

automation were creating a lot of disturbance in the employment field we might feel it necessary to set up a special board to study the situation and advise us. This is what we have in mind.

Mr. Pugh: Has the minister considered the procedures by which qualified people are to be appointed to these boards. Has he sounded out possible members? Provision is made for four boards to be constituted right away, each with 11 members and a chairman, so there are a fair number of appointments to be made I presume, indeed I hope, that those concerned will be fairly busy people. It seems to me that the whole thing is likely to be top-heavy, a little unwieldy.

Mr. Marchand: As indicated in the bill, nominations will be made after consultation with the social and economic bodies which are concerned with these matters. Take rehabilitation, for instance. As hon. members know, there are many private associations in Canada which are concerned with this question and it would be senseless to constitute an advisory board upon which these people were not represented. This is the way in which we shall proceed in all cases, because there are many private associations of all kinds in Canada. Usually the most representative association will be the one chosen to recommend persons to be nominated by the minister.

Mr. Johnston: Is there any particular definition of "adult" as it appears in 12 (1)(a)?

Would this board serve as a co-ordinating body between provincial occupational training which would be under the regular school system and the federal adult training program? If you read clause 20 and clause 12 together it seems as though this scheme would be quite independent from the provincial educational programs.

Mr. Marchand: The definition of adult education is the one contained in the training measure adopted by the house. I think the line is drawn there as precisely as it can be drawn.

• (8:20 p.m.)

I do not know if the hon. member heard what I said in French in answer to a question. We have agreement with the provinces on consultative boards concerning training and adult education. Two such boards are already constituted in Quebec and Ontario in order that we may more closely follow what is happening in the labour market and there-

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by know the kind of courses that should be taught. Any province which feels the need for contact with the federal government can ask us to set up such a board, and we will agree to it.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 13 to 19 inclusive, agreed to.

On clause 20—*Advisory Board on Adult Occupational Training.*

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Chairman, I wish to speak very briefly on this bill. I must say that I do not take quite as dim a view of this legislation as do some of my colleagues. I support the principle and purpose of the bill because for years members of this group have advocated this type of legislation with respect to vocational training and immigration. The record will prove that.

I also support the bill because I have great confidence in and respect for the minister who will administer the legislation. It is entirely experimental legislation. The minister has said that no doubt defects will be found in the bill. I am sure that as a result of experience amendments will be made to this legislation.

For many years I have supported the ideas which are covered in this legislation, and I have no doubt it will be improved in the future. We must remember that throughout the years all parties in this house have drafted various proposals for the building of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth, proposals which, as the Secretary of State for External Affairs might say, have had to be revised in the light of all the circumstances. I am certain this bill lays a foundation upon which, as the result of experience, very sound legislation will be erected, legislation in which the public will have an interest because of their own participation.

I am particularly keen on the local advisory committees composed of people close to all the circumstances. Some of the biggest difficulties with legislation have resulted from centralized administration by people who did not understand local circumstances. I have always been an advocate of participation by local people in any legislation of this type. Therefore, I am pleased with this provision in the bill, and I must say I am also pleased with the attitude of the employees of the minister's department who are in my own constituency. They have done quite a lot of voluntary work in connection with training of the disabled and in connection with meeting certain unusual circumstances. I wish the