

Income Tax Law Amendment Act, 1971

particular to avail themselves of more extensive training through these manpower programs.

Another point that I want to make is that the study which was released a couple of days ago by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Lang) was the most inadequate and costly study that I have seen for a long while. This was a study carried out by the minister and by a number of his officials. It was not scientifically based. The conclusions about the training program and the increase in employment opportunities were not valid conclusions. I can tell you for a fact that if any person with scientific or research knowledge analysed this study he would have to toss it in the wastepaper basket because of the conclusions reached. These conclusions were reached without proper foundation. They were not justified on the basis of the information available. The fact is that the study was incomplete and not scientifically conducted. I challenge the minister to look at the report of the Economic Council of Canada and of the Poverty Committee and try, in co-operation with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics which now is referred to as Statistics Canada, to conduct a scientific study of the manpower training program and the relevancy of this report.

• (5:20 p.m.)

I have had an opportunity to read in some detail a study conducted by the Fisheries College of St. John's Newfoundland. The Fisheries College is one of the most outstanding institutions in the world in marine affairs. It is an outstanding institution which is growing and developing daily. I believe it has the support of every elected member from the province of Newfoundland. These people did a study of the training and employment opportunities. They concluded, after spending a period of about six months studying the opportunities, that they were concerned with the lack of a positive co-relation between the training program and the opportunities available to these people after completing the program. This certainly points out to me the need for much more research. I know a number of people will say we have had enough research already in various fields. We must revise our manpower training program so that industry, in the broadest context, can bring people into industry and therefore help alleviate the unemployment situation. We must have a training program which is related to job opportunities if we are to have much more employment than we have had as a result of the manpower training program.

There is a matter which I have wanted to raise in the House for a number of days but did not have the opportunity to do so because of the ineffectiveness of the 40 minute question period. As a result, members of Parliament are not able to hold the government accountable for its behaviour. This is especially true in view of the absence of ministers which, so far as I am concerned, is illegal. Back in 1967 a job vacancy survey was started. It was a very forward step. An effort was made to ascertain the various vacancies across Canada, and the type of people presently trained and unemployed, in order to determine how we could integrate our manpower training program, our vocational training program, our adult program and our federal and provincial programs in some way with the needs of industry. That program began at a cost of \$3 million to the Canadian taxpayers. There were

[Mr. Lundrigan.]

106 men involved. I should like someone to put a question on the order paper, perhaps I should do it myself, concerning how many people were involved in this program for about three or four years and the salaries they received. The cost was in excess of \$3 million, yet the government refuses to make the result of this program public.

Sometime in October as a result of a question placed on the order paper by one of my colleagues, the government said it would have the result of the job vacancy survey released before the end of the year. It is obvious to me that the results have been known for several months. It is also obvious that the results have been suppressed. They are being used by the various government departments but are not being made public for the use of the provinces and of members of the opposition in making speeches on this important subject. We want those results so that we can ascertain where the vacancies are in Canada. The Prime Minister says there are lots of jobs but that the people are too lazy to avail themselves of them. We would like to know what the results of this job vacancy survey were. We would like to know, for example, if it is a fact that in the last three years the number of vacancies in Canadian industry has been cut in half. I say the government of Canada has an obligation to the Canadian people to make that document public immediately.

I am going to raise a point which has not been raised before. I think some of my colleagues to the left will want to ask questions on this subject before they begin their sojourn in their constituencies. I had a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Pepin) but I have not had an opportunity to ask it because he has been so preoccupied with answering questions from all my colleagues about the serious situation in the pulp and paper industry. I did not want to floor him with other inquiries. We have asked questions about the long-term unemployed Canadians. We have, of course discovered during the last few days that the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, which I like to call it, has conducted a very detailed study of people unemployed for periods longer than six months. We have found that this information about people unemployed for longer than six months has been made available to the government. When our competent people in the research office have inquired of DBS they have been refused this type of information.

We want the information. We want to know how many Canadians have been out of work for longer than six months and the effect this had had on the municipalities. DBS, for some reason or other, perhaps because of orders from the government department responsible for the administration of that office, has refused to give this type of information. When we talk about participatory democracy one almost has to be close to the government in power today in order to realize what kind of a statement that is. Personally, I have been involved for only a little while in politics and it is not the sort of thing to which I aspire. I do not aspire to a 35 or 40 year career. However, I have never seen a government which is supposed to be dedicated to working on behalf of the Canadian people and the Canadian workers which is so surreptitious and sneaky. Today, documents are being refused because the government feels it can use them to its own advantage in a sneaky and surreptitious manner. I would like to bring