as the gentlemen before us well know. Canada was very late in recognizing the special needs of the social sciences, the arts and the humanities. While I was interested before and at the time of the establishment of the Council in the cultural frontiers, in recent years I have been involved in physical frontiers rather than cultural frontiers and I often wondered whether the Canada Council was deliberately heading into some of the pitfalls that were talked about when it was first discussed in Parliament. For example, it was anticipated that with the formation of a council of this kind, detached-or at least partly detached-from the direct functions of government, that we would avoid the obvious problems that envelop government when it becomes involved in social sciences, social planning, et cetera, because in the final analysis governments must always be responsive to public opinion. It was anticipated that because of this fact and with the generous donation from the Sir James Aikins estate, I think it was, that there would be similar endowments and the financing of the operational part, as well as the capital aspects of the Canada Council program, would come from private endowments.

• 1225

As I listened to the report of budgetary policy this morning it seemed to me that government is stepping more and more into the field of financing and private endowments are a decreasing aspect of the whole financial policy of the Canada Council. Could it be that the