

portion of the national allocation to Canada Works went into the province of Quebec? I would suggest that if he checks the figures he would find it is about one-third. About one-third of the money under the previous government went to the province of Quebec. That is fair. I will give the hon. member that. It is fair because Quebec has a population of about one-third of the total population of Canada. It is reasonable that Quebec will get one third of the total dollars.

What does the new government do, having an opportunity to assess Canada Works in a time of restraint, to maintain a program to provide jobs for the unemployed this winter? The new government is providing 48.7 per cent of a total allocation of Canada Works for the province of Quebec. That is a significant improvement in a proportional sense. I would suggest that it is an indication of our commitment to fight unemployment in that province.

I would suggest, notwithstanding that the hon. member feels deprived in Papineau, that the increased allocation in proportionate terms together with the broader advice that this government is seeking and receiving as to good projects throughout the constituencies that need them, that the success of the program this year will exceed anything ever achieved by the previous government.

In conclusion, I think the remarks of the hon. member for Papineau about the private sector's involvement in job creation really do indicate, for all concerned to see, the difference in philosophy between this government and the previous one. I am not sure I fully understand the gist of the hon. member's remarks. I heard him say something to the effect that the private sector really cannot create the jobs that are necessary. He said something to the effect that the private sector cannot provide meaningful jobs. Let me tell him that is a difference. I am glad he said that.

● (1640)

I want to assure him that job-creation projects, employment strategies from the government, at present will rely on the private sector. We will do that for a variety of reasons. First, the jobs created under this government in the private sector will be permanent jobs, not start-stop, make-work jobs that disappear like a bit of air in the night. They will be lasting jobs that are meaningful for people.

Second, let me tell the hon. member something about the cost of job creation. If he examined the records, and I would be pleased to provide the information, he would see that Canada Works for job creation is one of the most expensive programs that any federal government has ever put forward.

If we are really concerned about cost effectiveness, which this government is, we will try to get the greatest value for the dollar being spent to try to help as many people as possible. I suggest to the hon. member in those phases of Canada Works that attempted to provide minimum constituency levels, while it may have made his job easier because he had \$150,000 to hand out in Papineau or wherever, it did not help the unemployed in the areas where they needed it the most.

### *Supply*

In this case we have applied the available resources to those constituencies with the highest unemployment rate. That is the position that has been recognized throughout the country as the final one.

I should mention that there is one group in this whole process who have yet to be mentioned. What about the provincial governments? Where do they stand in all this? They, of course, have responsibilities in the field of job creation and an obligation to sustain welfare costs. Like all levels of government, they would prefer to have people work rather than be on welfare. We share that goal.

I have engaged in two extensive, comprehensive federal-provincial consultations with my ten provincial counterparts in the labour manpower field. They are unanimous in telling me that Canada Works is a program which should be terminated. It is a program that is political in nature, expensive, distorts provincial spending priorities, creates expectations that can never be met, is inefficient and should be ended.

We have had unanimous support from across the country for that position. Nevertheless, in the face of very high unemployment in regions of Canada like Quebec, the four Atlantic provinces, and to a certain extent British Columbia, we have maintained that program one more time for the purpose of this winter, for which we make no apology.

There will be an opportunity on December 11 because the full details of the new government's approach to employment strategy will be fully revealed and discussed before the Canadian people. I want to emphasize three points that will be the underlying philosophy of that program which will be available this winter as a new program to help the unemployed of Canada.

First, our emphasis will be on the creation of long-term jobs. We are not interested in short-term job creation which is expensive and does not really help anyone. Second, there must be a concerted effort to help the youth of Canada, those 24 and under who find themselves without jobs, who in fact cannot get that first job and are fast in danger of becoming another generation of unemployed drawing unemployment insurance.

The final point, and I again emphasize this, is that this government will rely on the private sector to create the real jobs in this society. We believe that through the employment tax credit system announced in the throne speech we will be able to create more permanent jobs, jobs that will last a longer period of time. That is the way to go, and that is the way this government will be going.

[*Translation*]

**The Chairman:** Order, please. It being 4.45 p.m. it is my duty, pursuant to the order adopted Wednesday, November 14, 1979, to interrupt the debate and put forthwith every question necessary to dispose of the Committee of the Whole stage of the bill.

[*English*]

Clauses 2 to 6 inclusive agreed to.