

You will remember also the retraining bill we had before us. If you take note of the figures placed on record in committee, you will see that there too Ontario and Quebec walked off with the lion's share of the money. They could take advantage of the scheme, while some of the other provinces, whose need was great, could not do so as they did not have the money.

On the other hand, in the Health Resources Bill, you will have noted that for the Atlantic provinces a special grant of \$25 million was set aside over and above what would come to them normally. That seems to me to be meeting the situation, at least in some respects.

I had hoped that the basis of contribution would be on a per capita basis, plus the previous experience of four or five years, that is, plus the amount they traditionally spend for public welfare, and that the federal Government would come in and contribute whatever else was necessary to keep an equal standard or at least keep the base across the country.

One of the shortcomings of the bill is the lack of an adequate minimum standard, the failure to say that a certain amount must be provided. We had a thorough discussion about the needs test with Alberta when we were in the Committee on Aging. I think what they were paying out averaged roughly \$90 or \$95 per person. The cost of housing made a great deal of difference in the province; it was a great variable. I do not wish to be taken as saying that this bill is in any way inadequate, because I started off by saying it was a long step forward.

Hon. Mr. Choquette: There is no danger of your ever doing that.

Hon. Mr. Croll: I am delighted that my friend recognizes that.

Hon. Mr. Choquette: But you put the finishing touch to it. It is always a better bill when you are through with it.

Hon. Mr. Croll: I have taken a fair look at this bill, thinking about it, looking at its good points and its bad points.

Hon. Mr. Fournier (De Lanaudière): What was the question? I did not get the question.

Hon. Mr. Choquette: I did not ask one.

Hon. Mr. Croll: He said I was a loyal Liberal.

Hon. Mr. Fournier (De Lanaudière): That is what I am, too.

Hon. Mr. Walker: When it comes to voting it never fails.

Hon. Mr. Croll: I think you are right.

Much has been said on the bill, and many contributions were made yesterday. We went over the bill this morning in committee and it was adequately explained by the minister, who seemed to have an answer for each question and a complete grasp of the situation.

I am not going to deal with some of the matters raised yesterday in connection with the cost of welfare. Although it is interesting to note that we do not lead the world in percentages of expenditure for welfare services, we are in the top six. I must say I am very proud of that record. I tried to get confirmation of the population of Canada about the turn of the century. As most of us know, it was then about five million. In 1931 it was about 10 million, and our gross national product at that time was \$27 billion. The latest figures I have indicate that it is now \$54 billion and our population is nearly 20 million. That is a considerable change for the good.

It is of interest to note that government expenditures on health and social welfare as a percentage of the gross national product in 1962-63 for various countries was as follows:

New Zealand	12.1
United Kingdom	10.5
Canada	9.4
Australia	8.2
United States	7.00

Hon. Mr. Grosart: Is that for the federal Government only or for all governments in Canada?

Hon. Mr. Croll: I think it is the federal Government only, but I am not certain.

Hon. Mr. Grosart: If that is so Canada will be away ahead of everybody else because the levels for the provincial governments are also very high.

Hon. Mr. Croll: The others would probably have the same situation.

Hon. Mr. Walker: Not England and not New Zealand.

Hon. Mr. Croll: It may be all governments. It says here "Government Expenditure on Health and Social Welfare as Per Cent of Gross National Product at Market Prices, Selected Countries, 1958-59 to 1962-63." The