

Supply—Finance

this fall. It is this concern that we in western Canada have about this whole matter that is causing us to rise continually on this subject in order to get the government more definitely committed.

Last night I attempted to point out that we as a nation are terribly short of skilled people to administer our national health and welfare program. Work in the whole field of the sciences is greatly curtailed because of the lack of adequately trained personnel. The whole field of education is suffering from one end of Canada to the other because of insufficient adequately trained teachers. Yesterday the minister seemed to indicate that this amount of something over \$7 million was more or less in line with what had been recommended in the Massey report. I should like to read just two or three sentences from that report in order to show that if that was the intention of the minister he certainly was far from giving a correct interpretation of what the Massey report actually recommended. At page 354 of the report we find this:

The universities ask first for a per capita grant ranging from \$150 to \$200 for all students registered in professional schools.

In line with what I was saying a few minutes ago, they then list them. The report continues:

The schools mentioned are those offering courses in medicine, dentistry, agriculture, forestry, veterinary science, nursing, physical education, physiotherapy, social work, engineering and applied science.

Then on the next page, page 355, we have what the members of the Massey commission themselves saw fit to recommend after careful consideration of the whole problem. Their third recommendation is this:

That these contributions be sufficient to ensure that the work of the universities of Canada may be carried on in accordance with the needs of the nation.

My contention is that the needs of the nation are not being attended to in an adequate manner and therefore the impression that the minister and others on the government side are attempting to give that we are doing enough has to be corrected and the public of Canada made aware of the fact that the government is not meeting the needs of the nation. I am not referring to the problem of providing primary education. I am referring to the problem of supplying the leadership in the major fields of education that the occasion demands.

I should like to emphasize again that we do not feel any undue control has been exercised in connection with the grants, and we believe that the government could substantially raise them without exercising any more control over the final disposition of the

[Mr. Regier.]

grants than they are now doing. This amount of money is not keeping pace with the rising costs of university education, nor is it keeping pace with the rising national production. Canada is surely able to afford much more money in 1955 than she was able to afford in 1953 or 1952.

I received a news clipping from back home from my good wife this morning. If we are not going to get more money from the federal government for our universities I do not know where the additional money is going to be found. Is the minister recommending that the additional money needed so desperately by our universities be obtained from the municipalities? If so, I would tell him that the news clipping I have received indicates that the cost of unemployment relief in the municipality of Burnaby this year is three times as much as it was last year. The municipalities with their local systems of taxation are unable to raise the necessary money for higher education.

We have an organization, the federal government, that has the power to act on behalf of all the people of Canada in this matter and I maintain that we should make use of the federal government. We are living in an organized society. We have agreed to do together as a nation those things that we cannot adequately attend to individually through our local governments, and I believe that we should use this organization, the federal government, to help to relieve the crisis that now obtains in the field of higher education.

Mr. Macdonnell: I want to make one comment not for the purpose of asking the minister to increase the amount but for the purpose of making a suggestion regarding the distribution of the amount to universities. I understand that at present the disposition among the provinces is based on the population of the provinces, and my suggestion is that it might be fairer if it were based on the university population of the provinces. I am told that the province of Nova Scotia, for example, is coming off very much worse than the province of Ontario under the present system. The people of Nova Scotia, being Scottish, have a great interest in education and they have a larger percentage of their people attending universities. I put that forward for the minister's consideration.

Item agreed to.

Miscellaneous grants—

127. Canadian association of consumers, \$10,000.

Mr. Charlton: The minister said earlier that he would answer questions on the Canadian farm loan board on the last item of his estimates. The names of the members of the