

*Supply—Labour*

have passed this item we will have voted \$200 million. I know the provinces recommend, but surely the federal government examines what the provinces recommend in so far as teachers and the training of the students is concerned. Now, this is a series of simple questions. Why it has got beyond that and has gone through a number of speeches I completely fail to understand.

I said I was only going to speak for two or three minutes, and that is all I shall say. Will the minister, recognizing the interest of a great many hon. members in the construction of vocational and technical schools and technological institutes, and their interest in knowing this capital expenditure is being made on such a basis of federal-provincial understanding, knowledge and planning, ensure that the students will receive the training which our advancing system of technology requires, and that the teachers will be ready and available when the schools are opened? To me the entire issue is as simple as that.

I hope we can have some comment from the minister and that he will take these questions in the spirit in which they are asked. We are asking only reasonable questions, not political ones, because irrespective of party differences and differences in political philosophy we all agree in regard to education that everything should be done for the future of our children and that every dollar should be spent on a basis of a dollar return for a dollar spent.

**Mr. Starr:** I am glad we have come to the basic things for which this vote stands. So far as the questions asked by a number of hon. members who have participated in the debate are concerned, I would point out there is provision under the technical assistance training act for federal government participation up to 50 per cent of the financial cost of training teachers for the courses that will be undertaken in the schools being built under this program. This is something which certainly had to be, because schools are not of any use unless you plan to have proper teachers manning them and also proper administrative staffs. There is also provision in the act for 50 per cent participation in the cost of training of administrative staffs.

The provinces have undertaken a program which will accommodate up to 850 teachers per year. Broken down, the figures are British Columbia 50, Alberta 50, Manitoba 50, Ontario 400, Quebec 100 and New Brunswick 200.

**Mr. Winch:** Are they teachers of a vocational and technical nature?

**Mr. Starr:** I want to give further information which I think will answer that question.

The University of Alberta has established a division of vocational teacher training in its faculty of education and New Brunswick, Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia have all greatly expanded their facilities to meet the anticipated needs for teachers.

Technical and vocational teachers in Ontario are required to be (a) qualified journeymen in whatever trade may be necessary, (b) qualified technicians, and (c) graduate engineers. Each must have completed high school matriculation and each must have five years' experience in industry or occupational life, and must have professional training. In Ontario, in particular, there is a requirement of one year of such training.

These are the criteria that have been established, adopted and undertaken by the provincial governments to bring about the proper qualifications, and teacher quotas have been set based on the number of teachers needed. The provinces are pressing on with the training of these teachers. In Ontario 300 are presently undergoing such training and another 300 will start training as soon as the first group have finished their course.

Several questions have been asked and certain criticism has been directed at this program. For instance, it has been said that the training classes now being carried on would not meet the training needs of the day by virtue of the fact that training was being given in obsolete trades. Perhaps the committee is not aware of the fact that there are trade advisory committees for almost every school in the country and every program, and in addition there is an advisory committee in each province, each committee having representatives from both labour and management. There are also provincial selection committees who are responsible for making recommendations with regard to the training needs of the provinces in relation to the unemployed and disabled and the apprenticeship trades. There is representation on these committees from the national employment service acting in an advisory capacity, as well as from employer and labour organizations in most cases.

It has been stated that there was no consultation with labour and industry with regard to this training program. However, I would like to emphasize that this consultation is constantly maintained by virtue of the fact that there is representation not only at the local level but also at the provincial and national levels. During the past year the Department of Labour has also retained the services of a consultant from industry to assure that our approach to industrial training is in line with the needs of industry in Canada. The department has also worked very closely