

we have been invited to sit down in consultation with the department”.

Who is this government talking to? Where is it getting its facts? Where is it getting the rationale? Where is it getting the foundations for the kinds of initiatives that it wants to present? Well, it cannot be from Statistics Canada because if we read StatsCan figures they cause any Canadian who was willing for one brief moment to be critical to shudder. The minister's glowing allegations of greatness that will befall this country as a result of Bill C-21 certainly are not borne out by the statistics.

I just want to draw your attention, for example, to an item by a renowned economist. I know that there are varying economic views but according to this economist, reported in *The Toronto Star*, October 2, 1989, the only way that we can eliminate unemployment is to develop growth and growth, not wages, is the key to cutting unemployment.

Why does he say that? I suppose these people must have gone to the same economic think tanks, certainly not attended by any of the government members or by the departmental members it would appear. There is another report which comes from the department itself. I cannot believe that it is giving out information that actually contradicts what you want to say. We have seen one little shell game after another. Now some truth comes out.

There was a headline in the *The Globe and Mail* of October 30, 1989, “Cheap Labour, A Costly Social Strait-jacket”. Let us keep that in mind because it appears that the government wants to create a cheap labour pool.

The article states: “The myth about cheap labour is that it is necessary for the economy to function. The fact is cheap labour is not cheap. The Canadian labour force survey done by StatsCanada in 1986 shows clearly that the higher the degree of various forms of social assistance, the higher the rate of unemployment and the higher the level of government expenditure”.

According to that same survey, workers earning less than \$6 an hour were unemployed for an average of three weeks a year. I quote further: “Although they constitute half of the unemployed labour force, the

under \$10 an hour worker accounted for 85 per cent of the money spent on unemployment”.

This particular bill attacks precisely those who earn in that 85 per cent category, that is under \$10 an hour. They are not the ones who are carrying the country so to speak. They are not the ones who are hoarding vast sums of money. They are not the ones who are plundering the Treasury. The real cost for labour under \$6 an hour, according to this article, is actually between \$7.50 and \$8.50 an hour when the taxpayer's contribution is counted in.

What is instructive as well for the parliamentary secretary and the minister is that from 1981 to 1986 more jobs were created in the category of about \$5.50 an hour and below this wage category than all other categories combined.

The Prime Minister and all his other ministers stand before this House and say 57,000 jobs were created in B.C. last month. They forget about all the net losses in the other provinces. They say 189,000 jobs were created this year as of the end of September, in the first three-quarters. It sounds fabulous.

There were 348,000 created last year before the free trade agreement was signed, an agreement that was supposed to bring untold wealth. If increased employment is an indication of untold wealth, I ask the parliamentary secretary opposite to take out his calculator and take a look at what happens to that 189,000 when I add one more quarter to it. If I am very, very generous and add another 70,000, there are still well over 100,000 fewer jobs created for this first post FTA year than in the pre FTA year.

Where did all those jobs go? The Prime Minister says: “Well they are all full-time jobs”. That is great. Where are they? They are in the low end of the earning capacity. People are being compelled to take jobs that will give them a bare minimum for sustenance.

I want to go on a little further. The problem that we have in Canada according to this economist is that Canada has had by far the fastest growing labour force in the industrialized world because of the growth and because of the continued availability of cheap labour. I say that cheap labour is going to be increased drastically and dramatically as a result of this bill, this pernicious bill that does nothing to develop the population, does nothing to develop the labour potential of Canadians, and does nothing to extract from the talents and the energies of the dynamics of our population. It does