FINANCE 181

Dr. STEWART: That is wholly correct.

Senator CONNOLLY: One other thing: I would like to suggest, Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that the president of Central Mortgage and Housing will be here at our next meeting, that perhaps the secretary could send this brief to him so that he could express some views on it next time.

The CHAIRMAN: That will be done.

Senator ISNOR: On page 3 of your brief, Dr. Stewart, you say:

"This is true across the whole country. For example, in Alberta in 1937-38, about 25 per cent of the total student body lived in residence: in 1957-58 the figure had dropped to about 17 per cent."

I suppose that is due largely to the increased enrolment as compared to 1937?

Dr. Stewart: Yes. We have not built any residences since 1937, and the decrease is due to the increasing numbers.

Senator Burchill: Dr. Stewart, I am connected with the University of New Brunswick, and I am prepared to say that I agree with what you say in the brief. In your opening you mentioned that the language of the brief was "restrained"—a good word. Our experience at the University of New Brunswick has been that the residence has been a direct liability as far as finance is concerned. We have supplemented the revenue by grants from the general fund every year. We charge the students as much as we possibly can, but we are still in the red by quite substantial amounts each year. Now, we are building residences there, but we are doing it by public subscription in part, and the other half comes from the Canada Council, in order to enable us to put up these residences. Now, if that method was adopted, how would it conflict with your plan here? If Canada Council came into the picture, would Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation be interested?

Dr. Stewart: I cannot speak for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, but obviously from our point of view if a combination of Canada Council and public funds can meet our needs then we can operate more satisfactorily on that basis, but we do not see these two sources in combination across the country as being adequate in themselves, and so we think some loan funds must be available. It is quite true that circumstances differ in different parts of the country, and as I have indicated, our request is merely for permissive legislation. I do not know what particular universities would avail themselves of it; some would not, some almost certainly would, and this would depend on the particular circumstances of the other sources of funds that were available.

Senator Lambert: Dr. Stewart, in your brief to this committee, you recommend with respect to Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation that some action should be taken to meet your request. Senator Burchill has just mentioned the Canada Council. I had that in mind when you were referring to this matter. It is proposed that \$50 million be devoted to the capital development of universities, and I think that the proper procedure would be that the Council of Arts and Sciences, which has the administration of this fund, would possibly be expected to be asked for their approval or otherwise of any undertaking of that kind. I just bring that up as a point to ask further if any approach had been made to the Council of Arts and Sciences on this subject. I am under the impression that that approach has been made.

Dr. Stewart: Yes, we have made representations as an organization. There was, I understand, some uncertainty in the minds of the Council as to whether (a) it could, and (b) it should, advance capital funds for residences as such. We now understand that a decision has been made that it legally can and that it wishes to make these loans. I have referred in my brief to a project in British Columbia, and Dr. Mackenzie is on the Council, as you know. In that case their study indicated that depending on the rate of interest they could load either a half or two-thirds of the capital cost on the student. Now, they