Manpower and Immigration Council

But if, for no specific reason, they want to meet more than twice a year, or if for no specific reason they want to meet in Vancouver because it is winter, I think the minister should have the authority to say, "You are not going to do it."

Mr. Starr: Has the minister ascertained the cost of having the council meet at least twice a year in Ottawa or somewhere else? Has he determined, also, the cost involved with respect to the four advisory boards? Has he been able to ascertain the yearly cost of maintaining this council and the advisory boards?

• (8:10 p.m.)

Mr. Marchand: This is really an estimate we are making. Perhaps the council will meet twice a year, and the board four or five times. I do not know; I cannot say offhand. I will try to make a calculation and give a figure later on.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 10 and 11 agreed to.

On clause 12-Advisory boards established [Translation]

Mr. Régimbal: Mr. Chairman, we have suggested on several occasions, both in the course of our remarks at the resolution stage and during the debate this afternoon, that it might be advisable to provide for continuing consulations between the department or the council and provincial authorities.

As mentioned earlier, it would be advisable to maintain such a contact, since it is impossible to do so under the constitution of the council itself.

Would it not be appropriate, for instance, to allow for a provincial participation within the committees?

I believe the minister mentioned that he met with provincial ministers at a meeting held last summer. But is such a meeting, held only occasionally, as required, or before the bill is implemented, sufficient to clear up any difficulty experienced by the provinces in the matter of interpretation or co-operation?

Mr. Marchand: Mr. Chairman, I feel that the sector in which we may meet the most difficulties or problems with the provinces is that of the training of workers, that is in manpower as such.

As we know, the federal-provincial agree-[Mr. Marchand.]

to advise the two governments in matters pertaining to manpower needs, orientation of the courses, etc.

The province of Quebec has set up a board, as has also the province of Ontario. The other provinces, provided they so request it, may also set one up and we shall be pleased to co-operate. Let us say, therefore, that in the most controversial sectors, co-operation can be arrived at through the boards.

The Chairman: Does clause 12 carry?

[English]

Mr. Pugh: The first four paragraphs of subclause (1) have to do with advisory boards, and I have several questions to ask on this subject. Is each of these boards to be a separate entity, or, in other words, will there be an "intermix" of those who are appointed to serve on them, with the result that one man might be serving on two or three of these bodies?

Then again, subclause (2) reads:

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.

Has the minister any idea what further boards may be constituted?

I have a further question to ask with regard to the regional aspect of these proposals. Does the minister contemplate setting up regional boards, for, let us say, the prairies, the Pacific coast, central Canada and the Atlantic provinces? I am wondering why the bill should contain this "catch-all" in subclause

Mr. Marchand: There is nothing in the law which prevents a member of one board being at the same time a member of another. As we know, this is not a full time job; the boards will meet only a few times a year, and service on one would not be incompatible with service on another. However, it should be remembered that these are specialized boards concerned with training, immigration and research. It is not our intention to set up other regional boards in addition to those mentioned. We shall have regional and local boards as provided for in another part of the bill. We shall come to that later.

As for the provision that the minister may set up special boards for special purposes, suppose, for example, we had serious problems in connection with one particular aspect ment provides, at the request of the prov- of our program; we might find it necessary to inces, for the creation of an advisory board set up a special board to give us advice. If