

of the labour market or return to university to continue their studies there. So, the figure might be 40 per cent.

• (1500)

We should remember, too, when we are talking about jobs, whether for students, graduates or young workers, in all too many instances, women are discriminated against. The report of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women emphasizes this fact. I should like to urge the government, once again, to take action on the recommendations contained in this report, because there is continuing discrimination against women in many sections of our society solely on account of their sex, without account being taken of their knowledge, experience or ability. It makes me angry to hear the old Elmer Fludds in this Parliament refusing to recognize the fact that women are discriminated against in our work force and in our society generally. I could give hon. members dozens of examples from my own University of Saskatchewan showing how hard it is for women to find jobs. Many of those who do succeed in finding work must take low paid jobs as waitresses or secretaries, receiving only minimum wages. The government must take action to improve this situation as soon as possible; we are already years late in reforming our system.

Mrs. MacInnis: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nystrom: The result of the situation I have been describing is this: students are increasingly questioning the validity of the university system. I remember, back in the 'sixties, we were told: If you go to a university you will have a guarantee for life that your income will be higher; you are likely to get a much better job than others; you will find it far easier to raise your family properly. Today, we find this is not true, at least with respect to many of those who are leaving our universities, and old values are being shot down as we find university graduates, those with M.A. or B.A. degrees, failing to find jobs, or finding jobs they could have filled without going to a university at all. As they look across their backyards or alleys they see some of the people who dropped out of school, perhaps holding down a unionized job and making between \$10,000 and \$12,000 a year while they, with their university education, are not making as much. As I say, many young people are questioning the value of the university system today.

Many universities are becoming increasingly elitist. The Conservative government in Ontario has just increased education fees. This makes the universities more elitist. Most of the students who graduate as lawyers or doctors and business executives come from upper middle-class families. It is almost as though they inherited a medical or legal degree. The chances are that their fathers and mothers were involved in those professions; they had access to a lot of money; they were brought up in the proper milieu when they were going through the school system. Anyone who has studied social psychology knows that young people are influenced by their environment, their families, the books they have in their homes. It is obvious that access to an expensive university system tends to be limited to the sons and daughters of the wealthy. It is they who will enter universities and succeed in finding the better jobs. It is time we got down to grass roots issues and put

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into force policies relevant to the working class people of this country, the young farmers, the average young citizens of Canada. It is time we got away from old policies which are obviously failing, given the fact that half the unemployed are under the age of 25.

Look at some of the answers we have been given by the Liberal government. Many of them have been short term answers. Some have been mere tokenism. Other have been patronizing. Obviously, they have failed. Some have been good.

A few weeks ago the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Mackasey) introduced amendments to the Manpower Training Act reducing the number of years during which a person had to be in the work force in order to qualify for benefit under the act, from three to one. This is a good move, a step forward. It is a move many of us have been suggesting for years, along with representatives of organizations concerned with young people.

But consider the Opportunities for Youth program. Many of us believed the concept was a good one, one which enabled young people to submit to the department programs in which they were interested, created their own jobs and carry out their own administration. In practice, what has happened has been this: the jobs have gone to the students who do not really need them. That this is the case is apparent from the findings of the Cohen Report. Many of the jobs have gone to the sons and daughters of the upper middle-class. These are the young men and women who are best able to fill in application forms; it is they who have the right contacts and who can afford to gamble because they always have father's bank account to fall back on. As I say, the government realizes this. I am suggesting that hon. gentlemen opposite do something to make sure that jobs created by the Opportunities for Youth program go to those who really need them, not to those who don't.

In this connection, I should also like to mention the travel exchange program and the travel grants. Again, many of these grants go to people who do not really need them; they go to people who would be working or doing something in any case. A press release issued by the Department of the Secretary of State on May 25 announced two travel grants to youth orchestras in Alberta. I have nothing against youth orchestras or the work they may be pursuing, but I question the validity of grants being made in such a direction. In this connection, I quote from the press release.

Grant of \$11,375 to the Edmonton youth orchestra for visit, July 22 to August 17, of 100 of its members to Lausanne, Switzerland, for two-week stay, and then travel to Germany and Austria.

The orchestra will, of course, be giving concerts, and it will travel to Germany and Austria. The second grant, of \$7,500 has been made to the Calgary youth orchestra; 75 students will take part in a concert tour of England, Germany and Holland from July 2 to August 1. Rather than spend money in this way, it might be better to grant money to people who will be remaining in the country, people who really need it to feed themselves and, perhaps, go on to receive university or post-secondary education at some future date. Despite these programs, not only are more people unemployed and living in a situation of eco-