

*Unemployment Insurance Act*

a serious approach to developing a market for labour in this country?

In the question of skills investment, the Government, which already made a very meagre contribution, is cutting a further \$1 million.

My colleagues would probably be interested in knowing that in job development there was an average increase of 18.5 per cent in salaries for those people who were part of a job development program. Those individuals who were gaining \$240 per week, as I cited in my presentation earlier, have an opportunity to increase their productivity and their remuneration. I am sure it will scandalize all Members of the House that in the area of job entry, where the Government has cut \$50 million, youth and women who re-enter the market-place were capable of improving their remuneration by 45 per cent and 56 per cent on average.

Finally, in the area of skills shortages, the Government is cutting an additional \$8 million. It is important to keep in mind that participants in the skill shortages program were capable of improving their remuneration on the average by 8.3 per cent per annum.

Obviously, on the questions of productivity, increased remuneration, and allowing people to contribute more productively in taxes, in consumer spending, and by withdrawing from government social programs, the Government is going in the opposite direction.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Questions and comments are now terminated. On debate, the Hon. member for Burlington.

**Mr. Bill Kempling (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I must say at the outset, listening to the Member for Eglinton—Lawrence (Mr. Volpe), that I never heard a more poorly informed speaker since I have been in the House of Commons.

**Mr. Volpe:** Did you listen to your own Minister?

**Mr. Kempling:** He talks about entry-level skills. An additional \$100 million is being devoted to training, including a new program to meet the needs of growing industries especially those in the service sector. The Member does not know what he is talking about. He is

talking about cutting and we are talking about spending more money.

On this Bill, I want to talk about labour skills. I do not know whether the Hon. Member who just spoke ever worked a day in his life, or whether he ever had callouses on his hands, but he does not sound as if he did. I want to talk about labour skills and upgrading those labour skills and how that will help us to ensure that our industries remain on the leading edge of competition in the global market-place. That is the purpose of our labour force development strategy as set forth in Bill C-21. Within the programs in Employment and Immigration, there is one entitled Skill Shortages. In that program, every four months we list the skill shortages province by province. The gentleman from Newfoundland who asked a question earlier—the Hon. Member from Bonavista—Trinity—Conception (Mr. Mifflin)—after we have completed this, I will show him the list of skilled jobs that are crying out for employees in Newfoundland. I have two pages of them here. I think he will be surprised when he has a look at them.

• (1620)

That is the basis of how we are going about this. Canada today wants to do more than hold its own in an era of global competition. Canada wants to excel. To do that, we need to embrace technological change. We cannot afford to lag behind other countries when it comes to improving productivity through high technology product development and enhanced trading of our labour force. We realize today that many of the machines that are being used in industry are—

**Mr. Walker:** Where did you work?

**Mr. Kempling:** Do you want to know where I worked?

**Mr. Walker:** Yes, very much so.

**Mr. Kempling:** I was working long before you were born.

Many of the machines that we use today cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and require people to operate them. They are not just ordinary lathes, drills and shapers. They are very sophisticated, computer-controlled machines that are required in order that we can be productive and profitable in our business operations. Therefore, we cannot afford to lag behind other countries when it comes to improving productivity through