

Atlantic Development Board Act

Mr. Pickersgill: Does the hon. gentleman not think that even within the Atlantic region it would be desirable to raise the economic level of those parts where there is heavy unemployment?

• (5:00 p.m.)

Mr. Douglas: But it can only be done by treating the region as a whole. The minister must be aware that you cannot cut up the country into townships and say we will deal with the number of unemployed in each township. Industries attract other industries. You have to start from where the industries are and have them spread out all over the area. A whole region's economic development must be planned as a unit, not by townships or counties. Of course it is true that in wealthy provinces there are also areas with specific problems because of certain circumstances, such as the Lake St. John area, but the government and this parliament have recognized that the Atlantic provinces have a special problem, a general disparity of income and productivity in relation to the rest of Canada. Having recognized this and appointed the board to make plans, and the provinces themselves having set up APEC, surely it is ridiculous on the other hand for the Department of Industry to be operating on an entirely different premise and on a formula which does not make sense in the light of the regional planning already established by the Atlantic Development Board and APEC?

The minister has taken exception to my referring to this \$50 million as a dribble but \$50 million in terms of the industrial development of four provinces over the next four years is a dribble. The minister has talked about how careful he is in money matters and of his background in northern Manitoba. I come of a race that is pretty careful about money too, but when the government is buying bomber planes \$50 million is small change. When the government brings down the defence budget not \$50 million but \$500 million goes very quickly. In many areas of expenditure \$50 million is treated as chicken feed.

All I am saying is that \$50 million to meet the industrial development needs of the Atlantic provinces over the next few years is not adequate. If the board has not got plans that demand more money, and the minister is the only one who can be aware of that, then of course \$50 million is what they need. I know it takes time to complete development studies. You just cannot put your hand on a

[Mr. Douglas.]

shelf and pull off a lot of industrial development projects. It takes time to conduct feasibility studies and market research.

I want to compliment the board and the minister on the work that has been done, but the basic work having been done the board ought now to be encouraged to move forward with the utmost possible speed and ought to be told that \$50 million is not in our opinion anything like the limit we are prepared to set and that further considerable sums of money will be available. If that is not done, then not only will the disparity between the Atlantic provinces and the rest of Canada remain but the gap will widen, and as the gap widens national unity is thereby weakened.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 4 inclusive agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): When shall the said bill be read the third time? By leave, now?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Pickersgill moved the third reading of the bill.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE**ESTABLISHMENT OF CORPORATION FOR ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION**

The house resumed, from Friday, June 10, consideration in committee of Bill No. C-194, to establish a corporation for the administration of the National Arts Centre—Miss LaMarsh—Mr. Rinfret in the chair.

The Deputy Chairman: When the committee rose on Friday, June 10, the title, clause 1 and clause 4, with an amendment to the latter, had been allowed to stand. On clause 4 the hon. member for Levis had moved an amendment as follows:

That clause 4 of Bill C-194 be amended by adding thereto the following paragraph:

In the appointment of members and officers of the corporation, due account will be taken of the linguistic duality of Canada and its cultural plurality.

On clause 4—*Appointment of chairman and vice-chairman.*

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, there has already been some discussion of this clause and the amendment in question which you have