

*Supply—C.B.C.*

mission, its other achievements will not compensate for that failure. I know that the management of the C.B.C. has been and continues to be very conscious of those vital tasks and of that great challenge.

Turning now to the national film board:

The philosophy I have just outlined with respect to the C.B.C. applies equally well to the national film board. The board has celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1964. During this relatively long period, its work has reached a very high standard of excellence and its films have faithfully reflected Canada's social, cultural and economic evolution. Over the years, with respect to each of its functions, as laid down in section 9 of the act, the board has made a valuable contribution. This is especially true with respect to its main function which is the production and distribution of films in the national interest and particularly of films designed to interpret Canada to Canadians and to other nations.

During that period, however, our country has witnessed drastic changes which require a new image to be adequately reflected. The advent and the rapid expansion of television has created a new and growing need for films, in addition to the theatrical and community audiences and to increasing government requirements. I do not believe that these changes require a revision of the functions of the board as defined by parliament in 1950. As the new demands were met, however, there may have been a shift in priorities due also to limited resources, and certain functions assigned to the board may not have been discharged as fully as it was desirable. The chairman and the members of the board are aware of this situation. They have begun a reappraisal of the institution itself and they are reviewing its programs and operations in several fields of activity in the light of current demand of course, but also of its national purpose and the relative importance of the functions assigned to it by parliament.

As an agency at the service of Canada and its people in the fields of information and culture, the board has already decided to strengthen its program for community audiences, and to undertake a survey and analysis of its distribution operations in Canada, with a view to identify and evaluate more precisely its audiences, in relation to their needs and to the purposes the board pursues.

The board is also considering at the moment the desirability of a film training center in Canada and the means through which this could be achieved. The board's great reputa-

[Mr. Lamontagne.]

tion abroad has convinced many developing countries that one of the best places to send their future film-makers for training would be in Canada. If this could be done, it would be also to our advantage because it would further increase our prestige and our influence abroad. However, the board does not have adequate training facilities and programs to meet these requests. There is also a growing demand in Canada for such facilities and programs. The provinces are more and more interested in the production of films for their own purposes. Moreover, the private film industry has made real progress recently and will grow even more rapidly in the immediate future, if parliament approves our program of assistance, which will be submitted early next year. In view of these growing needs for trained people both in Canada and abroad, we may have reached the point where it is both feasible and desirable that a comprehensive film training center be established in Canada. As soon as the board will have presented its recommendations in this respect, I will be pleased to announce the intentions of the government.

With the reappraisal of the board's activities which is taking place at the present time, with the assistance program now under preparation to encourage the production of private feature films in Canada, with the consideration being given to the establishment of a film training centre, I believe that we are taking all the preliminary steps which are required for the establishment, on a realistic basis, of a dynamic, well integrated film industry in Canada, which will fill an important cultural gap and will make us less dependant on foreign sources of supply.

Turning now to the national museum:

The national museum is going through a phase of fundamental reorganization which has been too long delayed. In July 1961, the former government directed that a Canadian historical museum be ready by July 1, 1967, which would include the human history branch of the present museum, the war museum and other material; that a Canadian museum of natural history be established; and that a building or buildings be ready for occupation by the Canadian history museum by early 1966 and the natural history museum as soon as possible thereafter.

On January 24, 1963, a resolution respecting the national museum of Canada and the establishment of different branches was moved in the House of Commons but it never came up for discussion. When our government came into office, almost two years had gone by,