

mainly responsible for resource problems touching the international aspect of development. The federal authority should not and cannot infringe upon the provincial position. What is required is federal leadership and initiative in the national interest, and co-operation with the provincial authorities in the field of protection of the environment, and a reasoned realistic approach to the financial problems. Above all, we must have careful planning and recognized priorities, and we should proceed project by project.

Honourable senators, I should like to deal briefly now with the Department of the Environment, as the bill proposes to establish it. There is a provision in clause 3 for a new department, a new minister, and a new deputy minister. The duties of the minister, where there is federal jurisdiction, touch seacoast and inland fisheries; the renewable resources of the country, such as the forests the birds, the flora and fauna; water; meteorology; the quality of water, air and soil; technical surveys with respect to all these resources, and boundary water problems. As you are aware, matters concerning boundary waters historically have been handled by the International Joint Commission, and by the Department of External Affairs in certain instances. That commission, of course, will continue to have those problems as its main responsibility.

The duties of the minister also involve the setting of standards for the quality of the total environment in Canada, for pollution control within the federal jurisdiction, for the protection and enhancement of living conditions, and for co-operating with the provinces and other agencies which have a special interest in this field. The minister is to report annually to Parliament.

I should tell the house that schedule A on page 16 of the bill lists 19 different statutes which are hereafter to be administered by the Department of the Environment.

Part II of the bill is headed "Energy, Mines, Resources and Technical Surveys". This part is designed to clarify and separate the responsibilities of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources from those of the Department of the Environment. It beams the department's functions to the development side of resources. The department will have assigned to it such matters as the regulation of oil, gas and mineral development in the lands and waters owned by the Crown in the right of Canada. It is to deal with technical surveys in respect of resource development, energy development policies, mining and metallurgical research, geological surveys and geological research, field and air survey, and mapping and charting with all the new technology now available in that field. It will be concerned with continental shelf programs and marine surveys. The ministry is to be responsible also for co-operation with the provincial authorities in these various areas.

Certain personnel have, in fact, been transferred under the Transfer of Duties Act and will now be available to the Department of the Environment when that department is authorized by Parliament. Honourable senators might be interested to know that there will be some 5,300 employees, formerly with the Department of Fisheries

and Forestry, who will be available to the new department, and some 250 employees from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, mainly concerned with wildlife. From the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources 2,500 employees dealing with water resources and marine surveys will also be available to the new department. From the Department of National Health and Welfare 139 officials, whose main responsibility is air pollution control, will also be available, and from the Department of Transport, particularly from the meteorological services, there will be some 2,400 persons. In all, a total of some 10,500 people will be transferred from other departments and made available to the new department.

Part III of the bill is very short. It deals with the National Research Council. In looking at the bill you will have noticed that clause 10 in Part II repeals section 6(e) of the Resources and Technical Surveys Act, which gives the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources control of astronomical observatories. By virtue of clause 12 in Part III, astronomical observatories become the responsibility of the National Research Council. I think it quite appropriate that that should be so.

Clauses 13 to 24 in Part IV of the bill deal with ministries and ministers of state. It is proposed in this part that a certain number of ministries of state be established by Order in Council to preside over a specific portion of the public service in matters of federal responsibility. By proclamation the name of the ministry, the area of administration to be surveyed, and the duties of the minister shall be made known. It is in contemplation that under these clauses of the bill there will be a small area of policy responsibility which will devolve upon ministries so set up by Order in Council. The matters will, of course, all be within the federal jurisdiction, but it is not intended that the minister or his department should be responsible for the day-to-day operations of some of the agencies for which it is proposed the minister should set policy.

For example, if there is a ministry to be set up in charge of housing, and it is to have within its jurisdiction policy matters in respect of the operations of the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, it is not intended that that minister should be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The administration of that agency of the Government, and the administration of any other Crown corporation, will remain where it is, but the policy is to be settled by the minister in charge of the particular ministry of state.

There is power in the bill to change the name of a given ministry of state, to change its functions as required, and to terminate the ministry once it is felt that the need for it no longer exists. There was an amendment made in the House of Commons which provides that before a ministry of state is set up the text of the proposed Order in Council should be tabled. That Order in Council must be approved by a resolution of the House of Commons before there is a proclamation setting up the ministry. The debate in the house on such occasion is to be limited to seven hours.