

Supply—Secretary of State

tion to present its first annual review, which will appear in December of this year and will contain a forecast and an outline of economic problems for the period between 1965 and 1970. That is more or less the gist of what I said at that time, although I also went on to explain the activities of the council and also to point out the number of meetings, etc.

I do not think I have anything to add at this moment in regard to the economic council itself. The hon. member may know that at this stage I am not seeking to have the estimates of all the other agencies passed. As soon as we can deal with the economic council I intend to make a rather elaborate statement on the so-called cultural agencies of the federal government, including the C.B.C.

Mr. Lambert: There was one point on which I thought the minister might be able to help us some more. I have had an opportunity to read the remarks he made the other day and I think he hinted at this, or touched on it briefly. It seems to me that the national development council had moved to a considerable extent in getting joint studies and shall we say a spirit of co-operation between management, labour and government, which area was most promising. The minister did give a few hints in this regard and I was wondering whether he could elaborate now. Unless he feels that this matter should be held until next month when the report will be coming forward, how far has the economic council gone in furtherance of this particular work? Because we have not heard a thing from the economic council since its foundation.

Mr. Lamontagne: You have not read the papers.

Mr. Lambert: Well, surely the minister is not suggesting that because these reports are contained in newspaper summaries the members of this house must rely on the newspapers for reports from government agencies. I do not think the minister is trying to give that impression.

Mr. Lamontagne: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to tell the hon. member that last Monday and Tuesday there was held in Ottawa an important seminar on management-labour relations. This seminar was held under the auspices of the economic council, and the event was widely publicized in the papers. It was preceded by four major studies in this field, which were considered, analysed and discussed during these two days. There were

[Mr. Lamontagne.]

at least 150 leaders from all sectors of the economy attending. This shows that the work which was started by the national productivity council is being continued and activated by the economic council.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Chairman, in relation to the last remarks of the minister I would say that I had an opportunity of talking to one of the people at the conference, one of the labour representatives, who informed me that the session had been rather illuminating and rather interesting. However, the particular point I want to make to the minister has to do with his remarks the other evening in which he said the highest priority in the program of the economic council is being given to the first of the annual reviews on Canada's medium and long term prospects, and he made reference to the fact that its report will be published in December.

The question I would ask the minister is whether or not it is the intention of the government, once this report has been received from the economic council, to revive its action on the proposal for a Canada development corporation, which can perhaps activate some of the studies reproduced in this report on the long range prospects of Canada issued by the economic council.

Mr. Lamontagne: Well, Mr. Chairman, as the hon. member knows, this Canada development corporation is part of the program of the present government and its establishment will be announced as soon as possible. It has nothing to do directly with the economic council.

Mr. Barnett: The minister says that it is part of the program of the present government. My observation is that we certainly have not seen much indication of that recently. Some of us are beginning to wonder whether it really is part of the program of the present government. I think the minister will also realize that in posing this question I am implying that any useful outcome of the activities of the economic council is, it seems to me, inevitably related to some form of action along the lines suggested by the Canada development corporation.

Mr. Lamontagne: The hon. member might reserve his question for the Minister of Finance when the estimates of the Department of Finance are before the committee.

Mr. Barnett: The minister is not going to pass the buck to his colleague, I hope.

Mr. Lamontagne: But that is not my responsibility.