

*Supply—Manpower and Immigration*

As the training of our staff improves, the quality of its work will be directly related to the amount of information available with regard to the labour market. On the one hand, the workers must know the place and the nature of a planned employment. On the other hand, the employers must know where to find the labour force. Therefore, the training courses the most apt to assist the workers must be known. Also, vocational counsellors, instructors and educators must be provided with appropriate information about the labour market to advise the students on planned careers and jobs.

That is why we need a very good information service about the labour market. As was emphasized by the Economic Council, there is no such service at the present time and we shall attempt to set up one. At the present time, we are recruiting labour force analysts. They will be responsible for the collection and analysis of information on present and future employment, and they will set up the information so that it may be useful to our labour advisers and to anyone else who might need it anywhere in Canada.

The ideal solution would be to make available to the labour advisers in the Canadian manpower centres a complete index of appropriate employment everywhere in Canada, which they could look up to direct toward appropriate jobs, the people looking for a suitable position. This objective will be reached progressively. We must rely on the co-operation of employers to get the necessary information and we shall win them over only if we can prove to them the usefulness of those services. As the services we provide for workers and employers improve, an increasing number of people will take advantage of them because they fulfil their needs. This will allow us to be better informed and present a truer picture of the Canadian labour market.

● (3:20 p.m.)

However, to reach our goals we must take giant steps and we cannot wait for this gradual process in order to act. In other words, we must sometimes have recourse to other sources of information which give us an adequate idea of the trends of the labour market, even though we do not know all the particular aspects. Together with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, we have agreed to undertake in September a quarterly review of jobs available in Canada. On the basis of experiments made in that connection in 1966,

[Mr. Marchand.]

we invited the bureau to prepare and implement a detailed account of the number of jobs available by occupation, by area and by industry. These details will then be sent to the Canadian manpower centre, where manpower analysts will co-ordinate them so as to allow improvement of the service without delay.

We have two basic tools to improve employment conditions for workers: orientation and information. To these tools are added, of course, others means, the most important relating to manpower mobility and training. The new aspects of these two programs were explained to the house earlier this year, and I do not intend to give the details now. I want to say a few words about what has been done.

The increases in the training allowances which the house approved last year were very useful. A large number of unemployed underwent training last winter. During the last three months of 1966 and early in 1967 the monthly enrolment doubled compared to last year's.

But such success, impressive as it might be, is not enough. The figures alone cannot show the full scope of our new needs which, from now on, must deal with the improvement of adult training methods. To avoid spending money needlessly and disappointing the people, we must make sure that the training given to an individual is in keeping with the work he wants to do eventually.

That last consideration implies a change of attitudes and duties, both on the part of our officials, and those of the departments of education and of school boards.

The adoption of such a policy will necessarily give rise to certain tensions and difficulties. But the difficulties caused by our project have never been as great as some circles have led to believe by quoting figures for various months of the year. Anyway, the difficulties were short-lived. As soon as school starts in the fall, the number of adults taking training classes keeps on increasing. Last winter, the first year following the creation of our department, the number of students increased more than ever. The agreements entered into with the provinces, under the new program, will ensure a further increase.

This trend explains the estimates we had to prepare.

[English]

The financial provision for training operations totals \$110 million in these estimates. This in itself is a considerable increase over