

Parliament. Clause 6(1) of the bill reads as follows:

The Council may, after the coming into force of this Act, and without examination, select and admit as Fellows, dentists of distinction who are graduates of at least ten years' standing of a recognized university, who are domiciled in Canada and who, in the opinion of the Council, have given evidence of high ability in one of the branches of dentistry recognized as specialties by the Association. The initiative in such cases shall lie solely with the Council in co-operation with the national organizations of the recognized specialties. Applications from Candidates themselves will not be considered.

Then follow other provisions for the appointment of Fellows following examination and qualification.

In respect of this class mentioned in clause 6(1) of the bill I have in mind one very distinguished Canadian dentist who can be categorized as a Fellow, qualified as a dentist of distinction, and one who has given evidence of high ability in one of the branches of dentistry. I am referring to Dr. William W. Woodbury of Halifax.

Dr. Woodbury was one of the pioneers in this country in the development of the specialty of orthodontia. During his active years in the profession, which cover a long period of service, he established for himself an international reputation in this field. He was for a long time professor of orthodontia and Dean of the Faculty at Dalhousie University, until his retirement a few years ago. During his many years at Dalhousie—and I am sure Senator Phillips will agree with me in this—he gained the respect, admiration and indeed the affection of all with whom he came in contact. He was a great exponent of the value of a well-rounded and full education. This gentle and kind man made a significant contribution. I am sure that I will be joined by many who would be very happy to see the honour of being one of the first appointments under this clause of the bill to go to such a man.

I make this suggestion in this public fashion in order to save embarrassment, perhaps, to the one whose name I have mentioned, because his modesty would urge him to ask the member of the council from the Atlantic provinces not to bring up his name. The name of the member of the proposed council to represent the Atlantic provinces is Dr. Christie from Halifax, who during Dr. Woodbury's days of active practice was his protégé. From my knowledge of his movements he has occupied the same office that Dr. Woodbury occupied for many years. It

might be said that Dr. Christie's judgment in this matter would be swayed by the great modesty of Dr. Woodbury, and by mentioning Dr. Woodbury's name in this chamber I am sure it will come to the attention of the proposed council and will be very carefully considered.

Honourable senators, I do not think I need go into the details of the bill. As I have said, it is not an exact copy of the bill which some years ago incorporated the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada but it is very similar to it.

I should like to say as a postscript that the dental profession is the only one that to my knowledge has had the opportunity to support a program which could, if it receives public acceptance, reduce the need for its services by about 60 per cent. For some years every local dental society, every provincial association of dentists, and the Canadian Dental Association have been urging the adoption of fluoridation of community water supplies as the only presently known means of reducing dental decay and its consequent effects upon general health.

Despite this informed opinion, however, which is based upon careful observations in Canada over many years on the effects of fluoridation, relatively slow progress has been made. The extent to which public opinion has been swayed by ill-informed and prejudiced opponents of fluoridation, whose chief weapon has been their skill in the creation of false fear in the public mind, has been puzzling the members of the dental profession. I am happy to have this opportunity, honourable senators, of expressing the hope that fluoridation will be accepted by the public at a faster rate than it has heretofore, because I firmly believe that in its public acceptance lies the only apparent hope for improved dental health in future generations of Canadians.

Before I resume my seat I should like to advise honourable senators that if this bill receives second reading it is my intention to refer it to the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, before which some of the sponsors of the bill will appear and be very glad to enlarge on any feature that I have failed to cover this evening.

Hon. Mr. Pouliot: May I ask the honourable senator if the purpose of the bill is to permit the Fellows to practise as dentists in any province of Canada?

Hon. Mr. Smith (Queens-Shelburne): Honourable senators, as I said in my opening statement, I have been advised that the proposed incorporation of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada will not interfere in any way with the powers of any provincial dental