

another extremely well and the fact that they are separated geographically is irrelevant.

**Mr. Martineau:** Perhaps Mr. Dwyer could satisfy you, sir.

**Mr. Dwyer:** The suggestion is perhaps that we might be in the hands, as it were, of an artistic establishment, an elite which scratches backs and has its back scratched in return. I think it would be foolish to pretend that where limited advice is available, this is not always a constant concern, but it is one of which we are aware. We try to avoid this by ensuring that every year our advisory arts panel changes its membership by one third; that our juries are not repeated but chosen from different groups of people. Consequently there is a constant movement in turn. There is no one group, I think, which gives consistent advice on any one subject over a period of time.

[Interpretation]

**The Vice-Chairman:** If I may now, I might give the floor to somebody else so that everyone gets a chance...

[English]

**Mr. Stewart (Cochrane):** I just have three very short questions.

**The Vice-Chairman:** All right, make it short then.

**Mr. Stewart (Cochrane):** I do not like to take up all of the time. I was wondering, gentlemen, what is going to be your involvement in a national symphony? Is it included in your estimates this year, for how much, and so on?

**Mr. Dwyer:** Would this be the orchestra at the National Arts Centre?

**Mr. Stewart (Cochrane):** Yes.

**Mr. Dwyer:** Well, that would be treated, I assume, like anything else at the National Arts Centre; on its merits in this case, as any other orchestra in the country. On the assumption that it will be a good orchestra and asks for assistance, then I would assume the Council would react and give it help.

**Mr. Stewart (Cochrane):** Then there is nothing at the moment, as far as this coming season is concerned, in your estimates for this?

**Mr. Dwyer:** I think we have set aside a sum of money, as we often do in cases, to be prepared to be able to react if and when an application is received.

**Mr. Stewart (Cochrane):** I see. Second, I notice that the Calgary Philharmonic received \$22,350 last year. I am wondering if it is going to be more this year and also, if the acquisition of José Iturbi as their conductor means that extra money is going to be supplied by the Canada Council?

**Mr. Dwyer:** I think that the grant to the Calgary orchestra for the coming season was \$20,000. This is not really a falling off because in the previous season, because the orchestra was looking for a conductor, we gave it supplementary amounts of money so it could invite other conductors in. It was, of course, the orchestra's own decision to choose José Iturbi.

• 1205

**Mr. Schreyer:** Mr. Chairman, the preliminary series of questions that Mr. Stewart asked were important and the answers we got were also very informative, but it seemed to me we stopped short of drawing any conclusion and so I would like to ask Mr. Boucher if it would be correct to say that in determining the eligibility of an application for a grant, the Council makes this determination exclusively on the basis of the artistic merit or academic merit of the project proposed and, as a matter of policy, deliberately ignores the political background of the applicant provided there is no connection between this applicant's political background and the project in question?

**Mr. Boucher:** The answer to that would be, yes.

**Mr. Schreyer:** I am reassured by that answer, Mr. Chairman. I go on to the next question. In view of dollar depreciation with inflation, is the Council making any effort to increase its principal of the endowment proportionately? Do I make myself clear?

**Mr. Boucher:** Well, I am afraid I missed that.

**Mr. Schreyer:** In view of dollar depreciation as the result of inflation, is the Council making any effort to increase the principal of its endowment in inverse proportion to the inflation factor?

**Mr. Boucher:** Oh, yes, we do, sir. The portfolio of the Endowment Fund is treated exactly like any other portfolio. In fact, we increase its value with the years and also the yield, but we are thinking of increasing its value and it has increased, I think, to \$4.5