• (1750)

Youth Appreciation Week

As the saying goes, Mr. Speaker, if youth but knew, if old age but could. If we could put that proverb into practice, we would give far more experience to youth. Our young people are like those of yore. They are born with needs to be fulfilled. Those are human needs as all others, but since the beginning of things, there have always been young and old people. Youth has surely the right to hope in its own country.

Youths live on hope and this must be proclaimed by senior people, those who know what life is about, who have the experience of life. This experience must be transmitted to youth. This is the responsibility of all.

Through technology and universities, youths do not lack information on technical matters, the philosophy of life, etc. Youths have just about everything.

Nowadays youths lack initiative from the moral point of view, as it is stated in the bill, and I quote:

... on the influence religion and morals have on the lives of youth and to encourage youths to actively participate in spiritual activities; and

Mr. Speaker, I feel there is now a lack of morality in our universities, in our schools and in our country for the guidance of our youth. If we want to build up a strong country, inhabited by just people, a developing country where we can tell our young people to hope, we should give them the means required for hope, in other words, ethics. Now, morality has to a certain extent been set aside in our universities and school. In my opinion it is lacking in our young people. Why? Because there are not enough "moralists". If a number of them met all the needs of our young people, we could entertain hopes of creating a more just society.

Today's youth do not hope for a just society because they pretend that injustice is everywhere. Youth is given rustic means to earn a living, youth is educated in universities. They come out of there with many degrees; many young people with degrees cannot find their place in life, they are unable to develop naturally as they would have wished, to be in the areas where they would have liked to develop. In summary, they are unable to find their way.

In universities and schools, youth have to be developed in the same way as steel or furniture are produced in any industry, by mass producing them. In universities as in any other institution of higher learning education is mass produced just as steel is.

Mr. Speaker, we are not giving enough consideration to vocations springing up in each individual. Every human being should be individually educated in universities and other places of high learning. People now are masseducated and thus we are going through a dreadful experience. Many young people are far from being adapted, far from being in the sphere they would like to be. This is due to the economic, social and spiritual lack of balance.

Spiritually we lack balance because when all the young people get their degrees from these institutions of high learning we can well realize that in respect of morals there are many deficiencies. We realize that they did not get a proper moral education, and this has resulted in the uneasiness we see in our society, especially among young people.

Also in the economic area, we have many reforms to make for young people. They cannot find their role in society, cannot get married, cannot take up a career of their choice, because the economy no longer lets them. Thousands and thousands of dollars are needed to start any small business. But young people lack capital and

cannot face up to the situation and the blame must not be laid only on them but also on the system in which we live. They should have the right to live, to get married and to have a home of their own.

But today, this is practically impossible, because they must pay four or five times the price of a house, because of the present system, where we cannot even give young people the hopes they should have.

If we are to give young people any hope, we are going to have to reorganize our whole economy. We are going to have to adapt our economy to the latest technical and ideological developments. We are going to have to give the young of today and tomorrow access to all that if we are to build a just society where man will be recognized and respected, as it is not the case presently, because initiatives are lost and many young people could do much better in society but in the context I have described we make slaves of them at best.

[English]

THE ROYAL ASSENT

A message was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable House in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the House went up to the Senate chamber.

And being returned:

Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Deputy Governor General had been pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bill:

Bill C-124, an act to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971 (No. 1)—Chapter No. 2

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.