

Dominion-Provincial Relations

Mr. Robichaud: He did both. Where were you?

Mr. Speakman: He referred to an anonymous source.

Mr. Chevrier: The hon. member has been asleep. I indicated the source of the figures and said that I accepted responsibility for them which is, I think, all I am required to do under the rules.

The Deputy Chairman: Does the committee give unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Chevrier: The committee refuses to give unanimous consent, which is neither courteous nor the usual procedure. Under the circumstances I propose to now place on *Hansard* what has been compiled in this statement.

The table reads as follows:

Hypothetical illustration of provincial receipts for 1962-63 and 1966-67 under the new system and under the present system with the new rates.

	16-9-50		20-9-50	
	New system ⁽¹⁾	Present system ⁽²⁾	New ⁽¹⁾	Present ⁽²⁾
Nfld.	31.1	30.2	33.1	32.8
P.E.I.	8.2	7.5	8.6	8.1
N.S.	43.4	43.2	46.5	47.4
N.B.	36.2	37.3	38.8	40.8
Que.	239.5	253.8	242.1	283.3
Ont.	311.3	311.3	347.3	347.3
Man.	42.1	45.0	43.4	50.2
Sask.	42.6	45.1	42.6	50.3
Alta.	56.0	63.6	56.0	71.0
B.C.	72.3	79.5	81.1	88.8
Total	883.3	916.5	938.5	1,020.0

⁽¹⁾ With equalization on the national average, \$35 million in grants for the Atlantic provinces and the two special guarantees.

⁽²⁾ With equalization on the top two provinces and \$25 million for the Atlantic provinces.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): All I have to say is that these figures are utterly weird. As I followed the hon. member in his reading I will have to take issue with at least half of them. He is trying to show somehow or other, by what weird reasoning no one dares say, that under the new formula proposed in this bill at some stage the provinces in the aggregate would receive less than they are receiving at the present time. Mr. Chairman, that is an impossibility.

Mr. Chevrier: If it is an impossibility why did the minister not allow the table to be put on *Hansard* in the first instance and then reply to it in due course? In other words, the minister forced me to read it; whereas if it appeared side by side with the other table it would be possible to compare the two and then we would understand his argument. As it is now we are not able to do that because I was not able to get unanimous consent. I was not allowed to put the tables side

[Mr. Speakman.]

by side, the one which has been prepared by the minister's officials and this one for which I said I would take responsibility.

The Deputy Chairman: Shall clause 3 carry?

Mr. Benidickson: No. Clause 3 has the heading "Payments to Provinces". Yesterday we received some figures from the Prime Minister. The Minister of Finance refers to weird figures. Well, let us look at page 9004 of *Hansard*, where the Prime Minister suggests that conditional grants to the provinces had increased by \$440 million. It was pointed out yesterday that this was simply a propaganda figure because if one looks at the figures which the minister tabled, and which I do not think he will call weird, and to which he has referred several times—they appear at page 7915 of *Hansard* of July 11—one will realize, after this boasting by the Prime Minister yesterday, that the biggest item in the increase has to do with hospital insurance. Indeed it refers to \$274 million. When he was checked yesterday the Prime Minister confessed that that was so, and at page 9005 of *Hansard* he said:

One hon. gentleman mentioned hospital insurance. Yes, it is true that the Liberals brought it in but we pay for it.

Well, I suppose the present government is taking credit for paying old age pensions, unemployment insurance and some of the other things that were introduced by its predecessors. I have heard so many members of the present government say they brought in hospital insurance that I was very glad to have these concrete words from the Prime Minister yesterday:

Yes, it is true that the Liberals brought it in.

This involves \$274 million out of \$406 million in additional grants relating 1957-58 to 1961-62. While the Prime Minister did not say so in his remarks yesterday, I know that he was referring to the table provided by the Minister of Finance which is found on page 7915 of *Hansard*.

In addition, with respect to conditional grants one will find substantially increased expenditures by the present government for such items as winter works and welfare. If one analyses both these categories and some others, one will find that these increases are directly attributable to the fact that under this government our economy has gone down and there has been unemployment with the result that it was certainly necessary to rescue the municipalities and the provinces through measures of this kind.

I admit quite freely that there is also another item of some consequence, the increase in vocational training grants to the provinces. I think this perhaps involves a new program but it again was stimulated by the fact that