

Oral Questions

is somewhere around \$90 million. I think the number of jobs is proportionate to that.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Roberts: It would be close to 60,000 jobs.

IMPACT OF PROGRAMS ON YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Minister of Employment and Immigration. I want to pursue a similar point. Sixteen hours ago the Minister indicated that 125,000 new jobs would be created for Canada's youth as a result of the new programs. Eight hours later *The Globe and Mail* reported that the figure had been revised downward to 90,000. If this trend continues, by this time tomorrow no jobs will be created. However, the Minister will know that there are a half million young Canadians who are jobless today. Will he clarify this point by indicating, after his job creation programs for youth have been introduced, how many of the existing 500,000 young people will still be out in the cold?

● (1430)

Hon. John Roberts (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I missed the first part of the Hon. Member's question.

Mr. McGrath: It was the same as mine.

Mr. Roberts: Then perhaps I will take the opportunity to answer both.

Mr. McGrath: He just repeated my question.

Mr. Roberts: Perhaps he repeated it with more astuteness than the original questioner.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Roberts: There is no substantial difference. The increase I mentioned yesterday of employment generally, which corresponds to the increase resulting from the \$400 million injection of new funds, is somewhere close to 125,000 job participants. If we take out the \$266 million or so for young people, the number of young people affected will be between 85,000 and 90,000. In response to the question about the impact of the Career Access Program so far, the answer is 64,000.

Mr. Riis: Therefore I understand that about 85,000 to 90,000 new, part-time, interim jobs will be created to replace the 500,000 young people who are presently out of work.

PER CAPITA EMPLOYMENT EXPENDITURES

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Prime Minister who, in the 1980 Throne Speech, called for the burden of the recession to be shared equitably among all Canadians. Con-

spicuously absent from the recent Throne Speech were terms such as "justice" and "fairness". I wonder whether the Prime Minister would compare the money given to oil companies with the money given to young Canadians. For every \$1 given to oil companies under the Petroleum Incentives Program, the Government now plans to give the equivalent of 14 cents to create jobs to the half-million unemployed young people. Is this what the Prime Minister meant when he referred to the just society?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it seems the Hon. Member is pretending in his question that the money is just given to the oil companies—and that is it—as a gift from Canadian people.

Mr. Riis: That is right; that is what I am saying.

Mr. Trudeau: He does not realize that investment and spending by the oil companies in the Canada Lands, for instance, has risen 600 per cent over the past four years. That has created thousands of jobs and that has created wealth for Canada. That is the difference between members of the NDP and the Liberal Government; they would throw money at the unemployed, and we prefer to create jobs by increasing industry and by increasing the development of the country. That is supply-side economics, but supplied by using the state in order to create infrastructure and to create incentives for the private sector to go out and create jobs, rather than make work programs, as the NDP would do.

Mr. Riis: I think I will go back to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. I remind the Minister that in his statements yesterday he indicated that no more money could be set aside than the \$260 million for job creation for young people because it would shake the confidence of the business community. Also I remind him that we have a half-million young people who have not only had their confidence shaken but have had their confidence broken as a result of the recession.

PLIGHT OF UNEMPLOYED YOUNG PEOPLE

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, does the Minister of Employment and Immigration really believe that by setting aside a measly \$260 million of new money to assist the half-million young people who are jobless today, this will rebuild the confidence of what has essentially become a lost generation?

Hon. John Roberts (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member has probably misquoted but certainly misconstrued my comment. My comment yesterday was that it was important to maintain the process of deficit reduction in order to continue the kind of business confidence which leads to investment and job creation in the economy. Well over 350,000 new jobs were created since last autumn. That was the point of my remark; it was not applied to the needs of young people. The hon. gentleman does not seem to believe that over \$1 billion spent for job creation and