

I suggest also that statistics on unemployment do not necessarily tell the whole story; there is a lot of hidden unemployment. I know of a number of people who have dropped out of school but have not registered for employment for one reason or another. Some of them have been looking for employment and have given up. The same can be said of many young women and housewives who either need work or want to work but have been unable to find employment. I am sure the minister is aware that in my own province of Saskatchewan many of the young people usually leave the farms to find employment in the cities, but this year they have been unable to find work and have been forced to remain on the farms. Many of these people are not included in the unemployment statistics. There are also many other partially employed people, such as servicemen and repairmen, who have some work but not enough to make an adequate income.

Who are the unemployed of Canada today? They range from the unskilled worker to the university graduate. Earlier today, the House was told how many people with doctorate degrees from our universities cannot find work. The other day I was reading a British Columbia university magazine which contained the statistic that 52 per cent of the graduates from Simon Fraser University last year were unable to find adequate employment in Canada this year.

Most of our unemployed, of course, are not university students or graduates, since only a small proportion of our young people are able to attend university in Canada. Most of the young people who are unemployed do not have a skill; or if they do have a skill they are unable to find a job where they can use the little training they do have.

What does the future hold for these young people who are unemployed? Economists, both within the government and without, predict that by February and March the unemployment rate in Canada may go as high as 750,000 or 800,000 people. In May and June over half a million students,—pretty well 700,000 of them—will be coming on to the labour market and trying to find work. Many do so because they have no other means to earn sufficient money to enable them to return to university.

I would ask the government what it is going to do for all these extra people who will be seeking work. What answers does the government give to our questions, Mr. Speaker, and what proposals does it make? Today a member of my party asked a question concerning reports that 5,000 people were unemployed because foreign companies had made the decision to lay off its Canadian subsidiary's employees. The government was asked whether or not it had received reports to this effect, but again the government, with its same lackadaisical approach, replied that this was just a dream on the part of Stephen Lewis. The government shrugged the matter off; it fails to take questions about the unemployed seriously. The government lives in its little ivory tower somewhere up in the clouds and does not come down to earth.

23568—60

#### *Employment of Graduate Students*

I think the Prime Minister sees the unemployed simply as statistics on a piece of paper. He says: "Perhaps it is unfortunate that these statistics are there, but they have to be there if we are going to fight inflation". I ask, fight inflation for whom, and with what results? I suggest that what is happening is completely unforgivable and that the government has to take full responsibility for its arrogant and cold-hearted approach not only to our young people but to the elderly and people living on fixed incomes. The government's approach is off-hand and ad hoc.

Many times, Mr. Speaker, I sit in my seat and wonder how many of the people who make the decisions in government really know what is happening in Canada today. How many of these people have ever worked on assembly lines, in a warehouse or industrial plant? Even further, how many of them have tried to apply for unemployment insurance or have tried walking to the welfare office to collect welfare payments? I suggest that government policymakers are so far removed from reality that they do not understand the problem. They are completely insensitive to the needs of thousands of people in Canada today. If these people are not careful, pretty soon the accusations they are making about our party dreaming will turn into a nightmare for the government, and worst of all for this country. It is about time the government did something positive and constructive.

In Canada, as in most countries of the western world, young people are taught to grow up with high expectations for the future when they leave the educational system. This feeling is perpetuated not only in our educational system but through the whole socialization process our young people pass through. We tell them that if they are diligent and hard working, they will be rewarded by making lots of money and living a very secure life.

A lot of people today believe that this is no longer true. Young people step from schools and universities only to find that at the end of the path there is no secure job for them that is rewarding and fulfilling. Instead, they find a job that does not offer any challenge to them; or worse, they find there is no job at all. Naturally this leads to frustration and to alienation in Canadian society. I cannot understand why some people are unable to recognize what is happening. As we look around us, we see many more young people dropping out of school, giving up on Canadian society, simply because they discover that what they were told for so long is not reality. Yet, as they look around them they see affluence and abundance. They see people with all kinds of money. They see governments with money to spend on unnecessary items.

● (4:10 p.m.)

Before the last war we experienced similar economic policies. Suddenly, when war broke out the government had thousands of dollars to spend on each and every young person. The government put them in uniform, trained them and sent them overseas. Our young people