

these various programs, we have to come to the conclusion that they are palliatives and I hope that we will continue by all means possible to improve the situation.

La Presse of Thursday, January 28, 1971, featured an article by Mr. Maurice Giroux, which says:

The Liberals will study a crash anti-unemployment program.

Three main items were supposed to be on the agenda of the meeting scheduled for February 5, 6, 7 and 8, 1971 in Quebec City. They are the following:

- an immediate decrease in personal income tax;
- a decrease in corporate income tax in return for job-creating projects;
- a step-up in major federal and provincial projects.

These crash recommendations were made by economist André Raynauld, a Université de Montréal professor who will be the special guest of the Liberal party during this important convention before the 1972 general election.

From the government order respecting the Income Tax Act, i.e. Bill C-225 which was recently debated in the House, I take it that the economist's recommendations concerning the elimination of the provisional 3 per cent surcharge have not been considered, since the situation is still the same.

● (2:20 p.m.)

The motion moved today concerns a current concrete problem, since the latest statistics prove that the spectacular unemployment rate among the young is practically twice as high as that for workers aged 25 or more.

This problem is all the more important as unemployment among the young is one of the deepest causes for dissatisfaction, because it challenges the government policy which for years has been incessantly emphasizing the need for a more educated labour force, better qualified for the tasks which are awaiting them in today's world-wide competitive system.

Now, today's youth surely realize that the promises of a better life, a stronger economy, higher salaries, more reasonable consumer prices, greater affluence and prosperity were merely electoral promises destined to remain unfulfilled, and made solely to ensure votes.

That is why I believe that the utmost consideration should be given to this very alarming situation of the educated young who cannot make use of their energies, capabilities and skills. Means should be found to amend government policies, which are now leading to chaos.

It has always been stated and rightly so, and I say it again, that economic growth is greatly influenced by the degree of general education of a population and by the degree of technical and vocational training of labour.

As early as June 1, 1910, on the initiative of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the then federal Minister of Labour, the Right Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, proposed to the governor in council the appointment of a royal commission to inquire into the industrial and technical training institutions and into those that should be established for the same purpose, as well as on methods of technical training used in other countries.

Economic Growth and Employment Situation

The inquiry took the Commission to all Canadian centers from the Atlantic to the Pacific, where some form of industrial teaching was carried out, as well as to the United Kingdom, the United States, France, Germany and other European countries. The Commission first submitted a temporary report on March 28, 1911, that it finally completed in 1913 with a four volume report totalling 2,551 pages. Unfortunately, there was no follow-through.

Regarding education, the Commission has made no specific recommendations, no doubt because it obviously considered the problem as one under the jurisdiction of the provinces.

However, the commissioners could not hide their enthusiasm and they commented favorably on measures adopted in certain countries to extend schooling or, at least, to force young people who drop out of public school to attend vocational training institutions.

The commissioners report states, among other things, that in four fifths of German states, that is in all cities of more than 10,000 people, attendance at a school of vocational training is compulsory for young people between the ages of 14 and 17. The commissioners note: "We are surprised to see no young people of either sex idling about on street corners or wandering aimlessly on the sidewalks in the evening". Those suggestions could have been put into practice.

Let us remember that it is not by mere chance or by a stroke of fate that Germany has become one of the most industrialized powers of the world, that its workers, technicians and scientists have succeeded in building the economic and military power that democracies had to fight on two occasions.

In Germany, as I stated a while ago, the imperial government, before the First World War, compelled young people not yet 17 to attend professional training schools. The lectures were given most of the time in the evening and as for organized trades, they came under the responsibility of the guilds.

Great Britain was lagging behind Germany, but public opinion was warned. In the Manchester area, in 1907 and 1908, out of a population of 3,974,000 inhabitants, 105,503 were attending night school. But this did not seem sufficient because an advisory committee which has analyzed the situation made the following recommendations: Each employer who has young employees under 17 years of age should be compelled, under the law, to allow them to attend refresher courses during the periods set under the regulations of the local authorities of the area in which those young people are living or working; to supply, on request, to the local authorities, the names of those employees.

In addition, to ensure regular attendance of the students at the vocational schools, in those areas where attendance is compulsory, it should be forbidden, under penalty of a fine, for any employer, in the trades concerned by the regulations applying to the area, to employ or continue employing any young boy or girl who does not periodically produce a card bearing witness to the