

*Manpower and Immigration Council*

efficient manpower centres to give the service for which employers and employees are waiting.

With regard to expenses there is an amount in my estimates of \$120,000 for the council and the advisory boards. This is the limit. We cannot spend more money than that. If we want more we must come back to the house and explain why. So there is no limitless provision in the bill which would authorize the minister or anybody else to spend any amount of money.

We have indicated in the bill that we want authority to set up special boards. Let us look at it this way. Suppose we have problems with the mobility grants program; you and I may agree that we should have a special board to deal with them within the limits which are indicated in the estimates. I do not see why, because there are certain provisions giving certain powers, it should be said that the government has a blank cheque. That is not so. We are limited and if I want to set up new boards I must take into account the amount of money that is left in the authorization given by the house. There is no such danger as the hon. member sees. Everything is under control. The Auditor General has the authority to supervise and look into these expenses as well as other expenses.

**Mr. Nielsen:** After the money is spent.

**Mr. Marchand:** It is the usual procedure. If the hon. member wants to change the whole structure of government I have no objection. Perhaps we shall be in agreement.

**Mr. Nielsen:** The minister will be welcome.

**Mr. Marchand:** In any event, I do not think there is any specific danger concerning finance.

Someone else spoke about regional problems. There are regional problems; that is why we divided Canada into five regions. Each region has the maximum autonomy. We have taken into account the specific problems of each region of Canada.

[*Translation*]

I thank the hon. member for Trois-Rivières (Mr. Mongrain) for what he said about the bill and the department. Old people, at least those we call old people, are a problem and I think that within the framework set up by this bill it is possible to study and give special consideration to that problem as well as to that of young people, and to all the special

[**Mr. Marchand.**]

problems which arise in the field of manpower.

Now, about training, I must say that most of the difficulties—I fail to recall the case he mentioned—stem from the fact that training comes under provincial jurisdiction as well as all the professional associations and associations, and it happens that immigrants have difficulties not because of us but because of the regulations concerning training or membership in professional associations.

Now, with regard to the member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier) who fears political appointments, Mr. Speaker, I feel that those who know the bill and all those who have held the post I am now filling know full well that it is impossible to pull political strings. A while ago, it was pointed out to me that it was a good place for friends. Indeed, it is a very poor one, in fact the worst one of all. If the C.L.C. is to be represented, it will not accept that we appoint its representative; the congress will do so themselves. The same applies to the Confederation of National Trade Unions, as well as to the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. It is really not the place for patronage. If there is any place where it is impossible to have patronage this is it, this is the type of representative council; free organizations in our land will not allow the government to appoint their representatives. This is not true under this government any more than it was under the former government.

However, I think the hon. member for Roberval, who is not here, unfortunately, is mistaken. Those who believe that the growing number of councils will give the government more opportunities for patronage, do not understand the workings of such bodies, and I think that if they consulted with the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Starr), they would not doubt the veracity of my statement.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, we are faced, I think, with a bill that may not be altogether perfect but that provides the utmost guarantee under the circumstances and improves on what was previously available. In my estimation, the house should approve it, and after a while, we could see if it fulfils our hopes.

[*English*]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Tardif):** Is the house ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.