

Senator Bonnell: I think it needs amendment. It would be a great asset to a lot of people who were previously disadvantaged and not able to take advantage of a training program.

Senator Inman: How are your instructors chosen? Do they have an examination of any kind?

Mr. Meyer: You mean the people who teach on the courses?

Senator Inman: Yes.

Mr. Meyer: No. We have no control over that, because this is entirely within provincial jurisdiction. If we are unhappy about the performance of a particular teacher, who may be brought to our attention by trainees, we may pass the information on to the responsible provincial officials. In the final analysis it is the provincial responsibility to choose instructors, teachers and trainers, and see that they have the proper skills for the jobs they are to do.

Senator Inman: You have no control over the provincial appointments at all?

Mr. Meyer: None whatsoever.

Senator Yuzyk: I would like to have some information about in-industry training as compared with, say, regular vocational training. What proportion of the trainees are in in-industry training?

I would like just a brief answer to my question. I would like to know which is the more successful—the regular vocational training, or the in-industry training, from the point of view of employment.

Mr. Meyer: I am not sure that we can put it in those terms, senator. Perhaps after the meeting I could discuss this with you in some detail. In principle, the in-industry training, as you call it, is relatively a very small part of our total program, as has probably been pointed out by the Economic Council of Canada. We had a major on-the-job training program during the past winter. That is somewhat different. That certainly has enjoyed a great deal of popularity with industry. At the moment we are engaged in a follow-up survey to determine just what it cost and what its popularity may be. Certainly, the 75 per cent reimbursement of wages would contribute to it. We want to determine whether it is as effective a training program as we hoped it would be. That really should be considered separate from our normal in-industry training program which has been conducted since the beginning of 1967. That has been a good but very small program.

Senator Yuzyk: But it has been a good program?

Mr. Meyer: Yes, a good program.

Senator Yuzyk: And it can be improved now?

Mr. Meyer: Yes.

Senator Yuzyk: And you do say it is becoming more popular.

Mr. Meyer: Yes.

Senator Bourget: Is there an age limit at which a trainee can apply?

Mr. Meyer: Any training, or training in industry?

Senator Bourget: Any training?

Mr. Meyer: There is an age limit in the sense that he must be one year past the school leaving age.

Senator Bourget: That I understand, but what about the upper limit?

Mr. Meyer: There is no upper limit.

Senator Smith: It is a matter of judgment for the official who refers him.

Senator Bourget: Is the entire cost borne by the central government in all cases?

Mr. Meyer: Yes, it is. In the case of institutional training, yes. In the case of training in industry, no. In the case of training in industry the employer makes a certain contribution, mostly in terms of overhead costs.

Senator Bourget: And all the instructors are paid by the federal government?

Mr. Meyer: The instructional staff is paid by the province, but the federal government reimburses the full cost.

Senator Bourget: 100 per cent?

Mr. Meyer: Yes, 100 per cent.

Senator Bourget: What was the cost of that program last year, and what will it cost this year? We may find those figures in the Estimates, but perhaps you have them at hand.

Mr. Meyer: Last year the budgeted cost was approximately \$325 million. We received an additional \$15 million later on in the fall, in order to provide additional training as part of the government winter works program. We did not use all of the additional money, so the actual fund consumption has been somewhat over \$330 million. This year it will be in the order of \$350 million.

Senator Norrie: I understand that you have the same amount of money in the new bill to spread over the services?

Mr. Meyer: That is correct.

Senator Norrie: If we have the same amount of money, are we not servicing fewer people, or is it more streamlined, or being more efficiently handled?

Mr. Meyer: We have the same amount of money this year, but we will have a broader group to choose from, because we have