

in the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. He should have stayed there; he was doing an excellent job. I am pleased to rise today to address the motion he introduced.

Naturally I am concerned with the area of social development in this great country of ours, but I have a few reservations on the proposals of this government to set up another ministry. I like to think of myself as a compassionate Canadian. It is my hope that the people I serve perceive me as such. I am very aware of the need for direction in all social areas, but I am hesitant in agreeing to let this government increase its spending power in any area without specific proposals and policies.

Can the minister tell us just what his jurisdiction will be over the other ministries obviously involved in social development? What co-ordination policies and terms will be set up for this minister to ensure that the proposed ministry does not just become another filler, a stop-gap measure to very real concerns? Other federal departments and agencies have control over substantive funds which could affect the operation of this new department. As the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) is aware, her territory is definitely in jeopardy if this new creation is given precedence. What kind of funding will be appropriated to social development either to the detriment of other departments or in duplication of duties already mandated to existing departments?

The Liberals are notorious for their ability at duplication. One only has to look at their proposal to establish the Board of Economic Development Ministers back in 1979. The board, the superministry, was to have responsibilities for such things as upgrading the forest products industry, helping the Canadian shipbuilding industry, and implementing new policy for development of the Canadian automobile industry. It was to manage federal programs to develop a stable economic climate for growth and the creation of jobs. We can all see the success of that board. It was given direction for areas already supposedly covered by other departments or agencies. Our stagnant economy has done nothing but deteriorate the social climate and foster unemployment.

The principle of the motion is an important one. It is crucial that this government look at its responsibilities to the Canadian people. However, what guarantees will be given to the department and its minister? Will the minister direct its priorities to the people? What role does this department intend to play in the lives of the citizens of the country? The Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said "our greatest hope lies, not in new laws or greater use of the power of the state, but in ourselves, in the capacity of each of us to adopt different social and economic values in response to the new reality of our times". What priorities has the government planned for this new ministry? Although in principle there is a real need to have social directions, we must have some indication of where they are to take this country.

As youth critic I am very concerned about the future of our most natural resource. There will be an estimated 4.6 million young people between the ages of 15 and 24 next year. Of what policy direction can we be assured to guarantee that

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these young people will have a future to look forward to, a job, a full-time meaningful job? I am not referring to government jobs, although young bright Canadians are needed in government. I am not referring to a part-time job, not one that lasts 48 weeks, but a full-time meaningful job. Today it is a national disgrace that 431,000 young people under the age of 25 in this country are unemployed, or 44 per cent of all people unemployed. We must know what programs and principles will be attained through the development of this ministry. A ten-year plan of its goals and objectives is not an unreasonable request. It would appear to me a three-year intensive plan of its aims should be made known to this House immediately. It is too important an area to be given only vague generalities. What jurisdiction will be given to the minister over employment, immigration, education, health and justice? We do not know.

I do not want to tread on any toes, especially in those areas that belong to our provincial counterparts through the BNA Act, but in the context of the present and forthcoming constitutional discussions, will the minister be examining the area of education under this new super ministry? If this ministry is to foster social development, our educational system across the country must be examined. Education must be tailored to present needs. There is absolutely no point in creating a glut of graduates with Ph.D.s if these extremely brilliant minds have to drive taxicabs to earn a living. Will the financial agreements between Ottawa and the provinces for post-secondary education be examined? Will the government encourage some of the universities experiencing drastic enrolment drops at present to become community colleges? It is interesting to note that the famous Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto, of which I am an alumnus, is now experiencing a number of students coming from universities with B.A.s that have not stood them in very good stead. They are getting some practical training in a great educational setup such as the ones at Ryerson and in community colleges.

As I said, I am aware the educational system falls under provincial jurisdiction, but it must have direction and must be tailored so that young people are educated and employable. We must give our young people marketable skills. The government of the United States has commissioned a study in this area for the eighties. Maybe we should be encouraging the same thing in Canada.

The critical skills committee of the government is a start. I am pleased to serve on it and to be one of the representatives from the Progressive Conservative party. However, it is not enough just to examine the critical skills area. All areas of employment and education must be examined if we are to aim at full employment. How can the minister strive for less?

I am well aware that each and every one of us has social obligations and responsibilities, but will the minister and this ministry foster a stable Canadian identity, a stable family unit and a stable participation with the provinces so that our children can feel as though they belong and develop a sense of usefulness? Will the policies of the ministry return to the youth of this country a sense of Canada and remove the instability they presently face? As minister responsible for