

certain observed rate of unemployment when there is an extra problem, trying to solve a superimposed specific problem with regular funds.

I therefore ask the minister's representative this evening whether it is possible, yes or no, to have an extra \$400,000 for the people in Port-Cartier under the Canada Works program with a view to directly and concretely helping the people in that municipality. I feel it is unjustifiable and shameful to use the money provided for a given population without finding extra solutions to help people with extra needs. To be fair, the minister should use that \$2.6 million for the people on the lower and middle North Shore, and add \$400,000 for direct help to the people in the municipality of Port-Cartier.

In view of the late hour, I simply ask the minister to give a clear answer to those two questions: what concrete means will the minister use to create direct employment under the Canada Works program in Port-Cartier because of the ITT closedown? And when will the minister have his answer available? If clear thinking leads to clear speech, I ask the parliamentary secretary to give us the clearest possible answer.

● (2225)

[English]

Mr. Bob Jarvis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I would certainly agree with the hon. member for Manicouagan (Mr. Maltais) that there is injustice in unemployment and that there is a great deal of injustice in his particular riding, an injustice created by five years of chronic unemployment, five years of excessive government spending, and five years without any programs that would come anywhere near to grips with the problems which exist in my friend's riding.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Jarvis (Willowdale): I would advise the hon. member that, first of all, with respect to his original question, there may have been an incorrect impression. The current budget on Canada Works for this fiscal year, exclusive of administration, is \$134 million, to which must be added \$18 million specifically earmarked for the Local Employment Assistance Program. I would further advise the hon. member that the proposal for

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the next fiscal year is to increase the Local Employment Assistance Program to \$30 million, and it is our government's opinion that more emphasis on that program would be in order rather than on the Canada Works program.

I would remind the hon. member of the answer given by the minister when this issue was debated previously and the response to a particular question on the same issue in which he said no additional moneys would be provided for the Canada Works program. The object of the government's policy is to increase the capacity of the private sector to stimulate employment, particularly in the youth areas, as a long-term solution to this problem.

The program for 1980-1981 will reflect the government's particular concern for youth and our intention to strengthen the private sector's capacity to create permanent jobs. We are establishing a youth employment secretariat which will have the task of developing a coherent federal youth employment policy by co-ordinating the mixture of youth employment programs now in place, thus ensuring the most effective use of our resources. Consistent with the government's campaign promises, we will also be developing additional ways in which private sector employment opportunities can be provided for youth, and we will be providing training programs for at least 120,000 young men and women.

In addition, our government intends to establish a national youth service program. The government will also ensure that attention continues to be given to meeting the particular needs of groups and individuals who have special problems in securing and keeping jobs. New initiatives have all been the topic of consultation with the governments of the provinces of Canada and subsequently will be presented in more detail in the debate on the budget. If my friend would wait for the budget speech which is scheduled for tomorrow, I am sure he will have more specific answers to a chronic problem that has been with us a great deal of time and has not been given attention before this budget.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.28 p.m.