

• (9:20 p.m.)

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Kootenay West.

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief, but I cannot resist rising to say I think all members of this house support the principle and the purpose of this bill. I wish to congratulate the honourable and gallant gentleman for accepting the C.C.F. policy 30 years late. This was the policy of the C.C.F. as enunciated by the league for social reconstruction which was more or less the Fabian society of the C.C.F. in 1935. But better late than never. We are very pleased to see that the minister in introducing this bill has accepted another of the C.C.F. or New Democratic Party, policies. If they keep going at this rate, we shall have to work on some more policies for the years ahead.

In any event I was very interested in the statement made by the minister, which I thought was quite a clear cut exposition of the principle and purpose of this bill. I am not one of those who is pessimistic. I know the minister's war record; he was a good administrator and I expect him to put the same effort into the administration of things concerning the Canadian people during a time of peace.

Someone around here said something about soft soap. I do not know whether or not that was my friend in the Social Credit party. Speaking seriously, Mr. Speaker, I am quite optimistic about this bill if the government proceeds with it according to the exposition by the minister this evening, and I am sure we will see some good results from it. As I see it, the concern simply will be—and this is my recommendation to the government—that parliament will approve these recommendations, if they agree with them, and provide the funds.

At this point I should like to mention the fact that my hon. friend from Fraser Valley (Mr. Patterson) was quite in order when he suggested that with this Science Council they also would be quite justified in investigating the science of money, because this was done by Mr. Keynes' science council for the examination of finance, which reported to some organization in the United Kingdom. I am not saying I can accept all the ideas of the member of the Social Credit party, but I think it would be well to have some persons

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approach objectively the question of providing funds for programs designed by the parliament of Canada. I hope I have put myself in good order there.

Without a doubt research is the greatest need. That was brought to my attention very recently when I paid a visit to the University of Michigan when I was at Ann Arbor. At that time I had been invited by some of the faculty there, and had an opportunity to meet some of those persons interested particularly in the problem of the conservation of national resources, such persons as Dr. Leonard, and others like him, who were most interesting persons to speak to. During the time I spent with them I learned a great deal. Last year that university had \$40 million for research. I understand they do a good deal of space research and other research for the government of the United States. Just compare that; one university in the United States last year spent something over \$40 million for research. We have a long way to go in this country. As I said before, they do a good deal of research which is carried out in respect of programs designed by the United States government.

For some 20 years I have preached on this subject. I am going to put this resolution on the record before concluding, so that the Science Council will have something to get on with in the first instance:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider the advisability of the creation of a water pollution control division, composed of representatives of the ten provinces, within the framework of the proposed National Resources Council, with powers and funds required to institute research programs, collect, collate and analyse water control data, and to co-ordinate the water pollution control objectives for the provinces; in addition, to further the study of water pollution control problems of a national character.

I put that down, Mr. Speaker, to bring it particularly to the attention of the minister, as one of the first problems this Science Council has to undertake. I might say also that I was invited by the Engineering Institute of Canada to attend a seminar conducted by the Young Liberals Federation of Canada at the Chateau Laurier on water resources and water pollution, and I attended it. I have to be very careful what I say now. In fairness I wish to say that I congratulate those who organized that seminar. Nearly 400 people were in attendance. I wish to congratulate them for the progressive approach taken by the delegates there. I spent a most interesting day; as a matter of fact it was a day and a