

Since the liberalization of the publication policy in January, 1975, seven reports have been published. This new publication policy should meet the criticisms made to the Committee by Professors Meltz and Dupré and Dr. Dymond that publication of data on manpower programs was unduly restricted.

The committee welcomed the clarification of publication policies by Mr. Campbell. It appears to meet the requirements of those who wish to review the statistics relating to the Department's programs, to look at the basic data and confront the Department with it if they see fit to do so. At the same time the Committee was not satisfied that the recommendations and conclusions of evaluation reports could not under the present guidelines be released to the Committee. This was however related to a broader issue which is presently being given thorough consideration by the Joint Committee of the House of Commons and the Senate on Regulations and other Statutory Instruments and no recommendations were therefore formulated on this subject.

Research Projects and Consultant Studies

As a footnote to the discussion of the publication of Departmental evaluations the Committee was provided with a complete list of the research studies carried out under the auspices of the Strategic Planning Evaluation Division, many of them assigned to outside consultants. The same criteria for publication applies to these reports. The complete list to June, 1975 comprised 261 titles grouped by topics into 14 sections. The contents represent a formidable collection of expertise generated by the Department in a field of study already very deeply penetrated by other organizations publishing detailed studies in manpower economics. It is obvious that overlapping of interest is inevitable.

The Committee approves the new policy of publication of statistical data relating to departmental programs.

Evaluation of Placement—

How Permanent is a Permanent Placement?

Mr. Campbell described the range of evaluation activities carried out by the Division:

We normally devote the resources we have for evaluation to the examination of large programs in a financial sense, new programs whose impact is totally unknown and sometimes to purely experimental programs of one kind or another which the Department feels may well be the precursors of some major developments or better ways of doing things. (24:6)

The list of evaluation reports prepared since June 1973 submitted to the Committee bears this out. Ten of the fourteen listed evaluate new programs. Four related to the Training Program. While some specialized features of placement have been singled out—Outreach, Diagnostic Services, Student Manpower Services, the total placement activity has apparently never been given a complete evaluation. This is an omission by the Department which should be immediately rectified for a number of reasons. In the long-view, the