

Business of Supply

An hon. Member: What about Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands?

Mr. Thompson: We have been in all those countries as well, and if it were not for the private sector doing what it has done for those countries, they would not be there.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Thompson: Hon. members in that corner continually hold up Sweden as their example, yet 95 per cent of all industry in Sweden is in the private sector.

Mr. Broadbent: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Some hon. Members: Sit down.

Mr. Broadbent: On a question of privilege, the hon. member implied I said that private enterprise should be abolished. In fact, I was suggesting that the mixture of public and private enterprise as it exists in Sweden would be highly desirable in Canada at this point.

An hon. Member: Where is the point of order?

Another hon. Member: Where is the question of privilege?

Mr. Thompson: I do not see any question of privilege. The point I am emphasizing is that the development of Canada's human resources is the most important single factor in the economic growth of Canada.

In this connection I would refer the minister to a document with which I am sure he is familiar, the white paper on human resources produced by the Alberta government a year or so ago. This document recommends a new approach to human resource development.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but his time has expired.

Some hon. Members: Go on.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Does the house give unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Thompson: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, I have only a few remarks left to make. I simply say that the present fragmented approach being followed by the government is not good enough. There were four basic principles enunciated in this white paper and I would draw them to the minister's attention. The first is that there must be

a new priority for human resource development. Second, there must be new emphasis placed on the individual in this development—not on the public sector but on the individual so as to give him a chance to use his initiative and his ability. The third point is that there must be a broader purpose and objective in connection with physical resource development. The fourth recommendation is that there must be new emphasis on the integration and co-ordination of both the human and the physical aspects of resource development.

If this were done there would appear to be some hope of meeting the problem which faces not only our students today, whether they are looking for summer work or beginning their careers, but the entire problem of effectively using our vital human resources. This is a great challenge and it is to be regretted that the minister this afternoon failed so miserably to respond to the opportunity provided and the initiative taken by the Leader of the Opposition in enunciating some of the programs which the government should be initiating to deal with these circumstances. In the absence of better assurance from the government, the only alternative left to us is to support this motion tonight expressing lack of confidence in the administration for its failure to meet this challenge.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Gérard Loiseau (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, this afternoon, we heard opposition parties blame the government and the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. MacEachen) for not having provided students with summer jobs and not having developed manpower resources in Canada.

I can say, Mr. Speaker, that the minister knows the problems and that officials in the various Manpower Centres are more than ever aware of the work they have to do this year to find employment for the always increasing number of students. Their task is complicated by the fact that the economic situation is not improving at the same rate the number of students is increasing. The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) has put a motion of censure against the government, while the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent) has amplified it by stating that the government relies on the private and unorganized sector.