

Economic Growth and Employment Situation

young people of Canada. We have discovered that almost half the unemployed are under 25. They are the ones who are supposed to be building the country for tomorrow and who will be tomorrow's leaders. If they cannot find work, is it any wonder that many of them are turning to what we call an undemocratic way of changing society? Is it any wonder that some of them are questioning the contemporary ways that the hon. member for Ottawa West talked about so proudly a few moments ago?

We have to find work for these people. There is no reason why we cannot do so. We have all the resources we need, all the technology, all the educational skills and all the educational know-how. We need government priorities and programs that will put people first. The government has announced a policy under which it will employ young people. According to the government, nearly one million students will be joining the labour force between now and the end of June. What will happen when all these people join the labour force? Even more will be unemployed. Even more will be frustrated because they will not have the chance to make a few dollars in Canada and make a contribution to this country.

The program that the government announced contained a few points that were good. But why was the program not announced earlier so that community organizations and others could undertake planning and participation? It seems to me that the program announced by

the Prime Minister is to be administered on a completely ad hoc basis. It has come too late and will do too little. I think much of it is mere tokenism, for the benefit of the young people of this country. The time will come when the young people will demand action and results.

An hon. Member: Five o'clock.

Mr. Nystrom: I could say many more things, Mr. Speaker, but my time has almost expired. I conclude by saying that it is very easy to sit around here and be complacent, to say what great people we are, what a great government this is and what great members we are. It is about time people who said that came down from their ivory towers into the real world that is outside this chamber.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Richard): Order. As it is five o'clock, pursuant to Standing Order 58(11), the debate on the motion before us is deemed to have come to an end.

[*English*]

I wish hon. members an enjoyable weekend. Sunday, for sure, is the first day of spring—March 21. This should gladden hon. members' hearts. However, having followed the weather forecast, I say "Beware the Ides of March," keep warm, keep home, enjoy a pleasant weekend.

At five o'clock the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.

END OF VOLUME IV