

*Business of Supply*

We have enough problems with some of the statistics fed to us by other ministers without having the Minister of Manpower, who heads a relatively new department and is alleged to have some professional competence in the field, getting into the bad habits of some of his colleagues. I hope that one of the important purposes this debate may serve will be to receive from the government authoritative information that the government is willing to stand by.

Does the government accept the figures put forward as to the seriousness of the summer employment situation? Does the government accept the figures put forward with regard to the recruiting taking place on campus for permanent jobs? What figures can the department put forward as to the number of students who can be placed this summer? How many graduates does the government project can be placed in permanent jobs? Has the department any statistical information as to the number of students who, without summer employment, will not be in a position to continue their education? Is there any attempt to give some priority to these more needy individuals in placing applicants for summer employment?

Based on the projected number of graduates for the next five years and the anticipated rate of economic growth in Canada, what does the government expect in terms of percentage of graduates who can be absorbed within Canada? Based on these projections, what changes, if any, are planned in the student aid programs? What consultations are being held between the federal government and the provinces? These are questions that require serious answers and I hope a spokesman for the government will obtain and provide these answers later today.

The outlook, Mr. Speaker, is one causing increasing concern. There is a serious failure of policy in a developing country like Canada when we are unable to utilize effectively students graduating from our universities, colleges and technical institutes. This is a serious symptom which indicates something is seriously wrong with our development policies and programs. We must be seriously concerned about the loss of talent. It is a serious situation when students whom we wish to encourage to remain in school to continue their education and training find it necessary to drop out for economic reasons. This represents a failure of policy and a great cost to Canada. It is completely unacceptable that we in this country at this stage of our economic,

social and scientific development should turn out record numbers of students for whom there appears to be no adequate use in Canada. That, I suggest, is unacceptable.

• (4:00 p.m.)

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I apologize to the Leader of the Opposition for interrupting him but his time has expired.

**Some hon. Members:** Carry on.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member has unanimous consent of the house to resume his remarks.

**Mr. Stanfield:** I thank you and the house for this courtesy. Mr. Speaker, I will simply terminate my remarks by saying that this situation is unacceptable. So too is the failure of any policy that results in capable young Canadians having to interrupt or end their education because of economic circumstances.

I am sure the house and the country will listen with great interest to the views of the appropriate minister on this important subject. I trust the minister will inform the house as to the information available, as to the efforts the government is making to get the necessary information, and as to the steps the government is taking with regard to measures of consultation with the provinces. Unless the minister can indicate that plans are going forward and unless he can give some satisfactory explanation with regard to the failure to establish consultation, then having regard to the government's failure to take satisfactory and urgent measures to meet the problems I have outlined I would ask the house to vote in favour of the motion:

That this house regrets that the government has not provided for the development and retention of manpower resources in Canada and, in particular, of student manpower resources.

Certainly, Mr. Speaker, there seems to have been a most abject failure, and we await an explanation from the minister.

**Mr. J. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Mr. Speaker, I am going to approach the subject raised by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) from a somewhat different tack. Before doing so I would like to remind the house that the problem of full utilization of our manpower resources is scarcely new, even to this session of the house. It has been raised a number of times by spokesmen for the New Democratic Party, most recently by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) who moved on March