

Supply—Industry

necessary equipment in a manner which will give some continuity of support and permit investigators to continue to work in the field.

In saying this the report gives credit to the work that has been done by the Medical Research Council, which I think has done a magnificent job in the circumstances. The key phrase in the passage I have read refers to continuity of support to permit investigators to continue to work in this field. Many of our grants are for one year, and by the time a researcher starts up and trains an assistant the grant has expired and is not continued. Something must be done to change this pattern so that investigators and researchers can obtain a bulk grant with which they can plan their projects for a two or three-year period and thereby avoid the hiring and training of new assistants all the time. The report says further:

Deficiencies exist, however, at all levels and in all categories of support and it is apparent that these deficiencies stem more from a shortage of funds than from lack of scientific merit in the applications.

I trust that the minister will take this passage to heart and will do everything in his power, as I am sure he will, to provide more funds for this most vital of all things in this country, namely, the work of the Medical Research Council and education and training in our medical schools.

Mr. Cowan: Mr. Chairman, I welcome the opportunity this evening to speak on the subject of Medical Research Council scholarships and grants in aid of medical research. The estimate in this respect is \$12,350,000. Inasmuch as this is Thursday, November 17, four days before Monday, November 21, when the government of which I am happy to be a member will be making the largest single contribution toward medical research that the Dominion of Canada has ever known, I am glad of this opportunity to take part in the debate. On Monday afternoon the federal government, through the Minister of Veterans Affairs, will be turning over Sunnybrook hospital, with its surrounding acres and acres of grounds to the University of Toronto.

I do not know what estimate one would place on the value of that magnificent hospital and its parkland setting. No doubt the Minister of Industry could tell us how many tens of millions of dollars it is worth. However, Mr. Chairman, this hospital is being turned over to the University of Toronto for the training of doctor and for medical research. It seems rather odd that on this Thursday afternoon and evening we have had three members

[Mr. Brand.]

of the official opposition standing up and demanding more co-operation from the federal government in the matter of medical research and student training when the education of doctors is primarily a provincial matter. I sincerely hope that the governments of Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan will learn of the well-delivered remarks of representatives of those three provinces in this house today, because their remarks could better be addressed to the provincial legislatures rather than the dominion house.

We are told that the federal government are increasing the grants in aid and scholarships in medical research from \$9,250,000 last year to \$12,350,000 this year. This is a fine increase, the opposition say, "but". There is always the "but" when the opposition are commenting on something that the government is doing for the good of the country. One of the speakers in this debate told us we are only stoking up the fire and are not really throwing fuel into the furnace. I would point out that in the four paragraphs of the estimates for the National Research Council, including the Medical Research Council, we have an increase of only 20 per cent in all four votes, but in the field of the Medical Research Council the increase is 33½ per cent. In the four votes in these estimates the greatest increase percentage-wise is in respect of the Medical Research Council, amounting to \$3,100,000.

The continual demand on the federal government to enter the field of education becomes a little wearisome when you realize that several provinces are everlastingly raising their guard against the federal government intruding into the field of education. This is certainly an area in which we must make progress slowly because of the opposition from the individual provinces.

The criticisms made this afternoon by the opposition regarding the fine action that has been taken by the Pearson administration fall harshly on my ears in view of the fact that I know on Monday we are making this contribution which runs into tens of millions of dollars to the University of Toronto.

However, Mr. Chairman, what are the first words in Toronto that greet me, a member from Toronto, about Sunnybrook hospital? The first thing I hear is: Oh, it will take the doctors four years to work Sunnybrook hospital up to the requirements they set for a hospital in which they are going to teach students and in which research will be carried out. It strikes me, as a layman, as mighty funny that these people in Toronto are willing