

shameful accommodation. I agree that millions of dollars are being poured into housing for those in the low-income bracket, but a great portion of our population cannot even afford the down payment or cannot afford to take advantage of lower rates of interest to build a home, because they do not have a copper.

We should further expand student training through the militia and mobile command bases to teach leadership and to establish programs oriented toward community participation. We must also think of those who had to cease being students because they could not afford to go to school and who are now walking the streets because they cannot get a job to enable them to go back to school.

There are many questions still not answered although the deadline is almost upon us. I should like to ask the government why the information was so late in going out. I should also like to ask why the government did not stand by their pledge that regional unemployment would be used as a measure. Where do the regionally disadvantaged provinces stand with regard to the allocation of funds? Down at the bottom of the list, as usual. What about the criteria regarding the financial need of students who will be left out in dismay and discouragement, which defeats the purpose of the program? What are the criteria now? They are in bound volumes in offices, and try as we may it is impossible to find out how many projects were submitted from the various regions where the need is greatest. On what basis are projects rejected, cut back or accepted? How do we get the answers for our constituents on the progress that is being made with the projects they have submitted?

I wonder if the government would give members of the House of Commons who are interested and concerned an opportunity to visit the secretariat. We are invited to many meetings and dinners, but I would like us to be invited to the secretariat to see what progress is being made with regard to the projects that are submitted by our constituencies. I do not know whether the government is listening when somebody is trying to be helpful but I hope they will realize that it is most important that they decide on the priorities. This is most important, so that we can ensure the success of our objectives to the most important segment of our society, namely, the youth of our country.

**Mr. Leonard Hopkins (Renfrew North):** Mr. Speaker, I take pleasure in participating in this debate because some positive things should be pointed out. First of all, we live in the greatest country in the world. We have the greatest potential for the future and we have policies to develop it. The only two countries in the world which have a higher standard of living are Sweden and the United States, and I ask members of the House how many of them would change their positions to become citizens of either of those countries.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** We are talking of the 650,000 unemployed Canadians.

**Mr. Hopkins:** I will get around to that subject. Recently a minister resigned from the cabinet. We have heard

### *Employment Programs*

comments about this from across the floor of the House. He advocated the philosophy that our resource-based industries should be developed at a slower rate, that they should not receive tax concessions in regard to their profits. Hon. members do not seem to realize that these industries are pouring money back into the economy and hence creating jobs. I should like to ask the hon. member advocating this philosophy how he justifies it at a time when many of our mining communities sole source of employment is our natural resources, when economists are telling us that we should be making use of our natural resources for the employment of our people. His concept does not make sense.

What are the policies of the government to create employment? We have greatly expanded ARDA facilities in the last few years, together with the provinces. I am very critical of the way in which ARDA projects are administered. The province of Ontario, like the other provinces of Canada, administers ARDA projects—in this case it is a Conservative government—but on very few occasions are members of the government of Canada invited to participate in the opening of projects or developments in the rural parts of Canada although the federal government provides 50 per cent of the funds.

I should like to cite an example where we provided 50 per cent of the money for an ARDA project in my constituency which is the provincial constituency of Renfrew South. I have received several telephone calls from people who wonder where the ARDA funds are for this project which employed people during the winter months. I telephoned the ARDA people in Ottawa and telephone calls were made to Toronto. To everybody's amazement, it was discovered that the cheque was delivered by the provincial member to the industry concerned. It was taken out of his pocket and handed to the person to whom it should have been sent. It was not even handed to him in an envelope—and it was dated a month earlier than the date it was received.

If hon. members opposite want to refer to the politics in the Opportunities for Youth program, there are cases such as this that can be demonstrated by their counterparts in the province of Ontario. Why should a cheque be a month old when it is delivered to a business which has kept people employed during the winter months when unemployment is extremely high? I repeat that 50 per cent of this money was federal money.

● (5:50 p.m.)

Another thing we must do in the field of education is promote far greater participation by Canadian intellectuals in our universities and in other places of education such as our technical schools. By no means should we encourage people from other countries to come here and take up teaching positions. I support 100 per cent any policy that is aimed in that direction. Another thing which is happening today, largely because of the high cost of education, is the cutting back of teaching staffs which in turn puts a larger number of students in the classrooms. This is creating unemployment at the teaching level. Of course, education is under provincial administration.