

many of those young people at the same time and the work they did was not really necessary. They were supported by temporary program like Canada Works, LIP or that kind of program assisted by an Unemployment Insurance Act which allowed them to live decently, with a sense of self-respect.

The ETCP is another program which aims at getting at the roots of the problem. This program can really promote job creation. An employer in my constituency is happy to receive a tax credit of \$1.75 an hour when he hires a young worker, and generally, this young worker will stay with this business afterwards.

Farm workers can also benefit from the program. They are very happy about it. It is the nicest little program ever conceived because it can be applied easily. There is no need to hire ten accountants to be told what to do and what form must be filled in and sent back to the government. I therefore find it difficult to understand why the discussion has gone on for so long to extend this program for one year. It is easy to draw conclusions, but the gentlemen opposite, as our friends in Quebec often say, the hon. members on the other side should go and see in their own constituencies the people who have used this program. It is a real jewel. When you talk to them about a manpower training program, they will tell you: that is very nice, but we have to consult the province for a training program. However, you set up something when you were in power not so long ago and you knew that it would come to an end on March 31—

**An hon. Member:** You were not there long!

**Mr. Gimaiel:** You knew that on March 31, 1980, the program would come to an end, and we also knew this, we who were working in manpower centres at the time. What we were asking from the lower echelons was that the program be extended for one year. This was not done. Now we are doing so. We should take care of this as soon as possible. I believe that there is a great potential of use in this program, and the minister will confirm that the funds allocated to the ETCP in the last two years were not sufficient because there always were more requests. This proves that this program is effective and will be increasingly so to the extent, first of all, that members of Parliament will publicize it in their ridings at the same time as the department and will tell their constituents about it because it is universal and applies to nearly everyone. This is one of the elements that the government conceived to fight the basic problem of unemployment which affects all the countries of the capitalistic or western world.

Over the past ten years Canada has given people billions and told them: "Think of ideas, we will give you money, do what you like". There is no other country in the world which did that and it proves that we are confident in the possibilities of the population, and that is why Mr. Pierre Trudeau was re-elected as Prime Minister of Canada during the last federal election. Besides proving that we have faith in the people this

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constituted an opinion poll which we do not often have the chance to see because it is not one in which we ask people: "Are you for or against this issue?" It is an opinion poll which asks the individual what he thinks. We give money to someone who uses it however he sees fit. The results are fantastic. In my area, job-creation projects have worked wonders which can be used today for recreation purposes or others. Apart from this, there is also the fact that permanent institutions were created from temporary projects. And all this in the context of the same employment tax credit program. A little while ago, I heard someone ask who is going to create jobs. There is no one here on this side of the House who can claim to know the truth and to be able to create all the necessary jobs in Canada. No one. What we are saying is that within this country there are a good many people who have an incredible potential to create jobs and for the last 12 years we have been helping them. That is why Canada has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the world as well as one of the lowest inflation rates. We will continue to do what we have done, to have faith in the population, in all Canadians. This is what is being done in my area and I am happy to encourage these people.

A little while ago, we were talking about a striking committee for job creation. That is essential. When we came to power and the previous government had decided, oh wonder, to put an end to the job-creation program, to suppress it, we wound up with the program pretty much in tatters; the striking committees had disappeared. We had to take all that in hand and rebuild. People ask me: Why a striking committee? Because these striking committees are comprised of key people who have ideas, know the local background, come from all parts of the region and from every corner of the riding; these people sit down and study ideas which are presented to them and invest money in them. It is simply a question of trusting the people. If you trust Canadians, Canadians will trust you. We know what we are talking about. We have been in power almost 20 years. That is essential. When you want to show someone you trust him you give him the opportunity of making it on his own. That is exactly what we are doing. We are not the fountain of truth. We will not force Canadians to work in areas they do not want to work or to do things they do not want to do, but we will help them hire other Canadians, if they want, and put their ideas in practice.

In conclusion I wonder if the minister could tell us whether the budget for the tax credit program, with which I became very familiar when I worked at the Canada Manpower Centre, will be increased over last year? I am aware of the fact that the program is being extended another year. Perhaps it should be extended even longer, but I wonder whether the program budget itself, and I realize these are hard times, can be increased.