

Health Resources Fund

health in Ottawa early this year, and the unanimous recommendation of the conference was that the advisory committee be confined to representatives of both the provincial and federal governments. The ministers were fully aware of the representations made on this point, but that was their unanimous conclusion.

In the operation of the health resources advisory committee we propose to rely fully upon the advice that will be forthcoming from the professional associations, which will be available to that committee through a system of subcommittees.

Mr. Rynard: Can the minister say what the personnel of these subcommittees will be?

Mr. MacEachen: As my hon. friend is aware there are a number of professional associations interested in the question of health education, and the ad hoc committee that produced the report which was the basis of action by the conference of ministers included, in addition to the provincial representatives, representatives from the Medical Research Council, the Association of Canadian Medical Colleges, the Canadian Dental Association, the Canadian Hospital Association, the Canadian Nurses Association and the Canadian Medical Association. It would be from this group of professional associations that membership of the subcommittees would be drawn, with possibly additional representation from other professional groups in the broad field of health.

Mr. Rynard: Then, in effect, all these professional bodies would be covered, including university heads, the heads of medical faculties, and people from the nurses association?

Mr. MacEachen: I think I can assure my hon. friend that that will be the objective and that it will be carried out.

Mr. Brand: In view of what the minister has said and his assurance that the groups I have mentioned, in addition to others, will have representation on the subcommittees, I shall not propose an amendment as I had intended to do.

Mr. Douglas: I agree with the minister that the health resources advisory committee should be small, and that there must be technical advisory committees composed of persons with special knowledge and special training, representing the various health

[Mr. MacEachen.]

professions and health activities, but may I ask him whether there is any authority in this bill for the payment of the expenses of these committees?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Chairman, I believe that we have authority in the bill to set up subcommittees. The report of the ad hoc technical committee recommended that expert subcommittees be appointed as deemed advisable by the advisory committee, to provide that committee with qualified technical advice. If I am not mistaken clause 10 gives the advisory committee general powers to make rules for the conduct of its activities, and this would be broad enough to empower it to establish subcommittees to assist it in its work.

Mr. Douglas: And adequate authority to pay them?

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 9 to 13 inclusive agreed to.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When shall the said bill be read a third time? By leave now?

Some hon. Members: By leave now.

Mr. MacEachen moved the third reading of the bill.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

• (9:20 p.m.)

CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN**ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM TO ASSIST PERSONS IN NEED**

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare) moved the second reading of Bill No. C-207, to authorize the making of contributions by Canada toward the cost of programs for the provision of assistance and welfare services to and in respect of persons in need.

He said: Mr. Speaker, in moving the second reading of this particular bill I am going to begin by saying that if this legislation is adopted by parliament I am confident it will provide a sound basis for the development by the provinces of comprehensive assistance measures supported by preventive and rehabilitative welfare services.