

Western Canada Veterinary College

who graduate from the college, it should be prepared to pay an operating account at least 25 per cent of that account. But this is only the first year; it gets worse. From the second to the fifth year, for an over-all student body of 140, which number would be required to turn out 30 students a year, something like \$370,000 is involved. So that the cost goes up. Along with that it is estimated that the research costs during the first five years will be something like \$200,000, giving a total operating cost for the first five years of \$609,880. I believe the federal government has not met its responsibility by offering \$625,000 for capital cost and nothing for operating cost.

However, the province of Alberta is keenly interested in the health of animals and the well being of the livestock industry generally. In spite of this very heavy burden which the federal government is going to place upon them they are still willing to go ahead and build this institution so that the health of animals will not be in jeopardy in the future.

There is one other point in the bill which is rather interesting. It says that the site of the college shall be in Saskatoon. I suggest that Saskatoon is not the only site. In fact, I think I could prove that it is not even the most desirable site. I think Alberta has many attributes which will commend themselves as the site of the college, whether it were built by the federal government or by the federal government in co-operation with the four western provinces. First of all, Alberta is the chief livestock producer in western Canada, with an income from livestock equivalent to 78 per cent of the incomes of the other three western provinces combined. Second—and this has been referred to a number of times during the session—the Gordon commission report on Canada's economic prospects predicts the greatest livestock expansion in Canada will occur in Alberta. Third, the Edmonton campus of the University of Alberta—

Mr. McIntosh: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the hon. member from which article he is quoting?

Mr. Olson: I am quoting from a publication put out by—

Mr. McIntosh: The Alberta chamber of commerce.

Mr. Olson: No—the Alberta veterinary medical association. The Edmonton campus of the University of Alberta is surrounded by a concentrated livestock industry which would provide adequate clinical material for teaching purposes. Fourth, Edmonton already has a large well-established diagnostic laboratory which could provide teaching material.

[Mr. Olson.]

Fifth, the university faculty in Edmonton has recognized the need and expressed the desire—and I should like the hon. member for Melville (Mr. Ormiston) to take note of this—for a faculty of veterinary medicine. And sixth, the Alberta livestock industry and other responsible organizations want a veterinary college in Alberta. I will not go into that, but I have a very long list with me this afternoon.

The last point, which is a very important point, Mr. Speaker, is that Alberta can least afford not to have a college. I see that it is very close to six o'clock, and I want to close by saying that I hope there will be co-operation among the four western provinces, both in providing the balance of the capital requirements to build the college, and also in operating the college after it is built. I say this because it is certainly not fair for one province to be expected to pay the costs of training the veterinarians of other provinces.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. The hour appointed for the consideration of private members' business having expired, and it being six o'clock, I do now leave the chair.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

**ATLANTIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD ACT
AMENDMENTS RESPECTING MEMBERSHIP, FUNDS,
ADMINISTRATION, ETC.**

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Pickersgill for the second reading of Bill No. C-80, to amend the Atlantic Development Board Act.

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, it may seem somewhat strange that I as a member from the extreme western part of this nation should rise to speak on a measure that has to do particularly with the maritime region.

Mr. Pigeon: We are surprised.

Mr. Patterson: But I should like to assure hon. members that we from the west coast are vitally interested in the problems of our fellow Canadians no matter where they may reside. I intend to be very brief in my intervention because—

Mr. Pigeon: Hear, hear.

Mr. Patterson: The hon. member is applauding but if I took as much time as he does in the house I would acknowledge the rebuke.