

used for the hiring of young people as clerks, waiters, waitresses, labourers, farmworkers, cashiers and, in his words, "things of that sort".

The New Democratic Party seems to be saying that the Government and the private sector should not help develop the skills of young people by enabling them to have a real job for the summer. This position taken by the NDP does nothing for our young.

The Hon. Member for Yorkton-Melville also said that young people will take away full-time jobs. What kind of socialist nonsense is this? This summer thousands of young people will see first hand how Canadians make a living. Ordinary Canadians already know this. The Hon. Member for Yorkton-Melville and his Party obviously do not.

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[Translation]

YOUTH

CHALLENGE '86—SIGNIFICANCE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Mr. Nic Leblanc (Longueuil): In the riding of Longueuil, Mr. Speaker, more than 200 projects have been submitted under the Challenge '86 program.

Challenge '86 is a summer employment program for students who are anxious to gain practical experience in their field of study.

Last year 339 Longueuil youths found summer employment through this program. This year our Government has decided to increase the number of participants so that over 500 Longueuil youths will work and acquire an experience which is directly related to their studies.

This Government's objective is to enable young people to hold the kind of summer jobs in which they are interested. Challenge '86 proves that we show concern for young Canadians.

Mr. Speaker, I extend an invitation to all young people who want to work this summer, particularly the residents of Longueuil, to register right away for Challenge '86 at the nearest manpower centre.

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[English]

INCOME TAX

AMNESTY PROGRAM ADVOCATED FOR PAYMENT OF BACK TAXES

Mr. Ken James (Sarnia-Lambton): Mr. Speaker, I have read with great interest a report on the extraordinary success of an American program to collect back income taxes. This program provided amnesty from prosecution or fines if people voluntarily came forward and made arrangements to settle past debts. The money came pouring in. For example, the State of Massa-

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chusetts ran the amnesty program from October, 1983, to January, 1984, and, while optimistically expecting about \$20 million, it actually received \$85 million. As a result of this and the accompanying media blitz, the State of Massachusetts has now announced the largest tax cut in its history.

There are other States which have followed this example. The State of New York's Amnesty Program ended in January of this year. New York estimates that it will receive about \$350 million in back taxes.

The purpose of this program is twofold; to acquire the additional revenue, and at the same time take the burden of revenue acquisition off the shoulders of the honest taxpayers. When evaders are made to pay, the tax burden is equitably shared. Perhaps an examination of this program—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Sixty seconds.

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EMPLOYMENT

TRADES TRAINING PROGRAMS—NEED FOR FUNDING

Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of the House the reduction in federal Government funding for trades training in Nova Scotia. In a letter last week to teachers and institutions offering trades training, the provincial Government Deputy Minister of Human Resources, Development and Training wrote, and I quote:

A substantial reduction in federal funding is unfortunately resulting in a reduction of a number of training programs and related staff positions. The training program in which you are employed is part of this federal Government reduction and therefore the program which you have been teaching will not be able to be offered in the coming year and your position will be no longer funded.

Trades training plays a vital role in our society. Training is essential to assist Canadians to enter the job market. In these times of high unemployment and especially high youth unemployment, federal funding to these institutions and the students who need it should not be reduced. The Conservative Government continues to attack the least fortunate in our society. In cutting the funding for vocational training the Government again displays its cruel, senseless, and unfair conduct.

● (1415)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[Translation]

YOUTH

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. Jean Lapierre (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Right Hon. the Prime Minister. We have just witnessed