

training, as indicated in the speech delivered by the Hon. Member for Elgin.

We feel job training and job retraining is important, but what we need are brand-new initiatives, which we are not getting. Job training and retraining are not just good enough if there are no jobs for young people to go to. That is the area in which this Government is deficient. That is the area about which this Government is failing to do anything. This Government has literally failed in job training and retraining. Even if that were sufficient in itself, there are simply not the jobs for young people to go into because this Government lacks the determination, the political will and is deficient in the area of philosophy of getting jobs for the young people today.

**Mr. de Corneille:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments the Hon. Member has made about his concern about the effectiveness of the programs. By commenting on that, I think he should then provide some examples of where these programs are not reaching out or not meeting people's requirements. What I have been trying to do is to specialize in a certain specific area and provide facts and programs so that Hon. Members and the public may know the wide range of programs being made available to enable people to take on jobs. It is not only a matter of making jobs available but of making Canadians able to work in the jobs that are available or that down the line will become available. It is not possible, and I am glad it has been reiterated, to have a quick fix.

● (1240)

I believe the facts I have presented to the House concerning the programs in place and being funded at the present time will have to speak for themselves. I tried to show the comprehensive nature of them. I hope they will be effective. I know that in some cases in my riding in the City of Toronto they are effective.

We can talk about creating positions, but we also have to talk about the fact that many new jobs have been created. When we talk about figures and statistics, very often we become depressed or concerned about the fact that there is a large reservoir of unemployed. However, it is important that we are creating jobs at a record rate in Canada as compared with other countries in the western world. When we look at that fact and at the training programs available to Canadians, they comprise a policy. I hope the Government will never give up its efforts or feel satisfied with anything less than total employment.

**Mr. Patterson:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Hon. Member for Eglinton-Lawrence (Mr. de Corneille), but first I will refer to an article which appeared in my local newspaper. I received it just today. It indicates that the job situation in the Fraser Valley of British Columbia is devastating. This report was the result of the work of a task force established by the Fraser Valley College. In part the article reads:

College principal Dr. Barry Moore said "I found the report just devastating."

### *Supply*

Also it pointed out that somewhere between 9,000 and 15,000 youths between the ages of 15 and 24 years are unemployed in the Fraser Valley region. According to the article, Dr. Moore stated:

It's just further indication of a major kind of new era we're going into, where 20 to 25 per cent of the people are not able to find jobs.

That's the prospect. I think we're facing a major, major shift in our society.

The Hon. Member referred to several programs which were put in place by the Government. What percentage of the amounts requested under the provisions of the various programs has actually been allocated to date?

**Mr. de Corneille:** Mr. Speaker, I would not want to answer that question because I do not have the most recent facts. The Hon. Member should direct that question to the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Roberts) or to the Minister of State for Youth (Mrs. Hervieux-Payette) in Question Period.

However, I can point out that there are certainly programs in place in my riding. I have cited in my comments certain examples of programs across the country in order to point out that it is a real thing, not merely figures at which one could look and merely say: "Oh, the Government is throwing money at it". On the contrary, the Government is establishing carefully thought out programs in collaboration and consultation with the provinces and with the Public Service to work with institutions such as our universities and community colleges. The total picture involves many organizations throughout the country.

On May 14 there was an announcement by the Minister of Employment and Immigration that 300 projects were being undertaken with Imperial Oil which have just been enlarged. By increasing its fund base, Imperial Oil has been able to add to the program. I refer the Hon. Member to that press release as an example of the specific way in which we deal with the private sector. I am sorry I cannot give him the present statistic as to what is the exact percentage.

[Translation]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Guilbault):** Since there are no further questions or comments, the House will now proceed to debate.

[English]

**Mr. Gerry St. Germain (Mission-Port Moody):** Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on a subject which I wish did not exist in the magnitude it does; as a matter of fact, I wish it was totally non-existent. Youth unemployment is the most terrifying blight which has reared its head in Canada since the depression of the 1930s. It is a serious social problem. If it is not corrected immediately, it will have lasting effects for generations to come.

Most young Canadians find themselves in a dead-end situation, actually on a dead-end street, due to high levels of unemployment. Parents and students have worked hard and sacrificed to obtain education. With unemployment being so high and the prospects so negative, they are asking why they