

Broadcasting

without even a single sales contract to show for it. If and when they do bring something back, it does not amount to very much anyway.

In 1982-83, our exports were worth \$5.7 million and the service cost us \$6.8 million. That is the kind of management you get at the CBC. Instead of sending these people on a holiday trip at our expense, they should have given away our programs abroad to promote Canadian culture throughout the world and we would have saved more than a million dollars.

More about poor management at the CBC. In a number of warehouses across the country, there is expensive equipment that is never used. It could be sold or rented to increase the Corporation's revenue, but no! They could rent their studios regularly to independent producers if they would only follow the recommendations arising from the inquiries and reports on the CBC, but no! Mr. Speaker, last June they decided to stop filming the superproduction called "La course au bonheur", although they had already spent over a million dollars. Mr. Juneau's response appeared in *La Presse* on June 30, and I quote:

We got more than we bargained for.

Mr. Speaker, do you not think it is high time we got rid of him? Is this supposed to be the CBC's new management approach? Should the blame not be put on the incredible lack of planning and lack of economically efficient management policies? Let Hon. Members and the Canadian public be the judge.

Mr. Speaker, another case in point is that of reporter Louise Arcand, where the umpire's decision handed down recently blamed news management for having made a discriminatory decision. And now the CBC, though it has already lost twice, is thinking of appealing the case to the Supreme Court. It would seem that budgetary cutbacks have not had any effect on funding for the CBC's legal services. And why should they? They get the money back by firing the average employee, by cutting programs, by cutting down on broadcasting across the country, by reducing production, and it is all the Government's fault, the fault of the Progressive Conservative Party. Incredible! They really have a lot of nerve.

Mr. Speaker, we can no longer tolerate these demagogical attitudes and this kind of behaviour.

And what about the case of reporter Richard Vigneault? Consider: he was fired two months ago for refusing cuts in an interview he did with the President of the CBC on the budgetary cutbacks. Obliging an honest reporter to edit the truth!

Mr. Speaker, because of poor management, the CBC has been outrageously wasting tens of millions of dollars a year. Remember the Applebaum-Hébert Report in 1981 and what the CRTC said in 1977: that the CBC had failed to meet its obligation to respond to the specific needs of the various regions in this country. Who can say today that the CBC has improved its record in this area? It is a joke! Everyone has been asking the Corporation to adapt its programming to the realities of the day, to rationalize its spending and improve its

management policies, but to no avail. Mr. Speaker, enough is enough. We must have a new Crown corporation, new administrators and new directors who are competent and who will truly respond to the aspirations of the people of this country. This applies as much to the English as to the French network. They do not talk to each other and they refuse to collaborate and to exchange news items on public affairs broadcasts. No, they each hold on to their own territory. They each have their own clique and their own gimmick, and they will not part with them. Well, all those administrators will have to get off the stage, because the curtain is closing on the last act!

I see some of my hon. friends from the Lower St. Lawrence, and this reminds me that early this week, some vicious cuts were made at five radio stations in Chicoutimi and Lac-Saint-Jean. And so it goes.

● (1620)

Major and radical changes are being prepared which will affect the parliamentary television broadcasting. Two weeks ago my colleague from North Vancouver-Burnaby (Mr. Cook) warned us and told us how greatly concerned he is about the regressive behaviour of the CBC. Allow me, Mr. Speaker, to refer to an article which appeared in the very serious *Maclean's* magazine of last March 18 and which was written by columnist Barbara Amiel. She describes Mr. Pierre Juneau as being the compleat bureaucrat. When asked an awkward question, she writes, he responds by answering a question of his own choice. He changes the meaning of the conversation and manages never to answer any question. She accuses him of a whole series of woes. She accuses him of acting deliberately. In conclusion she wrote this:

[English]

It is immoral to change the game's rule and penalize people for two decades of laxity.

[Translation]

She even asks him to have the decency to resign before the CBC is dissolved. Everybody talks about it, but the CBC does not do anything. The Auditor General denounces the incompetence and bad management of the CBC, but that does not change anything, and nothing will change, Mr. Speaker, unless we assume our responsibilities and take firm action as required in full respect for the Canadian people. We must now take appropriate measures to put a stop to that hemorrhage of public funds—tens of millions of dollars.

As you have noticed, Mr. Speaker, I did not attack the employees of the CBC. On the contrary, I have always maintained that there are very competent people, serious people, excellent producers, intelligent secretaries and researchers, clever technicians and honest reporters. Unfortunately, it happens that some employees are compelled, forced or threatened by management, so they do not always act properly. Let us