

cannot be felt immediately and when we go back to our constituencies and discuss the matter with our constituents in order to learn about the impact of that legislation, sometimes we feel like laughing in view of the possible effects of the legislation.

Insofar as the adult vocational training is concerned, I think that something should be done with regard to the number of courses. Someone might say that guidance in that respect is a provincial responsibility, but since it is done, an overall view of the matter could still be taken. For instance, in my area, instead of holding all the classes in Chicoutimi, some should be held north of the lake so that our people should not have to travel over a long distance; in fact, that would be possible since there are groups of 25 to 30 adults who could attend those classes, and who are now forced to go out of their way in order to do so. I think the attention of the minister should be drawn to this state of affairs, in order to prevent ridiculous situations of this sort. Imagine a worker forced to travel 50 miles to attend his classes, when it could be taught in Saint-Félicien, in Dolbeau, in Roberval, in short, somewhere near so as to accommodate all those interested and save them an unreasonably long trip.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to say a word here concerning the regional committees. As elsewhere, many do their best and others do not. It reminds me a little of the last elections and of the \$50,000 or \$75,000 which the government had given to the Economic Development Council which was managed in part by the regional committees and which had used this money for purely political ends in the lower Mistassini region. But the minister is not responsible for this, since he did not even know about it.

That is to say that close supervision will have to be exerted so that the purpose of the legislation may be achieved. I am sure that this object would be achieved if less emphasis were placed on political considerations. Even though we do not speak about that any more, parties are still playing politics. The Liberals argue that they do not play politics, but every initiative taken by politicians is politically oriented, and I think this is very bad, when a bill is introduced and especially when people entrusted with the administration of that legislation are people appointed for political considerations, who are often anxious to work for the party concerned.

Manpower and Immigration Council

It is hoped that this bill will achieve its objects and will be to the advantage of the whole working class.

[English]

• (5:20 p.m.)

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg): Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to delay unduly the passage of this bill to establish the Canada manpower and immigration council. I listened with interest this afternoon to the comments of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Marchand) as he outlined some of the responsibilities of the council and the advisory boards which can be set up under this bill. It seems to me that some of his remarks could readily be related to problems that come entirely within the authority of the provincial governments. The government has a role to fulfil but I personally believe it can best strengthen confederation if it legislates within its sphere of authority and does not unnecessarily interfere with the rights of the provinces.

There is one aspect of the bill which is of great concern to me. I refer to the right granted to the minister to set up from time to time additional advisory boards as he deems appropriate to deal with any subject within his responsibilities. On the one hand we have heard that the Prime Minister (Mr. Perason) is concerned about government expenditures and is asking the cabinet to curtail unnecessary spending. This is understandable when we consider that despite our present high taxes we still have a budget deficit estimated to amount to some \$740 million. Yet here we have a bill which gives the minister carte blanche to set up additional boards whose chairmen must be paid and whose members will be paid a per diem allowance for each day he or she is absent from his or her ordinary place of residence. How many boards are to be established?

Clause 12 of the bill states:

- (1) The minister shall establish
 - (a) an advisory board on adult educational training;
 - (b) an advisory board on the adjustment of immigrants;
 - (c) an advisory board on the co-ordination of rehabilitation services for disabled persons; and
 - (d) an advisory board on manpower and immigration research.
- (2) The minister may, from time to time, establish additional advisory boards as he deems appropriate to deal with any subject within his responsibilities as minister.

This would indicate that these boards with 12 members each will have a total of 48 members. In my view this is not the way to