

Standards Council of Canada

the minister? I already know the answer to that one. In any event, it reads:

Each of the other members of the Council shall be appointed to hold office during pleasure for such term, not exceeding three years, as will ensure—

It goes on in this vein. I can see a lot of my friends who perhaps got badly hurt during the last federal election finding their way into the standards council of Canada.

I want to raise one other question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Perrault: Tell them to make application.

Mr. Lundrigan: "Tell them to make application", the hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour (Mr. Perrault) says. I have some friends. The former member for Bonavista-Trinity-Conception has been looking for years for a position. If you want, I will now make formal application on his behalf right now. Nevertheless, I will get along to another point.

An hon. Member: What is his name?

Mr. Lundrigan: I forget his name; Tucker or something. In any event, getting down to Clause 14 of the bill, there is an indication that the people who will be employed by the SCC, or the standards council of Canada will be—I can read it.

The council may
(a) appoint such other officers and employees as are necessary for the proper conduct of the work of the Council—

What kind of people are to be employed? The minister never reflected on this at all. What kind of people are going to be employed by the standards council of Canada. Is it going to employ technical people? I have had people indicate to me the government has already put out feelers to some of these people who are working in various capacities with other agencies and organizations.

The government has been putting out feelers saying: We are going to have openings, you know, so keep your options open. I ask the minister, is the government going to employ people who are now in the technical end of standards-writing for the Canadian nation?

Mr. Pepin: I have said four times that the council was not going to be writing standards.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, the minister is indicating that the council is not going to be writing standards. What kind of people are

going to be employed? I see no definition. I would like the minister to prepare some kind of brief for the consideration of the House. This bill will be before the committee before too long, we hope. Actually we do not hope that, we hope this bill will get before the committee some time in the distant future. Why does the minister not give us information in respect of two or three things? Let him give us information, first of all, on what kind of people he is going to employ. How many people is the council going to employ? What is going to be the cost to the Canadian taxpayer of this new found employment? Perhaps I should not be too critical. This is the best hope for employment I have seen for a long, long while.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order, please. The hon. member for Waterloo wants to ask a question.

Mr. Saltzman: Would the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Lundrigan: Yes, certainly.

Mr. Saltzman: This question of cost is of concern to all of us. I should like to ask the hon. member whether it is not a cost to the public if industry employs the present members of the council? After all, that cost is deductible for tax purposes. If it is deductible for tax purposes it is reflected in a cost to the taxpayers, surely.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, the other day the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce referred to the schizophrenic, socialistic tendencies of hon. members to my left. After that question, I am beginning to realize that there is something to that observation.

Mr. Saltzman: I rise on a point of order. I am always interested in the remarks made by the hon. gentleman—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order. I do not think the hon. gentleman is in his seat.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Lundrigan: That is an indication of the confusion that exists in the mind of the hon. member. I was asking the minister, before I was interrupted by the hon. member who will undoubtedly want to rise in his place and make some observations later, to indicate the nature and kind of people who will be employed by the council. There is no indication here as to how much money this is going to cost the Canadian taxpayers over a period