

clearly as I can about programs and projects so that the members of this house, as is their due, will know what the Government is attempting to do.

Senator McCutcheon, in respect of education, complained that the research program is going to be restricted, and said that this is a bad thing. I hope honourable senators will remember the way I discussed the point in connection with research. I said only that plans had been made to increase the amount of money that was going to be made available to the various research institutions in this country, and at no time was there a proposal to reduce the amount. Very soon I hope it will be possible to go on with increases in the allocation of moneys for this very important work.

I point out that there is no intention whatever of cutting down on university grants, which were initiated by the party to which I belong, increased by the party represented by the honourable gentleman opposite, and further increased when our party came back into office. I feel sure that this program, which has had a good deal to do with furthering higher education in this country, is not going to be cut back.

There is no proposal to cut back either in respect of another popular program that has been useful in the field of education, namely, that which is called the Student Loan program, and which is working well.

Senator McCutcheon made a point about the last item in the finding of the 1959 committee of the Senate on finance, and I quote it again:

Tools to contain inflation are available—what is necessary is the will and determination of the people and the authorities to use them.

It is hoped that as a result of this reference to the committee, and the publicity that will flow from the discussions that go on in the committee on the evidence adduced before it, there will be generated on the part of the people a will and a determination that may very well be helpful in this whole approach to the problem of inflation.

Honourable senators, the list of not only monetary but fiscal and economic policies and projects announced by the Minister of Finance, to which I made reference, and which is by no means complete, indicates a will on the part of the Government—if Senator McCutcheon, when he uses the word “authorities,” means the Government—and a

determination to do something about this problem. If an apology is necessary, then I make it but I am rather proud of the way in which they have tackled it.

I am particularly proud also of the fact that at this stage, within six months of the time of his budget, Mr. Sharp has said: “Perhaps I did not go far enough at that time. I now feel I have not gone far enough, but the situation then was not the situation now. I want now to go further.”

Senator McCutcheon suggests that the postponement of medicare is not going to be anti-inflationary. Tomorrow morning the Tax Structure Committee is going to meet in this chamber. If medicare is going to be started by July 1, 1967 then there will have to be a good deal of spending not only on the part of the Canadian Government but on the part of the provincial governments that are going to participate in the plan. That spending which could have been inflationary has been deferred, and will be deferred. Honourable senators may believe me when I say it took a lot of soul searching for the Government to come to this kind of a decision because of the importance of the program.

I am glad that Senator Macdonald from Brantford is present this evening. He was the Leader of the Government when we were in opposition and when the 1959 Committee on Finance had referred to it the problem of inflation. He was also the Leader of the Government when the Special Committee of the Senate on Manpower and Employment was established, and he gave leadership in the setting up of that committee. All the honourable gentlemen on the front benches of this chamber were here at that time, and honourable senators opposite may take my word for it when I say that those were important and valuable studies. The reports of those committees were invaluable to the Government of the day.

But, let me make this point very clear, because it was clear in my mind and I am sure it was clear in the minds of others, that neither of those studies was undertaken for the purpose of embarrassing the Government of the day. They were undertaken for the purpose of helping the Government of the day to combat the problems that it then faced. First, there was inflation, and, second, there was the constructive use of manpower. My honourable friend will remember the good things that came from those studies. One was the Vocational Training Program, and there were many others.