

*Municipal Development and Loan Board*

operation of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. He says they would expect to be paid. He would hope he could do it, and make a little money, with the existing staff; but if he did not have enough people, he would have to hire more.

**Mr. Chatterton:** I have a question, Mr. Chairman. I presume this board will be reporting to the Minister of Finance; is that correct?

**Mr. Sharp:** I think this bill says the minister shall be designated by the governor in council.

**Mr. Chatterton:** That has not been decided?

**Mr. Sharp:** That has not been decided.

**Mr. Chatterton:** If the minister who is to administer this board or have jurisdiction over it is not the Minister of National Revenue, what would be the position if, for instance, the manager of the branch office of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation in Victoria, British Columbia, had to report on an application from the municipality of Saanich? Would the branch manager send that report to the Minister of National Revenue, or to the minister having jurisdiction in this regard, if they are not the same person?

**Mr. Sharp:** The application would be made to the local people who would be the employers of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation at their branch offices throughout the country, and the application would be forwarded to the board and dealt with in that way.

Clause agreed to.

On clause 7—*Function of board.*

**Mr. Smith:** I should like to say a word on clause 7. The minister said when we were discussing the last clause that he wanted the board to have some discretion. It seems to me that clause 7 is written in a very narrow way. One might even say that clause 7 (1) (a) is written rather clumsily. I should like to suggest that all the words after the word "period" in the fifth line be deleted, because they could be interpreted either as narrowing the scope of the board, which would in the end limit the employment opportunities offered under this measure, or they could be interpreted as being redundant and repetitious, which would only confuse future interpretations of the clause.

**Mr. Sharp:** Mr. Chairman, I read the clause in exactly the opposite way. I suggest that the purpose of clause 7 (1)(a), which I think is the paragraph he refers to—

**Mr. Smith:** Yes.

[Mr. Sharp.]

**Mr. Sharp:** —is to try to establish quite clearly that the projects being financed under the act result in employment over and above what would have taken place had it not been for the act.

**Mr. Chatterton:** Except there are the two "periods" in the one clause.

**Mr. Sharp:** The clause says that the board has to be satisfied—

(a) that the municipal project or part thereof would not, without such assistance, have been included among the capital works projects to be undertaken by the municipality within such period, and that its inclusion therein will not result in any other capital works project of the municipality being replaced or postponed within such period;

In other words, it is to make doubly sure that we are really getting full employment out of the funds placed at the disposal of the municipalities.

**Mr. Rock:** Mr. Chairman, in clause 7 (3) on page 5, line 26, there appear the words "capital works, as more particularly defined by the regulations". Then you have (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e), which are the type of projects. If these projects are to stimulate and promote employment, I personally feel that the scope of the board is not wide enough. Many municipalities have projects which were commenced years ago, yet they have unemployment in their areas. I feel that the scope should be wider. The last part of the sub-clause says:

—such other municipal capital works as are determined by the government of the province.

I should like to know whether this would cover projects which today are lacking in many municipalities, such as parks, beaches, marinas, swimming pools, civic centres or arenas, playgrounds—possibly libraries would be covered under public buildings—bridges, and so on. I should like the assurance that these sorts of projects will be covered under the last part of the clause.

**Mr. Sharp:** This paragraph is very broad and enables the board to commence a very wide variety of projects under the words referred to by my hon. friend—"such other municipal capital works as are determined by the government of the province". It is quite clear, and I am sure it is the intention of all hon. members, that this bill should be for the purpose of creating additional employment. While I think all hon. gentlemen would like to see more parks, beaches, and facilities of that kind, it would be more difficult for such projects to qualify because the proportion of the expenditure which would create employment would be rather small. If, of course, projects of this kind do result in a