

Dr. Hall went on to say:

In a sense then, we are getting less dollar value for professors' work than would otherwise be the case.

Yes, we are getting less dollar value for professors' work than would otherwise be possible. Yet the Government, in the name of restraint and austerity, is arguing that it is economic to impose such a heavy handed restraint on the universities. Not only teaching, but research also is suffering for lack of funding.

Dr. Regis Duffy, a chemistry professor at my old Alma Mater, who is now in the private sector and a noted chemist by international standards, once said, "Love may make the world go around but research makes it go forward". One wonders how far our world is advancing as a result of Canada's effort in respect to research and development. Doubtless we have sacrificed much of our contribution on the high altar of so called restraint; false restraint, false austerity and false economy.

As a country we invest much less as a percentage of our Gross National Product in research than do most other industrialized countries in the world. It is less than one per cent of GNP, compared to well over 2 per cent in the case of Japan, for example.

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council is one of the major sources of Canada's research funds, but it has been compelled to cut back its funding of worthwhile projects because of government restraint on its own budget. Small universities, such as those in the Maritimes, have been particularly hard hit. I sympathize with the points made so eloquently by the Hon. Member for Kingston and the Islands, especially with respect to Queen's University, which is my own Alma Mater. I agree with everything she has said in that context. In turn, I think she would agree that such heavy handed restraint affects worst of all the smaller universities, including ones in the Maritime provinces, because the relevant provincial governments do not have the fiscal capacity or resource base to make up the difference created by restraint.

The tragedy is that the younger generation will pay the price, for it is they whose employment prospects are being sacrificed in the process.

Dr. Cirill Schmidt, Chairman of the Department of Chemistry at the University of PEI, put the point beautifully in a recent letter to me. Incidentally, I have been conducting rather active correspondence with the professors at the University of Prince Edward Island. I want to share something of what they are telling me and, through me, what they are telling the students and the population at large in Canada. Professor Schmidt said:

Canada as a nation can alleviate the unemployment of masses of young people only if we develop a degree of technical competence in all fields.

How true! But it is not good enough for the country's research to be conducted only at the elephantine universities of the country, in metropolitan centres like Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. The smaller universities also have a crucial role to play. Some of the most innovative research in the

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country is, in fact, being conducted at small universities like the University of PEI in my own riding. Too often, their research budgets are the first to be compromised as a result of restraint at the national level, while the mega universities seem to be able to cope more effectively.

Of course, the quality of education is affected in additional ways by budget cut-backs. The University of Prince Edward Island Dean of Science, J. Ivan Dowling, made the point to me that morale is particularly influenced by funding. During the process of restraint, he argued:

Morale is undermined as faculty and staff get frustrated from budget-driven limitations on personnel, equipment, supplies, etc. In the meantime, the fixed costs of vital services such as heating, lighting, security, and maintenance remain.

When all is said and done, the problem is the future of a whole generation of Canadians. By imposing narrow-minded, narrowly viewed restraint in this area of public policy, the federal Government is compromising the quality of education and training available to our young people. For example, in my own Province of Prince Edward Island, where I am most familiar with the problem, government funding at the University of PEI in 1980-81 amounted to \$5,638 per full time student. That is reduced to only \$4,386 in 1983-84. That drop is very substantial.

At a time when per full time student grants are being slashed by approximately \$1,100 in real terms, student enrolment is actually increasing throughout the Maritimes by about 25 per cent. Therefore, universities are being required to extend their resources well beyond capacity. The result of this underfunding is that the quality of education is fast deteriorating.

The University of PEI is no longer hiring new staff, although there is a serious need for staff in several areas. In fact, the overall staff at the University of Prince Edward Island in recent years has been reduced. Given such staff shortages, classes must be made bigger and students have been given less access to the personal counselling so important to a quality education.

The same considerations that apply to teaching staff also apply to resource and support staff. A case in point is the library staff at the University of PEI which has been slashed from 32 to 23 full time personnel since 1974-75, at a time when demands on library resources have increased. As a result of cut-backs in funding, there is less money available to make the system work. The library is also being forced to reduce substantially its purchase of volumes.

The universities in the Maritimes have calculated that from 1976-1977 to 1981-1982, they needed an increase in government funding in the range of 71 per cent merely to maintain services at the level at which they were operating. Instead, during that same period they received only approximately 50 per cent more. This year they will require about a 12 per cent increase just to stay where they are, let alone improve the quality of education in light of the knowledge explosion and manpower requirements. The legislation under debate now,