

Research activities and special studies which can best be undertaken by a central authority are undertaken by the branch in cooperation with the provincial authorities and with the help of other branches of the Department of Labour, particularly the administrative services branch, the information branch and the economics and research branch.

One such joint project is the analysis of skilled trades to determine the essential skills and knowledge required for full competency for the training of apprentices and skilled workers. To date seven analyses have been completed and distributed; there are ready for printing and two more are being prepared.

A study of existing facilities and courses for the training of skilled workers and technicians in publicly-operated schools is under way. This study is part of the departmental research project to determine the need for new and improved methods of training skilled workers and technicians to meet the changing requirements of Canadian industry.

One of the most urgent needs for apprenticeship continues to be the training of instructors for organized classroom and shop instruction of indentured apprentices. The branch has again arranged for a special teacher training course at the Ontario College of Education. Several provinces which do not have suitable teachers' training programs of their own are making use of this program as well as other departments of the federal government.

Other activities of the branch include the preparation of special reports and bulletins on various branches or aspects of vocational training, the convening of or participation in national and interprovincial conferences, and the dissemination of information which will help to promote various forms of training. Among the publications mentioned above are bulletins on apprenticeship, vocational training and vocational correspondence courses.

The CHAIRMAN: We will now receive any questions which members may wish to ask.

Mr. STANTON: The vocational training comes under the jurisdiction of the province. Has there been any increase in the assistance by the dominion department to the province along that line in the last year or two?

Mr. FORD: Under the first agreement I mentioned there is an increase of half a million dollars each year and \$25 million over a five-year period is being made available to help assist the provinces in developing capital projects. As well, the amount of money, which has been made available for apprenticeship training has been increased each year as the number of applicants increase. I think increased funds are being made available for training of disabled persons and unemployed.

Mr. STANTON: Could you give me the increased number of persons partaking of this assistance that is being given to them?

Mr. FORD: That is one of the most difficult questions to answer as we have to get accurate statistics from the provinces. As far as the apprenticeship training in classes is concerned, it has been increased in the last two years at the rate of 1,000 apprentices a year. The number of unemployed who are given training increased considerably during the last year. However, this figure fluctuates. An attempt is being made on the part of most provinces to provide training for all those referred for training by the national employment services.

Mr. BROWNE (*Vancouver-Kingsway*): One of the functions of this department is dealing with disabled persons and their rehabilitation. I was wondering when we had a special department set up to deal with that, which came under the previous item which we dealt with, why it would not be better administered under that department? I would also like to know what proportion of the money goes to rehabilitation services which is used in this department?