

and retraining in modern skills, youth counselling and regional development programs. It must include also good housing and slum clearance. This goes back to the boys and girls living in poor surroundings. There must be more pleasant surroundings, giving the children in the slums and poor districts a chance to study and learn, and thus prepare themselves for something besides menial labour and starvation pay.

Honourable senators, there was a splendid part summary of the Deutsch Report in the *Ottawa Journal* of January 7. I like to read the editorials in the *Journal*; they are always good and very much to the point. This one compared especially the educational attainments in the United States and in the Canadian labour forces. The report calls it the widening educational gap and refers to the income gap in the two countries, and the ill effects this has had and is having on the Canadian economy. The report showed that in 1964 and 1965 the average income in Canada was at least 25 per cent below the United States level. That is not very flattering, I am sure.

I will read from the report:

Over the past half-decade, the average years of schooling increased by about three-fifths in the U.S., but by less than two-fifths in Canada.

In 1960, about 45 per cent of the U.S. male labor force had four years of high school or more education, compared with 24 per cent in Canada in 1961.

The average number of years of schooling among Canadian male labor force increased by only two and one-half years over half a century.

It will take many years for Canada to reach the average educational level already achieved in the U.S.; take decades to close the gap with the U.S.

The report goes on to say:

There has been a substantial long-term rise in the educational attainments of the Canadian labor force. But the average level of such attainments has been considerably below that of the United States, and has increased more slowly than in the United States. There has thus been a widening 'educational gap' between the two countries.

This gap appears to have widened particularly at the secondary school level in the inter-war years, and particularly at the university level in the post-war period.

Differences in the average educational attainments appear to be an important element in the difference in living standards between Canada and the United States.

Honourable senators, I have emphasized the great need there, and explained why there is a priority.

Speaking of vocational training brings me to the question of higher education. This need has been recognized by the present Government in the Speech from the Throne as one of the most demanding priorities. Indeed, it was recognized as such by the former Conservative Government in its national plan for education—the first time a federal government had undertaken a massive educational project. It included both university and vocational and technical education, all in conjunction with the provinces and municipalities, for it must always be recognized that the provinces have first say in education. Today, however, it has become financially beyond their capabilities.

I was pleased to read in the Speech from the Throne that after allowing the scheme to lag, the Government plans to implement to a considerable extent the recommendations of universities for increased financial assistance. The Speech from the Throne says, in part:

A program of Canada scholarships and bursaries for students undertaking higher education will be submitted for your approval. Amendments will be proposed to the Student Loans Act. As an initial response to the acute financial difficulties encountered by the universities and colleges, you will be asked to approve a substantial increase in the federal financial assistance to universities for the academic year 1966-67.

We are greatly pleased that the Government now intends to increase financial assistance to the universities.

An increased demand for professional and technical education in Canada has long been recognized. We are pitifully short of doctors, dentists, nurses, and engineers, and people generally who are engaged in providing medical services and hospitalization. Quite recently Premier Robarts of Ontario emphasized the particular need, and at the same time pointed out that until we have enough doctors, nurses and other services for our hospitals, it is not reasonable to press for medicare, such as it is being pressed for at the present time.