

municate with those who might come under the new policy?

**MR. F. A. MILLIGAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, CANADA COUNCIL:** There is a problem of communication which we have encountered over the past year, particularly during my own limited experience with the Council. It might be worth recalling, as Senator MacKenzie has brought out, that for the first eight years of its life the Council lived on a very modest income from endowments. This income limited it to a program of about \$1½ million, for the social sciences. This meant that the Council could not advertise its program widely. It also meant that the Council could only be highly selective in what it supported. An image of the Council in Canada developed in the universities during this period.

We have had an uphill battle over the past year in getting across to the scholars of the country the fact that the Council has funds now and is prepared to receive applications relating to any research project in the humanities or social sciences; that the chances of success are considerably greater now than they used to be; and that we are trying to offer a comprehensive program.

It is only in the past eight months that we have been developing a staff to the point where we have been able to send people to the universities to explain our policy. We found that there were many misconceptions and misunderstandings of our aims. We have been clearing up such misconceptions.

Furthermore, we have found that simply sending printed explanations to the universities, as has been done, does not solve the problem of communication. Such written statements are not read. It seems to me that the only way to cure this is by the process of visiting universities, talking to scholars individually and in groups, and getting the message across to them.

One other development is helping us also. An increasingly large number of scholars are being involved in our processes.

Senator MacKenzie has raised a point about law and research grants. I might explain that each research grant is put before a group of assessors, selected in relation to that particular application. This means that anything which comes from a law school will be evaluated by legal scholars, not by political scientists, or anthropologists or such people.

By this method, as has been mentioned in our brief, we are actually involving three times as many scholars in the process, as assessors, as are involved as applicants. Many people in Canadian universities—and in universities abroad, for that matter—are beginning to learn about the sorts of programs we are trying to run. I hope that the problem of communication will be solved, in time; but we are still very much concerned about it and we are trying to introduce new devices for breaking down the gap between ourselves and those scholars with whom we are concerned.

**Senator Grosart:** My question was not directed primarily to the communications problem but rather to the policy problem. I have tried on various occasions to determine from the annual reports and the list of grants what the policy was. At times I have decided that I thought I knew the policy of the Council; but then, when a new list of grants would come up, I would say to myself that my previous opinion was wrong.

Is there a statement of policy? Or, do you rely completely on applications—which, I suggest, is an unscientific way to spend this amount of money.

**Mr. Milligan:** The straight answer is that we rely essentially on applications. We rely on the initiative of scholars. Our mission in life, our principal mission, is to provide a source of support for the kind of research which career scholars wish to do and for which there has been very little support, except from American sources, for a long period of time. There has been money available from royal commissions, from Government departments and from industry, for the kind of research which serves the policy ends of decision-making bodies of that sort. There is no support for the kind of work which the scholars decide they wish to do, particularly on the frontiers of their own disciplines.

This was our starting point in the Council. We are hoping to involve the community of research scholars, through its learned associations, or through such bodies as the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Councils, in the assessment of what is being done by career scholars, whether with our support or with support from other sources, to tell us where the strengths and the weaknesses are, to suggest what should be done to