

Atlantic Development Board Act

on the maritime economy. I think this is a study that badly needs to be done. I think it should be done by outsiders, as I have said; they should not be civil servants and they should be from outside the Atlantic region. But above all, this study should project future effects of increasing winter navigation on the St. Lawrence as well as current effects on the seaway.

Mr. Speaker, the fact that this board has been constituted by the former government, the fact that it has now been given funds by the present government, does not mean that its success is assured. Previous attempts have been made at solving the problems of the Atlantic region, and they have not been successful. This board has a hard job, and I am sure we all fervently hope it will succeed. I do know that if the services of this board and some of its funds are used in Nova Scotia in conjunction with the tax exemptions outlined for new industries by this administration, and if the board works in co-operation with our provincial crown company, Industrial Estates and with the area development agency of the new department of industry, then the prospects of success look brighter than ever before.

With reference to Industrial Estates, it is my hope that the Atlantic development board and this company can co-operate in bringing new industry into my province without being concerned as to whether the provincial or federal government will get the political credit. If these things are done, and if the documented recommendations of the board are carried out by Ottawa, then the results may carry animation and vigour to areas of the Atlantic provinces where stagnation and unemployment have been prominent.

Mr. Flemming (Victoria-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the hon. member a question. He spoke about the large capital projects, and particularly with reference to the Chignecto canal. Is he not aware that under the original bill all recommendations had to be approved first by the minister and then by the government?

Mr. Regan: I am aware of that, Mr. Speaker, and I do not see that it is any significant drawback at all. Perhaps I did not hear the question properly; I did not hear it too well. However, as I understood the hon. member for Victoria-Carleton, he asked whether I am aware of the fact that expenditures have to be approved by the government before they are actually made.

Mr. Flemming (Victoria-Carleton): The minister first, and the government second.

[Mr. Regan.]

Mr. Regan: Because of the dedication of the minister in charge of this board to the interests of the Atlantic provinces, I cannot think of a more worth-while clause.

Mr. MacEwan: He is dedicated to the Liberal party.

Mr. Flemming (Victoria-Carleton): I am giving him the benefit of the doubt.

Mr. Lloyd R. Crouse (Queens-Lunenburg): Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I rise to speak briefly on the bill to amend the Atlantic Development Board Act. According to the bill, it is proposed to increase the number of members from five to eleven, and to establish a separate account in the consolidated revenue fund, called an Atlantic development fund, to which shall be credited the sum of \$100 million. This is to be used for the purpose of financing or assisting in financing programs or projects, instead of measures and projects as in the original bill, that would contribute to the growth and development of the economy of the Atlantic region and for which satisfactory financing arrangements are not otherwise available. The bill also states, among other things, that the said act shall expire on January 24, 1969.

I was very much interested in the remarks made by the last speaker. He questioned the growth in the Atlantic provinces, especially in Nova Scotia. While he was speaking I happened to look at "The New Nova Scotia, an Industrial Review and Forecast for 1963" as put out by the Halifax *Chronicle-Herald*. I would like to read from this publication an unbiased account. Certainly the president of the Halifax board of trade could not be accused of being political in his remarks. He stated in that account:

The year 1962 has witnessed unprecedented growth for our city,—

—that is, the city of Halifax—

—new shopping centres, additional office buildings, private and public housing, and the establishment of a substantial number of new businesses.

In the same industrial review the mayor of Dartmouth said this:

In one major step in 1962 we have seen Dartmouth become Canada's hydrographic and oceanographic research centre,—

I would add my own interpolation there Mr. Speaker, that this was as a result of the Conservative government and the fact that we put the oceanographic base in Dartmouth. The mayor of Dartmouth continues:

—there has been consolidation and modernization of the naval air arm installations locally groundwork has been laid for a million dollar hotel fitting a city of the 21st century; industrial growth has been substantial and diversified—