

*Investment Canada Act*

taking credit for the 96,000 jobs which were created since the Tories came to power on September 4. It is too bad they did not check the record. If they had they would have seen that in the comparable period under the Trudeau administration more jobs were created in the last three months. If the Government wants to take credit for private sector jobs created in the country, it works out to something like 24,000 jobs a month. During the last three months of the Trudeau administration it worked out to about 32,000 jobs a month in the private sector. In the two months in which the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) was in power it works out to even more than that. He beat them all; it works out to 33,000 jobs a month in the private sector.

● (1110)

The point is that it is unfortunate that governments try to take credit where credit is not due because they were not really responsible for anything. The effect, if any, of the signals sent out by the Government was to decrease private sector jobs.

One need only look at what I would call the bible of the new Government which is contained in the expenditure and program review of the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. de Cotret). This outlines that in special export payments in the dairy products area they are cutting out \$6.2 million. The Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion is so interested in making exceptions for cultural agencies in this Bill that they have cut out \$7.5 million. They have cut out \$250 million for grants to the petroleum industry. That certainly does not jibe with this Bill. They have cut \$60.8 million from energy research and development. They have cut \$4 million from the program for export market development which provides federal assistance to business through the sharing of financial risk in entering more export markets. They have cut \$5 million from the Canadian Commercial Corporation. They have cut \$11.7 million from programs to assist in the development of the fishing industry. The list goes on and on, Mr. Speaker.

We come to the very department of the Minister who introduced this Bill and we see a cut of \$200 million in providing financial assistance to support private sector initiatives in the coming year. They are going to increase fares on VIA Rail. They are going to increase the cost of transporting goods and save \$93 million. They have cut \$2.8 million from the mobility program to move workers around the country to where they can get jobs. That makes it almost impossible for a person to get a grant to move from an area of high unemployment in the country. To make matters worse, in that same department they cut out the job sharing and job training program and the youth exchange program.

These cuts relating to the very Bill introduced by this Minister make us wonder what we are dealing with in the House of Commons. When the Minister of Employment and Immigration is asked what she and the Government have done since they came to power, she always points to the \$400 million fund for direct job creation. Practically every Progressive Conservative candidate who ran in the last election went

around deriding that program and demanding that it come to an end.

You must realize, Mr. Speaker, that while these jobs are being filled a young person or a female who has never worked before, both of whom are of paramount concern to the stated claim of the Minister of Employment and Immigration, is not allowed to be referred by Canada Manpower to any of the jobs. According to the guidelines sent out by the Minister of Employment and Immigration to the Canada Manpower centres in the country, the direct job creation program of the federal Government states that no young person who has never drawn unemployment insurance before is allowed to go to work on a direct job creation program of the federal Government.

● (1115)

With respect to women, who the Minister claims to be so interested in getting into the workforce, no woman who has never been in the workforce before and drawn unemployment insurance is allowed to be hired. We should think about that. Rather than consider hazy proposals by the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion, should we not, as the House of Commons, be concentrating on what is actually happening to people throughout the country and realize that those job descriptions will not permit these people to gain employment?

As I have already stated, the problem goes right back to consultations with the provincial Governments three years ago. Their major concern was to get their own expenditures down and they decided that for all job-creation programs under federal and provincial negotiations they would ensure that people on social assistance are hired first. In that case, the federal Government decided that it would make sure that everyone who is drawing unemployment insurance is hired second. This is the situation which led to the guidelines.

You have indicated that I have one minute left, Mr. Speaker, and I have not even addressed the Bill. There are many issues to address. The Government has made so many errors and has introduced so many cuts that affect so many people that I have not even been able to address the Bill since I began speaking at eleven o'clock.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** Questions or comments?

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, let me extend best wishes for 1985 to you, to other Members of the House and indeed to all Canadians. I hope that the House will be able to achieve something for the people of Canada in this coming year.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak to Bill C-15 because of its importance in determining the future of the Canadian economy and Canadian society. Like the cut-backs that were announced in the fall, this is one of the very early but very clear indications of the direction in which the Government is intending to head. I and my Party have a great deal of opposition to that direction. We believe that it will not help the Canadian people.