

industry and in industries which produce equipment involved in transportation such as aircraft and auto parts. Fifty-seven establishments have been affected, and 8,846 employees have been laid off. There have been complete closures. The doors have just been locked. Employees have been told, "Forget it; that's it". That has affected 569 employees. That is a very sad, sad commentary on the economy today.

I hear the hon. member for Scarborough Centre (Mr. Kelly) at it again, Mr. Speaker. How many individuals has his brother's firm laid off? The hon. member should not say "none" because I know otherwise. The hon. member sits there and thinks this is a great joke, but it is not. It is a very serious situation.

Mr. Kelly: For a person who heckles a lot, you are pretty thin skinned.

Mr. McDermid: I can hand it out, and I can take it.

Mr. Kelly: I doubt the latter part of your statement.

Mr. McDermid: There are a couple of things of great concern to me which I want to bring to the attention of the minister in the very few minutes I have left. He has talked about a new training program for the money he spends on manpower training.

An hon. Member: He is always talking.

Mr. McDermid: That is right, but I welcome this initiative because he has followed many of the recommendations in the report of the parliamentary task force on Employment Opportunities for the '80s, with one significant exception. As usual, like a banty rooster the minister stood and announced the great programs he plans to introduce and threatened the provinces, just as hon. members opposite threaten everyone else. They are always threatening the provinces with something. If the provinces do not agree with their programs, they will get them anyway, and tough luck! That is what the minister said. In chapter 12 of the report of the parliamentary task force on Employment Opportunities for the '80s entitled "Federal-provincial relations" I remind the minister that one of the most important recommendations contained in this report was that there must be better co-operation and co-ordination with provincial programs. The report said that to this end there should be a national council of employment and training ministers with a secretariat; that the national council should develop a national employment and training plan to be implemented at both the federal and provincial levels and that, where possible, the national council of ministers should work to avoid unnecessary duplication between the federal and provincial levels of jurisdiction. But what happens? The minister says, "Here it is, boys; take it. If you don't like it, tough; it is coming in anyway." That is not the Canadian way. Perhaps it is the way the minister likes to operate, but I do not think he will get anywhere with that.

Mr. Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): That is the way his leader operates.

Employment

Mr. McDermid: My colleague says that is the way his leader operates. Perhaps it is rubbing off on him a little bit. The provincial manpower ministers with whom I spoke—and I spoke with most of them—and the ministers of education with whom I spoke certainly are prepared to co-operate. They are prepared to co-operate; they are not prepared to be dictated to. This is probably one of the most important things to come down the pipe in a very long time. It can mean the future of Canada. There are over one million unemployed, people are screaming for skilled labour and the provincial ministers want that, but they want the method to be proper. They do not want to be dictated to from on high. They want a blended proposal, and I beg the minister to co-operate with the provinces. I ask him not to dictate and wield a big club.

I will close by asking the government to listen to the people who sent it here. I ask hon. members opposite to listen to what is being said. Not once today in this debate have I heard hon. members opposite talk about what they are hearing back in their constituencies. All I have heard from them is that the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen) is right, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) is right and the Minister of Employment and Immigration is right. Hon. members opposite seem to be saying, "To heck with what the people say, because they are all wrong." That will be the downfall of this government. We are prepared to form a new one right now.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Order, please. It being ten o'clock, pursuant to Standing Order 58(11) proceedings on the motion have expired.

● (2200)

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—McDOUGALL REPORT—QUERY
RESPECTING DEPARTMENTAL REORGANIZATION. (B) ROLE OF
MINISTER

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my question of February 2 to the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacGuigan), which can be found at page 14555 of *Hansard* for that date, to which I received an unsatisfactory answer about the reorganization of his department, was set against a background of a decade and more of rapid and often purposeless organizational and functional change within that department. I was thinking, for example, of the redrawing of the lines of reporting responsibility and the consequent redesignation of all positions in the Department of External Affairs to conform, presumably, with an organiza-