

## Dominion-Provincial Relations

First of all, the amendment offers a very great advantage in that unlike the new bill, the new arrangement, the new alternative suggested by the government, it does not raise any objection of constitutional nature.

As a matter of fact, with that formula, the federal government would in no way interfere in relations between the provincial government and the universities. In other words, the provincial government would remain completely free, as it should be, to deal as it chooses with the universities of its own province, something which it would not be able to do under the circumstances, particularly under clause 2 of this bill.

Moreover, if the formula we are suggesting were accepted, the federal government would not have to claim part of the provincial tax raised for provincial purposes.

And what is more important—and I wish to emphasize this particularly—if the amendment I am about to introduce were accepted, the federal government would no longer have to define the words against which so many objections were raised by Conservative members from Quebec, i.e.: “university”, “university level”, “university degree” and “student”, federal definitions which our hon. friends opposite not only objected to but described as interference in the educational structure of a province.

On the other hand, Mr. Chairman, with federal grants being distributed by a provincial council, the administration of Quebec universities would be completely protected against all interference from the federal government. Indeed such a formula would have the advantage of guaranteeing greater independence to the universities of the province of Quebec, and diversifying their sources of revenue.

In short, the amendment I am about to introduce would do away with paragraph (b) of section 1 and with section 3, which would be replaced by the solution I have just outlined, that is, the payment of federal grants to a provincial council of universities.

The amendment is quite simple. I believe it would have the approval of the universities, would wipe out the objection that we, on this side, have raised against the bill and, in addition, would make it more acceptable to all.

(Text):

I therefore move the following amendment to clause 2:

That all the words presently appearing in section 9A(1)(b) of clause 2 be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

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“(b) Provincial universities council means a corporate body established by act of the legislature of a province to receive and distribute the grants hereinafter referred to, and composed of representatives of the institutions of higher learning in that province.”

That all the words presently appearing in section 9A(3) be deleted and the following words substituted therefor:

“The minister, with the approval of the governor in council, may on behalf of the government of Canada, pay to a university council established in any province for any fiscal year commencing on or after the first day of April, 1960, for the purpose of making grants to institutions of higher learning in that province an amount calculated by multiplying the population of the province for the calendar year ending in that fiscal year by one dollar and fifty cents.”

**The Chairman:** Before I put the motion, are there any hon. members who wish to speak to the validity or disability of the amendment?

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Yes, Mr. Chairman. I should like to submit to you that this amendment is not in order and it is not in order for various reasons.

Having regard to what was the approved principle of the bill, I do not think this amendment is acceptable because it will introduce into the bill an entirely new principle. The house by unanimous vote on second reading approved the principle of the bill, the principle being that there should be such an amendment of the Federal-Provincial Tax-Sharing Arrangements Act as would provide by way of tax abatement to federal taxpayers in a prescribed province an additional abatement in certain cases where the province in which they reside makes certain provisions within its own constitutional authority in respect of universities in the province.

This amendment introduces an entirely new principle. This is the kind of amendment that can only be introduced by way of amendment on second reading of a bill. What should have been introduced at that time—if hon. members opposite wished to introduce an amendment that would be in order—would have been an amendment to set up a contrary principle, a well recognized procedure on motions for second reading; but they did not choose to do that. There was no amendment introduced on second reading. This would introduce an entirely new principle. The principle of this amendment, as I apprehend it, is that the Minister of Finance would be called upon to make payments to some organization in the province which has never been mentioned in this statute thus far.

That, Mr. Chairman, is an entirely new principle. It would be read as not according with the principle that the house approved on