

*Manpower and Immigration Council*

will have to be amendments made from time to time as experience is gained, I would ask the minister to report to the house fairly regularly on the operations of this legislation in the various regions of Canada in order that members can perform their functions equally as well as the council and the board or committee.

**Mr. Marchand:** If I am still here when the estimates of my department come before the house, I will be pleased to make a full report each year of the activities of these boards when we are considering the expenditures in relation to the advisory boards.

[Translation]

**Mr. Valade:** Mr. Chairman, I was under the impression that we had adopted section 22. If such is the case, I should like to ask the minister to enlighten us on that part where the minister is authorized to provide technical assistance from outside the public service. The minister might tell us what he intends to do in this regard. Is he making reservations which would come under the minister himself in regard, for instance, to the hiring of casual employees to help the civil servants?

**Mr. Marchand:** May I ask, Mr. Chairman, what is the clause referred to by the hon. member?

**Mr. Valade:** Mr. Chairman, it is clause 22, because I thought that we had not passed clause 22, page 7, where it is said:

The minister may provide the Council, or any board established under this act, or any regional or local manpower committee, with such professional, technical, secretarial and other assistance as they may require, but the provision of such assistance otherwise than from the public service of Canada is subject to approval by the Treasury Board.

Well then, what has the minister in mind by this rather different procedure?

**Mr. Marchand:** This, Mr. Chairman, is what we have in mind. If at a given time, the council, one of the committees or one of the boards experience special problems which require some research, or let us suppose that at a given time, there is a problem involving older or disabled workers about which the department has no information and which requires special research, then, we may make available to the council the person it wants to hire, but only with the approval of the treasury board. This is therefore to provide assistance when our departmental staff is unable to do so.

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**Mr. Valade:** Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to press the minister on this point, but I want especially to call his attention to the term secretariat. The secretariat is certainly not a technical, professional or informative assistance about certain criteria, certain qualifications of the case to be settled. The secretariat involves a staff able to assist the minister in the performance of duties for which civil servants are responsible, under the bill itself.

There seems to be a conflict of authority or jurisdiction here.

**Mr. Marchand:** Mr. Chairman, I do not believe there is any conflict. Here is a board, or several boards that will be operating throughout the year, including the main board of which the chairman will not necessarily be employed full time but who may have to come to Ottawa quite often. We may have to hire a part-time secretary, because we may not be prepared to let one of our own go and he might not be willing to wait for a secretary to be free and so a board or a committee might at a given moment sit outside Ottawa, in accordance with the powers provided; it might be more useful to hire a secretary in Quebec, for instance, if the board is sitting in Quebec. This is to give us sufficient power to do this kind of thing.

• (8:50 p.m.)

**Mr. Asselin (Charlevoix):** I should like to know from the minister whether, after the establishment of these advisory boards, rules will be adopted by the cabinet to allot responsibilities to these advisory boards. What rules are to be adopted by the cabinet in regard to these various committees?

**Mr. Marchand:** I may say that when the committees are set up, they will receive terms of reference according to the act and, obviously, the department will have the responsibility of submitting such terms of reference.

**Mr. Asselin (Charlevoix):** Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask another question. Will these advisory committees have to travel across the province in order to obtain information and report to the minister, or will we have a permanent office here in Ottawa?

**Mr. Marchand:** As the hon. member for Charlevoix knows, the act provides for the creation of several committees. There is a grand council which will have its office in Ottawa. There are specialized boards which will also have their offices in Ottawa, and then there are all the regional offices, the regional and local committees which, of course, will not be located in Ottawa. Their