

Canadians using planes in the various airports in this country will now be able to see in those bookstores the latest publications of the federal government and, if they are interested, buy them. So that is an innovation that will surely increase the marketing and profitability of the publications of the government of Canada.

Finally, with respect to decisions we are looking forward to being a lot more active in our efforts to negotiate once again with the private sector the co-edition of some of our publications, notably, of course, in a general way those that are not official publications of the government but that are rather published in the general or particular interest of Canadians. We want to combine with the collections of the private sector.

Why should government publish books in, say, specialized fields such as mining or botany, regardless of collections already in existence in Canada which could very well take in the different subject matters so that, in its publications, the Canadian government be considered on the same level as the private sector? This would further help create jobs in the private sector, one of the government priorities set out in the Speech from the Throne. We would like to enable the private sector to undertake certain tasks for which government has no technical expertise or cannot carry out competitively.

● (1630)

[English]

Mr. Mazankowski: What are you going to do about the redundant Crown corporations?

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, we could take up this question again when the announced bill is considered in the House. Therefore, with regards to our publishing needs, we intend to rely more on the private sector to offer to the Canadian public not only these services but additional ones as well. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to touch on the subject of exhibitions without going into too much detail and taking too much of the House's time since we have not yet defined our policies in detail.

Everybody knows, as do the members of the committee which reviewed the credits of my ministry, that in the field of exhibitions our deficit ran fairly high. My aim is to eliminate such deficits and to run the exhibition service on a cost efficient basis so that we can reach a point when our spendings can be paid from our revenues so that both items be balanced.

There is no reason why we could not reach that aim if, first, there is no more overlapping in the various departments and, second, if the resources are not scattered away. Also, if my department can get clear terms of reference to offer common services to the various departments. Thus, we think that before one or two years at most, we will be able to completely eliminate the deficit. This is only one particular condition, there are many others, of course, for example we should be able to rely more on the private sector. Here again I could say that there is no reason we should do things in the government that can be done more economically in the private sector, and

Restraint of Government Expenditures

it is on that subject that we are now initiating careful studies to know exactly what would be the necessary corrections to make so that the deficit could be eventually eliminated.

Mr. Speaker, I could give other examples of the measures that we have taken to eliminate certain useless spendings or to restrain government expenditures such as those in the field of computers, when we created pools for buying computers and when we urged the departments to share their use so that the renting of these computers be as cost efficient as possible. Now we are planning to buy certain computers, instead of renting them, and then to rent the computers to the various departments so that we can make the best possible use of our spendings and so that we can use ourselves the renting services.

In the field of photocopying machines, not only in the public sector but also in the private sector, everybody wants to have a photocopying machine very close at hand, something which contributes to increase expenses, henceforth my department will be responsible for making expert services available to all departments so as to make better use of duplicating machines, maximize their output and lower the leasing or purchasing cost of those machines which resulted in heavy expenses for the government and whose costs were not in line with the services they performed.

I could also add that we have completed a study of all storage facilities across the country. While each department wanted that all its storage facilities be located across the land, we have calculated the number of square feet in each area, even in each city, across Canada and we realized that we could use those facilities collectively and could provide the same services to the departments but at a much lower cost.

Those instances have already been mentioned and this will result in many millions of dollars in annual savings because we have put forward a clear and precise policy whereby government services must be provided adequately to all Canadians to meet rapidly their needs. And that is possible by realizing savings and performing more effectively.

Mr. Speaker, Canadians are currently asked to use restraint in their wage settlements, to reduce their expenses. Workers and industries are being asked to increase productivity, to work harder to put our economy back on the right course. Various levels of government, whether municipal, provincial or federal, are called upon to take their responsibilities, to reduce unwarranted government expenses, to eliminate waste, to ensure we give Canadians good but efficient and economical services. In this vein, I am amazed that in a province where there are now suggestions that the people should eventually separate from the rest of Confederation, that Quebecers are invited to get into absolutely unwarranted expenses in the current economic context.

For instance, urging Quebecers to separate is asking them to grossly overtax themselves to pay for unwarranted expenses. Efforts, talents, time and money are spent and civil servants are at work to undo what the governments are trying to build. In my view that is negative thinking, and Quebecers will have an opportunity to realize this is no time for adventure, this is no time to hire economists or other human resources to do