

providing for the recognition and designation of dentists who possess special qualifications in areas not recognized as specialties.

I have, therefore, much pleasure in stating that so far as I am concerned, I concur in the motion of honourable Senator Smith for the second reading of this bill.

Hon. Joseph A. Sullivan: Honourable senators, I rise to support fully this bill and in doing so I shall be brief. I regret I was not in the house last evening when Senator Smith (Queens-Shelburne) so ably expounded it. It certainly requires no further explanation from me.

Bill S-44 represents an attempt on the part of the great dental profession, which has made tremendous strides in experimental and clinical research, to improve itself. It is comparable to similar legislation enacted in connection with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. I assume it is similar to what Senator McCutcheon's bill will do on behalf of the actuaries. And I hope that in the near future we will see legislation coming through to do the same for the legal profession, of which of course I am not a member.

Hon. Orville H. Phillips: Honourable senators, as a practising dentist I should like to say a word or two in support of this bill. I realize that very little remains to be said following Senator Smith's (Queens-Shelburne) discussion of its contents last evening. He mentioned that the dental society had a choice as to who would introduce the bill, and he referred to the fact that there were two dentists in the Senate and two in the House of Commons. When I was a member of the other place in 1958 there were five dentists in that house. That is one of the reasons why I think that House of Commons was much better than the present one. The present House of Commons is not only short on Tories but it is equally short on dentists.

For some time both the Canadian Dental Association and the provincial associations have recognized the need for a body such as is intended to incorporate under Bill S-44. The average member of these bodies was engaged in general practice and quite often did not have the time to do post-graduate studies. Therefore it would be most awkward, indeed almost impossible, for a couple of dentists in general practice to award certification in some specialized field. The Canadian Dental Association at the urging of the provincial associations set up a committee to establish some means of certification. The committee, which incidentally was composed mostly of members of the Quebec College of Dentistry, spent several years finding a satisfactory solution, and approximately a year

ago received approval at the annual meeting in Toronto.

The legislation has since been worked out by a committee of the Canadian Dental Association and a group of attorneys, and if some honourable senators became a bit confused over the licensing authority I am sure they will understand that the confusion is because of the lawyers and not the dentists.

I may say in regard to licensing that when a student writes his final examination in dentistry he may write the National Examining Board, which entitles him to apply for licensing from any provincial association, or he may write the examination of the individual provincial association.

As Senator Vien pointed out to you, there is no interference with the provincial authority in issuing licences. Furthermore, there is no interference with the authority of the provincial associations to grant their own certification if they so wish. They may still carry on and establish a board to award their own certification, which would be recognized solely within their own particular province. I would also add that there is no interference with the right of any dentist to limit his practice to any field, such as children's dentistry. You quite often find in this profession that a dentist who is very fond of working with children will probably spend one year, instead of the required three years' post-graduate work, in children's dentistry and then limit his practice to children under the age of sixteen. This act does not interfere with that right at all.

The Hall Commission on health services recommended a greater use of hospitals by dentists, particularly in the field of oral surgery and orthodontia. As honourable senators know, the hospital to be certified must have qualified specialists on its staff, and should the recommendation of the Hall Commission be implemented, this body will be far more important that it appears to be under the outline of the legislation.

As Senator Smith (Queens-Shelburne) mentioned last evening, the members of the committee are willing to appear before the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce to give any further explanations required. Several senators have asked why this bill is being sent to the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce instead of to the committee on Public Health and Welfare. I think the main reason is that dentists are so accustomed to going to bankers to get money to buy Cadillacs and other incidentals that they would feel much more at home in the Banking and Commerce Committee. I am sure they will get a very good reception.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.