

Supply—Secretary of State

because of the austerity program, the government lacks the money. Perhaps the government will say: We cannot afford it, and the project must again be put off.

However, Mr. Chairman, in that is a political and moral obligation of the Liberal government towards the people of Montreal. It consists in carrying out that project in Montreal without any delay. If there is a lack of money, perhaps the government could reduce the C.B.C. budget by \$15 or \$20 million a year, and after three years, it would have paid for the new buildings of the corporation.

We have no right to leave the entire population of the metropolis of Canada in a state of indecision. All this is extremely prejudicial to the businessmen and the people of the eastern part of Montreal.

I am surprised—and I say this without reflecting whatsoever on my Montreal colleagues—at the silence of my friends opposite who represent ridings in the Montreal area. The population is greatly concerned over the government's delay in carrying out that project and I am surprised to find that no Liberal member from Montreal is rising to insist that his party, the present government, keep its formal commitment toward the people of Montreal. If the government fails to make its intentions known, whatever they are, the people of Montreal will surely not forget it. The government should recognize that that is a formal commitment, an undertaking, an election promise that it is not keeping and has not kept. Mr. Chairman, I feel I had to emphasize in this house that oversight, that anomaly on the part of the Liberal party.

Those are the few remarks I wanted to make.

I want to stress again that millions of dollars which could be invested in the eastern part of the city of Montreal will be so only when the people, the businessmen and the contractors know whether or not those buildings will be erected in the eastern part of Montreal as promised. Incidentally, I met several people who assured me that there will be a recrudescence of activity in the eastern part of the metropolis, as soon as the government makes its intentions known. It will certainly help the workers to get some work and alleviate the serious problem of unemployment which exists in the Canadian metropolis.

[*English*]

Mr. Brand: Mr. Chairman, I intend to be mercifully brief. When the hon. member for

[Mr. Valade.]

Rosthern was cataloguing the waste the Auditor General found in the C.B.C., to the extent of \$320 thousand. I could not help thinking back a year when the Board of Broadcast Governors approved the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's request that television facilities should be built in the city of Saskatoon, my constituency. This facility had been promised for many years and suddenly the cabinet, faced with financial problems and all the other internal problems, squashed the idea very completely. I thought perhaps that now was as good a time as any to rise and briefly ask the government once again whether or not they would consider reinstating the construction of this facility. They seem willing to see \$320 thousand wasted which incidentally was the amount of money voted in the estimates from which this facility in Saskatoon would have been supplied. Somehow or other, the money got lost.

I can assure you that the people of my constituency, who are contributing something over \$7 per capita to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, would be more than interested in being able to assess the results of their investment in this crown corporation. Saskatoon is the only city of its size in Canada that does not have a second television facility, and I feel the time has come when this should be provided. In addition, provision should be made for a satellite transmitter to cover the other areas to the west. A year has gone by, and we have been very patient in my city. If the aspirants for leadership have any influence at all,—yes, even the good looking ones, and I note that three of them smiled when I said that—it would be very much to their advantage to press on their cabinet colleagues the need for allowing this facility before April 6. Certainly we believe we are entitled to it. Heaven knows we are paying for it. I feel we should have the opportunity to decide whether or not our money is being well spent.

The only C.B.C. programs we get from the station we have are the ones the C.B.C. dumps on that station. Some of them are good, I will admit, that, but some of them are utter trash, as has been pointed out before. I should like to tell the government that from now on, as long as the house is sitting, I intend to raise this matter at every possible opportunity until they see the error of their ways and allow Saskatoon the privilege of having a C.B.C. facility in that city.