

expect. If it is not a panacea, the government will not get much support from my friends to the left. They apparently want to cut out this type of training so you can see how vicious they can be when they want.

Mr. Nielsen: The so-called party of the working man.

Mr. Alexander: The key to this whole thing is the provision of high employment opportunities. We cannot continue to do what we have been doing in the last couple of years when our fiscal and monetary policies have created massive unemployment which ruins and frustrates all manpower programs. These programs are geared to normal circumstances, and "normal" in this sense means a minimum of unemployment, not high unemployment.

I hope when the minister speaks with his colleagues he will pass on the message that these programs are good but we should not continue education in terms of those skills which are not needed or become obsolete. These programs seem to absorb people and make things look good, but at the end of the program period these people are again out on the streets without employment and are perhaps tapping the Unemployment Insurance fund.

I do not think I have to continue talking about this matter.

Mr. Railton: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the hon. member would permit a question?

The Chairman: Is the hon. member rising on a question of privilege?

Mr. Railton: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I think there has been an incorrect statement. In our area 70 per cent of the people who received on-the-job training were working within three months of the time they completed their courses.

The Chairman: Order, please. The hon. member for Welland has made a statement rather than a question of privilege. He apparently takes issue with the statement of the hon. member.

Mr. Alexander: I accept that statement, Mr. Chairman. I am very pleased to know that is the situation in the hon. member's area. What I was stating was that the minister's own figures in respect to manpower on-the-job training would indicate that less than half of those trained received jobs for which they were trained.

Mr. Andras: Oh, no, no.

Mr. Alexander: If I am wrong I know the minister will correct me, but my understanding is that less than half of those who graduated from the on-the-job training program were able to acquire the jobs for which they were trained. If I am wrong, I will sit down and let the minister correct me.

In any event, we might have been happy had the NDP come up with a sensible motion which intended to accomplish that which the keynote speaker of that party indicated in terms of manpower needs. Perhaps hon. members of that party have an excellent point, but when they try to tamper with and trample upon training programs which are really needed, speaking on behalf of this party we

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cannot go along with them. We will vote against the motion.

The Chairman: Order, please. The Chair must make a confession to the committee. Under the provisions of Standing Order 58(13), during the proceedings in respect of any item of business under the provisions of this standing order no member may speak more than once or for longer than 20 minutes. I am afraid we have departed from this practice in the last few days, particularly in respect of some members of the ministry.

I just draw this to the attention of hon. members, although I realize it would be an injustice if we now invoked this rule against ministers who have been asked to reply to certain arguments or allegations. I think it should be applied in respect of subsequent items in this schedule. This has been an omission on the part of the Chair which will be corrected at a future time. I will not invoke the rule in respect of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration who has been invited to make certain responses to the hon. member for Hamilton West.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Chairman, before we proceed I wonder if you would be so kind as to cite the order again so that I might look at it?

The Chairman: Yes it is Standing Order 58(13).

Mr. Andras: Mr. Chairman, I will be as brief as possible. I would like to confirm for the hon. member for Hamilton West the terrible damage that this motion might have done. I was pleased to hear the hon. member's stated intention not to support the amendment. Any hon. member who votes for the amendment now before us should come with me tomorrow to face those ministers of education from the provinces and tell them they cannot get any more administrative money for a co-operative manpower training program across this country. I would hate to face them and have to tell those fine gentlemen from Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia the source of this damage to the programs, particularly when they are coming here to plead with me for more assistance rather than less.

Perhaps I might take one more brief moment to give the provincial breakdown requested by the hon. member for Timiskaming. In the Atlantic provinces, there were 119,985 vacancies notified to manpower centres and 96,267 placements. These figures are related to regional breakdowns, but they could be given on a provincial basis if the hon. member so wishes. Unless he indicates otherwise, I will proceed on a regional basis.

Mr. Lundrigan: Go ahead and give them on a provincial breakdown.

Mr. Andras: In the province of Quebec there were 278,853 vacancies, with 209,793 placements. In Ontario, as one might have expected and I indicated this earlier, there were 466,548 vacancies reported by employers to manpower centres, and of these, 348,810 were filled as a result of CMC references to these employers. We will have to take provincial breakdowns in order to avoid offending the hon. member for Yukon. In Manitoba there were 52,000 vacancies referred and 35,970 jobs filled. In Sas-