

will mean that some provinces will not have as great an investment fund available as if they had operated their own plan and other provinces will have more funds available.

Miss LAMARSH: The senator is suggesting a separate plan for each province.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: I am suggesting that you keep books for each province.

Miss LAMARSH: I know that is what is suggested by the senator. When Senator McCutcheon talks about opting out he talks about a province enacting its own legislation. The opting out is for a province to enact similar legislation to the Canada pension plan.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: I am not sure that the federal government has the right to put that in.

I am sorry if I was misunderstood. I accept what the minister says.

Miss LAMARSH: Further, I think it is no secret if the members of the committee will think about it, that if an individual province wants to pass its own Canada pension plan it is going to need machinery for collecting such contributions. At the moment only one province has such machinery. That is not an insuperable matter. It is not an insuperable problem for a province to set up its own machinery, of course.

The pension plan is so designed as to be an all-Canada plan, not a plan for British Columbia, for Alberta, for Saskatchewan, for Manitoba, for Ontario and the Atlantic provinces province by province. It is not intended to make it an orange with all these segments just barely held together by the skin. It is one integrated, plan, and it will take the action of a province to segment itself out. It is not the responsibility of the federal government to enact segments, but to enact the whole orange.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: Of course, the federal government is not enacting the whole orange now.

Miss LAMARSH: It is within its constitutional limits. We can only act if the provinces do not act.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: I think the minister has answered my question up to a point.

If magnetic tapes can keep a record of contributions in provinces, surely they can make a further computation and have an equitable contribution for profits.

Miss LAMARSH: We have that in the bill.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: Then that is the answer. We do not agree on everything.

The CHAIRMAN (*Hon. Mrs. Fergusson*): I do not think anyone else asked to put questions to the minister so I will thank her for coming here today.

Miss LAMARSH: Thank you. The last time I was in this particular committee room there was a man by the name of Mr. Coyne in this chair. I would like to say that I feel myself not quite as badly bruised as he may have felt when he left!

However, the task to which members have to address themselves is a difficult one and I know it will be time consuming. Not only for your sakes and for the sake of the two houses of parliament but for the sake of the millions of Canadians who will be affected by what you do and by what you recommend, I would like not only to wish you a good study but a heart felt God speed.

Hon. Mr. McCUTCHEON: It is understood that the minister will return when we have had an opportunity to hear further evidence and discuss the bill clause by clause?