

that the British North America Act gave overlapping responsibility and jurisdiction for education between the federal and provincial governments. The Minister of Employment and Immigration has stated that the federal Government's traditional role of being responsible for upgrading educational skills indeed should be rethought. Too often, unfortunately, the federal Government's rethinking has evolved into federal Government dictating—dictating how and where money would be spent. That does not solve the problem but co-operation and consultation with the provinces will certainly help. A federal-provincial conference on educational funding should be called at the earliest possible moment.

● (1120)

In several parts of this country young people face a future of almost permanent unemployment. Wage subsidies and employment tax credits will be of little value in these economically depressed regions. In such regions there ought to be programs of community-based entrepreneurial development which will assist individuals and groups wishing to start new businesses to raise money, to cut through the red tape, to identify markets and to train workers.

These ten proposals, Mr. Speaker, will help to alleviate the problem of youth unemployment. Just as importantly, they will help to ensure the future skill needs of the country. These proposals would not necessarily, though I admit a couple of them would, entail the expenditure of more money. Rather they would entail a reallocation of present funds.

I recognize that my time has almost expired, but let me conclude by quoting the Hon. Member for Central Nova, the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Mulroney):

No amount of make-work projects and Government schemes—no gimmicks—can substitute for sustained economic growth based on lower interest rates, technological innovation, and increased trade. These are the means to growth. These are the means to full employment. These are the means which will assure young Canadians the opportunities they deserve.

Let me conclude by repeating one of my opening sentences: How this challenge is met will shape the character of Canadian society for decades to come.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Guilbault): At this time in our proceedings a ten-minute period is provided for questions or comments relating to the remarks of the Hon. Member for Elgin (Mr. Wise). Are there any questions?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, my question for the Member is related to the quotation of his Leader who talked about the importance of lower interest rates. It is somewhat like talking about the importance of motherhood. Is the Hon. Member for Elgin (Mr. Wise) suggesting that the Conservative Party has changed its position on interest rate policy, that the Conservative Party will put in exchange controls or some other measure to lower interest rates? What is it that the Hon. Member suggests the Conservatives will do differently to lower interest rates and provide more jobs for young people?

Mr. Wise: Mr. Speaker, I welcome the Hon. Member's question. I am sure he must feel somewhat uneasy in view of

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the fact that the main thrust of the motion today is based on youth unemployment. I would have expected him to have placed that subject in very high priority and utilized the opportunity left open to him to direct a question with reference to the subject of youth unemployment. He has chosen not to do so. He has chosen to raise another broader issue on the Canadian economy, more specifically on interest rate policy as far as this Party is concerned. That would take much time to be able to respond adequately.

If the Hon. Member would take the time to check *Hansard*, he would find we are so concerned about that subject that our Party selected it as a topic on a recent Opposition day. I would recommend to the Hon. Member for Kitchener (Mr. Lang) that he check and read *Hansard* for that particular day. It will certainly enlighten him very much.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Guilbault): The Chair would like to follow up on the point raised by the Hon. Member for Elgin. Questions asked of a Member who has just delivered a speech must be related to that speech.

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I believe the question was directly related. I related it to his last remarks and the quotation in the Hon. Member's speech. He quoted his Leader who was downgrading the importance of specific government initiatives to deal with youth unemployment. He called them gimmicks and said that the real method of dealing with youth unemployment was to reduce interest rates. That is the relationship. I think the Hon. Member should read his own speech; then he will see the relevance of the question put to him.

● (1125)

Aside from that, the importance of interest rates is a relevant point. When interest rates go down, economic growth increases and we have more employment in general in the Canadian economy. Of course, it provides more opportunity for jobs. I agree with the Hon. Member in those remarks.

The reason I am putting a question to the Hon. Member is that I do not believe his Party has any different policies with respect to interest rates than the present Government. For them to say that they have a low interest rate policy is misleading.

Mr. Wise: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member should take the time to listen to some of the statements which are being made, not only by his caucus colleagues but by a Cabinet Minister of his Government. He must have some second thoughts about the interest rate policy which his Government has been following. The Minister suggested that if he were elected leader of the Party, he would fire the Governor of the Bank of Canada.

Certainly there is a very direct relationship between interest rates and what is happening in the general economy; I have admitted that. There is no question about that. No one would deny it. Indeed, the people who suffer most seriously as a result of the high interest rate policy of the Government are small businessmen. They are the employers of some 70 per cent of all the labour force in the country. These enterprises