

are giving to it; that transfers are being made by the Government of Canada to the provincial governments. The cheques are sent out and that is the end of the concern.

Honourable senators, that is not quite the case, because the Department of the Secretary of State does try to pay some attention to what happens, but it does not do so very successfully. Then, in turn, the provincial governments decide how much money they are going to transfer to the colleges and universities within their jurisdictions. The dollars end up in the colleges and universities. I am sure that each college and university does the best it can in its own locale, but that is tantamount to fighting a war with each soldier in the trenches making his own strategic decisions.

We talk about academic freedom—we use that as an excuse for not confronting the problem. We talk about the independence of the provinces in the field of education, yet when provincial authorities suggest that they are going to interfere, the universities bristle. The final result is that, in many cases, the ultimate decisions are made within the colleges and universities—very often by particular professors in particular departments. That is what I mean when I say that the war is being fought with a distinct and separate strategy devised by each soldier in the trenches. That is no way to wage a war. In that way problems are neglected.

I do not intend to reiterate to honourable senators the entire list of the problems that were put before the committee in its three meetings, but I will, if I may, mention one of them. Some years ago there was a great expansion of our colleges and universities. There were not enough faculty members to service the students who were clamouring to be admitted and who were eligible to be admitted. As a result of that, there was a great recruitment of university staff and faculty members. Then, because of the levelling off of enrollment, the recruitment tapered off. At the same time, as I mentioned, the amount of money being provided declined sharply. The result is that colleges and universities are now recruiting few new staff and faculty members. This means that the personnel pyramid is being badly distorted. It is developing high shoulders. Furthermore, it means that there are few jobs for able new young instructors and assistant professors.

Our committee was told that, very often, the able graduate students respond to the demands of the market and go elsewhere rather than finish their graduate work. I think we can all see what is going to happen. Some day fairly soon, the faculty members hired in the expansion years are going to reach the age of 65 or thereabouts, and will retire. But we will not have graduate students coming on in sufficient numbers to provide replacements. So we will have to go out in the world market to attempt to recruit people to teach young Canadians. Those people will be teaching young Canadians about the Government of Canada from an American viewpoint or a British viewpoint or, perhaps, from a continental viewpoint. I take that fairly extreme example to make my point. Not only will we be unable to staff our universities with Canadians or people who have been trained in Canada, but we will not be able to bring to Canada people of the ability of those whom we

[Senator Stewart.]

are now, in effect, turning away from our colleges and universities.

Honourable senators, many young Canadians are not finishing their training. They are going where the market leads them. We will be recruiting people who decide to come to Canada because they cannot get the jobs that they really want in the United Kingdom, the United States, or France. In my view, honourable senators, it is just not good enough to have a great dependence on people who come to Canada—not in all cases, but in some—as a second or third choice, particularly when we are spending this kind of money in the field of post-secondary education.

● (1550)

I do not expect the Leader of the Government to rise in his place this afternoon and say that he will have this matter corrected before the end of June or before the end of the 30-day period that we are supposed to have on money bills. I do not expect that at all—

Senator Roblin: It is only a thought.

Senator Stewart: It seems to me that there is too much money involved for us to take this whole matter lightly. And what is more important, post-secondary education is of too great importance to Canadian life generally, whether we are talking about the economy, or the quality of life, or the general cultural and spiritual nature of our civilization. Post-secondary education is simply too important a matter to be sloughed off from the Government of Canada to the provincial governments, and by the provincial governments, in turn, to university administrations, which in turn very often slough it off to particular departments or particular professors.

I have called this to the attention of honourable senators in the hope that, should our committee decide to focus further on this question, we will have your support.

Before I resume my seat, I should like to know whether Senator Doody is going to be able to deal with the question concerning the great urgency for having this bill by the end of this week.

Is it because this bill will provide the supplementary estimates (A) money as well as the main estimates money? And if that is so, why were the two sums embodied in the same appropriation bill?

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, to deal with the question, I shall undertake, as I did at Question Period today, to get from Treasury Board the rationale behind the urgency. I will make every effort to have that information available before the motion for the third reading of this bill is put, if that is acceptable to the honourable senator.

I suspect that what has been done is that the supplementary estimates (A) and the balance of the main estimates have been put into the one bill, as has been suggested. I can appreciate the fact that that is not the most appropriate way to handle the situation, if that indeed is what has been done. It would appear that that is the case.