

*Private Bills***PRIVATE BILLS****ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES OF CANADA**

Miss Pauline Jewett (Northumberland) moved the second reading of Bill No. S-36, to incorporate association of universities and colleges of Canada.

She said: I am honoured to have been asked to introduce this bill in this chamber. The purpose of it is to incorporate a new nation-wide, bilingual body to replace two existing organizations. The new body is to be known as the association of universities and colleges of Canada—l'association des universités et collèges du Canada. This will replace two existing organizations, the national conference of Canadian universities and colleges, commonly known as the N.C.C.U.C., which is a non-incorporated body, a voluntary association of universities and colleges, and the Canadian universities foundation, commonly known as the C.U.F. which is an incorporated body.

The purpose of combining these two existing organizations into a single new organization is primarily to facilitate the work of the universities and colleges of Canada in their task of promoting higher education in this country. No new tasks are being given to the association of universities and colleges in this field. It was necessary, however, that the new body be incorporated because it will be taking over the functions of one of the previous bodies, the Canadian universities foundation, and one of these functions was the distribution of federal grants to the various universities; and it is of course necessary to be an incorporated body before this can be done.

There will be ample opportunity to discuss the bill in detail when it goes to committee should any hon. members wish to have fuller information. I might, however, draw on the evidence which was given by the president of the new association, Principal J. A. Corry, of Queen's University. In the course of the evidence given before the committee on banking and commerce in the other place on Wednesday, November 4, 1964, Dr. Corry stated:

We are not interested in any new departures, but only to develop further the kind of things we have been doing and to do them more efficiently. We discovered in the last few years that the secretariat, which tries to serve both the voluntary association and this corporation—

He is referring to the secretariat of the Canadian universities foundation and the N.C.C.U.C.

—gets involved in a great deal of duplication in bringing the same material before both bodies.

[Mr. Speaker.]

That occurs at a time when the universities are under such heavy demands and when we do not want to be engaged in any kind of wasteful effort that we can possibly avoid.

Then he goes on to say:

There is one other reason I wish to mention. The Canadian universities foundation as presently organized is such that, as we have discovered, there is no satisfactory way of ensuring that we get on to the present corporation a fair representation of the universities of the different regions and, of course, of the universities of the two official languages. The new proposal is a way of trying to meet that serious objection through the present form.

Dr. Corry goes on to give other reasons for the establishment of the single, new, nation-wide bilingual organization. It is important for us to bear in mind that this request comes from all the universities and colleges of Canada that are now members or are eligible for membership; they number 46, I believe. These are both English and French speaking institutions, and are to be found in the schedule to Bill No. S-36. It was at their request that this bill was brought forward in the other place, where it has been passed, and it is now being brought forward here. I trust that all hon. members will want to do whatever we can to assist the universities of this country to do their job as well as they can. If they all feel, as I do, that one of the best ways for them to do their own job most effectively and most efficiently is through a single organization combining the two existing organizations, then I hope we will do all we can to facilitate this request.

I understand there is a possibility that some members of this chamber intend to filibuster this bill today; indeed the hon. member for Lapointe (Mr. Grégoire) was kind enough to tell me that they did not intend to let it pass, the reason being, I understand, that they are not prepared to let any measures pass that come to us from the other place. I find this very disturbing because the association of universities and colleges—which as I say, represents all institutions at this level of learning in Canada—is very anxious to get its new form and get down to business under its new organization.

As I have already indicated, it is a bilingual organization. It is one of the organizations which we, surely, in this country want to do all we can to help develop, since as we all know there is a tendency nowadays for many professional and other organizations to split off into their English and French sections and become two separate groups. This association of universities and colleges is not doing that, and therefore it seems to me