

*Supply—Labour*

with various committees in the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and other labour and management groups, in order to assist us in ensuring that training programs are in line with industrial needs. I am sure the hon. member for Vancouver East will be interested to know that this consultant has crossed Canada several times, consulting with employers and other groups.

In addition to this we have a research program dealing with the impact of technological changes on manpower, and this is specifically designed to ensure that the development of our training programs is in line with the change in technological needs of the Canadian economy. We have all this research. We know where we are going in this respect and we are trying, as we go along, to find out what the needs will be in the days ahead so that we can plan to meet them, along with the provinces.

An accusation has been made that schools are being built where there is no need for them. If any hon. member of this committee knows where a school is being built where there is no need for it I would wish he would give us that information; because we are advised through these various committees, the provincial departments of education and the school boards that these schools are needed. Each and every school board is pressing this need, and I am certain that pressure is based on actual need as shown by research and after consultation with labour and management in each area. Certainly it has never been brought to our attention that there is no need for any of these schools that are being built.

When we approached the provinces at the beginning of this program we asked them to estimate their needs during the next five years in regard to facilities for this type of training. We compiled the information that the provinces gave us and found there would be a need for a 50 per cent increase in the next five years. That is fine, and we hope we will be able to provide these facilities in two and a half years instead of five years. That is all to the good, and is good planning.

We are told that technological changes in industry will be brought about at a more rapid rate. We realize by what was said by President Kennedy not too long ago that the United States expects technological displacement of the labour force from industry at the rate of 25,000 a week. The United States labour force is ten times as large as ours. If that is going to happen there, we can expect displacement at the rate of 2,500 a week as a result of these changes. If you are going to set up a family life you build yourself a house, and I think it is good that

we should be planning for the need with which we shall be faced in the years to come.

We are not forcing this program on the provinces. We are asking them to ascertain their needs, and they do that through advisory committees which are at the local level, the provincial level and even the national level. All these people are represented on such bodies, and their views are taken into consideration. I wish to point out also that the provinces are paying 25 per cent of the capital cost of these new schools. Surely they have the immediate responsibility for determining the location of these schools. The charges which have been made imply that the provinces have been wasting the taxpayers' funds in determining the location of these training centres by putting these schools in areas where they are not needed.

I pointed out earlier that the teacher training program is an integral part of our technical and vocational training agreement with each and every province, and that the provinces are rapidly expanding their facilities and courses for teacher training to the extent of 850 teachers per year. The hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam made reference to classes for painters at Burnaby. He thought they were ridiculous and a waste of the taxpayers' money. I should like to tell him that these courses are offered as a part of the apprenticeship program of the province following the recommendations of both industry and organized labour, through an apprenticeship advisory committee of which they are members. Surely if there was no need of this training that advice would not have been put forward by these people who are vitally interested in these matters.

With regard to the suggestion that displaced coal workers in the maritime provinces have not been provided with the skills which would enable them to take up other work, I would say that at the present time there are many classes in a variety of occupations which are required by the economy. I can say categorically that every miner who wishes to take up such training has an opportunity to do so.

It has been brought to our attention during this debate that many workers among those who are employed lack the elementary training to enable them to take courses which would give them the skills to enter upon new employment. Some speakers inquired whether any province had asked for financial assistance to enable this type of training to be provided. I am sure the members of this committee will be happy to learn that courses of this kind for unemployed workers are in operation in most of the provinces, and we participate financially to help the provinces to