

Supply—Labour

but these certainly will not be based on detailed studies. It seems obvious to me that if we are in trouble, as the government seems to think we are, we should not have to wait 18 months before we get down to work. I suggest to the Minister of Labour that there are difficulties in the railway industry which may lead to a work stoppage long before 18 months have gone by. This is one of the complaints I have.

My second complaint is that the task force has undertaken to study almost any and every subject which might be of interest not just to the labour movement or to management but to every professor in Canada who wants to do a study and get paid for it. I have seen a preliminary list of these studies. The task force is proposing to do close to 100 studies, most of which have nothing at all to do with labour-management relationships in the federal jurisdiction. I want the members of the committee to realize that the bilingual and bicultural commission only did 130 studies. So I am suggesting that we are undertaking a study which will come close in magnitude to the size of that undertaken by the B and B commission, in my opinion will cost close to \$2 million before we are through and will not be completed in time to be of practical use.

Another matter about which I should like to complain very strenuously is the inability to get information as to what the task force is going to do. I know they have not completed all their plans but a large number of the contracts with the people who are doing the studies have already been made. What is the reason for the secrecy? I have been told by some of the people connected with the task force that it is not thought necessary to make the plans of the task force public. I wish to tell the minister so he can tell the members of the task force that in my view this is a public force and that when they are doing a study as important as this one is supposed to be and are spending the amount of money I have mentioned, it is the public's right to know what studies are being undertaken, who is doing them and so forth.

Let us consider some of these studies. A number of qualified people have undertaken to do studies but I question the validity of some of them. I wonder what they have to do with labour-management relationships and I question the reason for making them. Let me go over a few of them. Apparently there is a study on the relationship between trade unions in Canada and trade unions in the United

States. This is a very interesting subject inasmuch as Canadian trade unions are closely and intimately connected with United States trade unions. I have no objection to that study but I suggest that at the same time there should be a study on the relationship between management and ownership in Canada and the United States. If we are going to study the relationship between the United Auto Workers Union in Canada and the United Auto Workers Union in the United States, then surely we should also have a study of the relationship between the Ford Motor Company in the United States and the Ford Motor Company in Canada, a wholly owned subsidiary. Yet to my knowledge such a study is not being done.

It is proposed that there be a study of the use of violence in labour disputes. Have we had a great deal of violence in labour disputes in Canada? I do not think so. However, if such has been the case, what were the causes and how often are management representatives involved in violence? In cases where picket lines have been formed, how often does the manager of a plant drive his car through the picket line so that strikers on picket duty are injured? I am not saying we should not undertake such a study but I question the reasons for it and I suspect there may be an element of bias in it.

Among the list of studies proposed, until I and I suppose several other people made private representations, there was one called "unions and political action". I have no objection to that sort of study but I question what this subject has to do with union-management relationships. I suggest that if it does have anything to do with union-management relationships it would be just as useful and perhaps more interesting to have a study on management and political action. How involved is management in politics in Canada? Unions give money to political parties and to candidates. We make no bones about it. A large number of unions give money to the New Democratic party, and the records are open. How much money is given by management to political parties, which companies do it and to what parties do they give it?

A great deal of information on this subject has been gathered by the committee which studied election expenses. I know that the title of this study has disappeared from the list but that has not convinced me that such a study will not be undertaken under a different title. When I see that kind of study proposed I cannot help coming to that conclusion, and I want to tell the Minister of Labour