

*Dominion-Provincial Relations*

**Mr. Asselin:** On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The member for Bonavista-Twillingate (Mr. Pickersgill) was entirely out of order a moment ago, and he was allowed to continue and even conclude his speech. The member for Bellechasse should be treated the same way.

**Mr. Rouleau:** If the member for Bonavista-Twillingate was out of order as the member for Charlevoix (Mr. Asselin) is saying, it has nothing to do with the fact that the member for Bellechasse is out of order now. If the member for Bonavista-Twillingate was out of order, someone should have called the chairman's attention to that fact.

**The Chairman:** Once more I ask the hon. members to calm down and to be a little more pertinent in their remarks.

(Text):

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Chairman, I have in my hand the order in council in question, and point 3 of this order reads as follows:

Subject to these regulations, the minister may, on application by a university in a form prescribed by the minister and received by the minister or—

I draw the hon. members' attention to these words:

—in a province in which a joint commission has been set up as above mentioned—

The joint commission was mentioned previously; I continue:

—received by such joint commission, on or before the fifteenth day of February, 1952, or, in the special circumstances of any application, on or before such later date as may be fixed by the minister or the joint commission, make a grant to the university out of moneys provided by parliament.

This completely demolishes the argument of the hon. member for Bellechasse.

**Mr. Chevrier:** Before you put the clause, Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Minister of Finance a question or two? They have to do with the interpretation of this clause. Is it not a fact that the provincial government will not be a party to the agreement between the minister and the Canadian foundation?

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** That is quite correct, Mr. Chairman. The provinces have not been parties to this agreement.

**Mr. Chevrier:** Is it not also a fact that the terms of the agreement can be changed without the approval of and without consultation with the provinces?

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Well, of course, without the consultation of the provinces as they were not parties to it. You realize, Mr. Chairman, that any change in the agreement must conform with the provision made by parliament. This authorization has existed

[Mr. Rouleau.]

up to the present time in all cases in an item in the estimates which appears in due course in the Appropriation Act.

**Mr. Chevrier:** May I also put this question to the minister? Is it not also a fact that under clause 2, which is under discussion, a provincial government when making an arrangement to provide for annual grants to universities in the province will have to accept the definitions contained in any agreement made by the minister with the Canadian universities foundation?

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Mr. Chairman, in various speeches on this subject the hon. member has slurred over some words in this clause which have real meaning. He is in effect seeking to interpret this clause as though the agreement between the minister and the Canadian universities foundation applies to all provinces.

The point here is established beyond all question. Under subclause (b) (ii) of section 2 of the bill the agreement between the minister and the Canadian universities foundation applies to the non-prescribed provinces. With respect to the prescribed provinces, you turn to subclause (1) (b)(ii). There in the terms defining prescribed province you find words reading as follows:

—in accordance with and subject to terms and conditions not inconsistent with those contained in any agreement entered into under subsection (2).

There is a very great difference between saying that the terms and conditions must be the same and saying that they must not be inconsistent with those contained in the agreement. As I have pointed out, this is the necessary means to assure equality of treatment in all parts of Canada. Without some provision of this kind in the definition of a prescribed province there would be no way of preserving that equality. I think this is the kind of condition that will commend itself to Canadians in every part of Canada. The condition is not one that is imposed on the province in the sense of the provincial government or provincial legislature; it is one imposed by the federal authority in the sense that if this condition is not conformed with then the federal tax upon federal taxpayers in the particular province follows a different course accordingly. This brings us back to the point that has been discussed again and again, Mr. Chairman. This is federal legislation concerning federal abatement of a federal tax imposed upon federal taxpayers.

**Mr. Chevrier:** Mr. Chairman, I realize that the answer the minister has given is the same as that which was given heretofore in answer to statements I have made but I submit to him that it is not an answer to the question. I should like to know whether the answer is