Industrial Development

country receives from government investment in research and development.

New foreign sales cut into spiralling trade deficits. What a lesson we might take from that! Technologies, instead of non-renewable resources, are explored, and new jobs are created. Local and secondary industry grows and diversifies. Increased government revenues reduce hideous federal fiscal deficits. Depressed regions in Canada receive vibrant new incentives which release federal compensation funds for even more research and development, and more Canadians find jobs.

My New Democratic Party colleague talked about jobs. He talked about full employment for all Canadians being possible, and I agree with him.

Mr. Deans: Thank you.

Mr. Gilchrist: It is not only possible but also highly desirable. It is probably the highest political objective we could have.

Again I refer to the National Research Council on this matter. Dr. Kerwin has unequivocally stated that the spending of .5 per cent of the gross national product more on research and development would create 400,000 new jobs. That would mean the elimination of half the unemployment in this country. Just think of what could be accomplished if we spent 1.5 per cent or 2 per cent more on research and development. We would have no unemployment. We would be giving no gold watches at 65. We would be asking people to hang on for another two or three years. There would be too many jobs for Canadians to handle.

Research and development are part of the dual portfolio of the minister responsible. He has a second responsibility. Therefore, instead of getting the high priority it deserves, the research and development portfolio is getting only part-time action from a minister, who is not able to give his full attention to it because of his other portfolio, the environment, which is also important. To add insult to injury, the same minister is not even a member of the powerful cabinet committee on priorities and planning, so what chance does the desperately needed research and industrial development strategy have? What chance do young Canadians have for jobs or for years in active, dynamic Canadian businesses when we have ineffective ministers of industry, trade and commerce and science and technology? They are ineffectual and invisible. They are buried. They are lost under the smokescreen of constitutional clap-trap which, for a year now, has hidden hopeless ministers under hopeful flag-waving.

The kids who do not find jobs in careers will discover what really lies under that smoke, and the jobless waiting for Uncle Sam to cast a few crumbs our way and put a few Canadians back to work in factories which cannot compete with the United States factories will one day wise up to the dereliction of this Liberal government.

The Concise Oxford Dictionary has a word for the breach of faith shown by this government to the people of Canada

through the huge and increasing annual deficits which this government has run up, the \$15 billion or so a year right about now; the breach of faith to senior citizens, who retired with modest savings and who have watched those savings erode under 10 per cent or more annual inflation; and the breach of faith of the Minister of State for Science and Technology (Mr. Roberts), who made the greatest non-announcement of the year a couple of weeks ago with great pomp and circumstance at the board of trade news conference with a pathetic regurgitation of that old promise to increase research spending to 1.5 per cent of the gross national product by 1985, a figure which will not be met and which, even if it was, would be totally inadequate. There has been a breach of faith by a minister who manipulated words to imply greater effort and striving by the government but who did not admit until the next breath that the government's share would be less as a percentage of expenditures and that the private business sector, which gets that helping hand from the hon. member for Ottawa Centre, will get no help from the government to increase its research spending.

Then to reduce the government's credibility further, there is not the slightest mention of how all this was to come about. There was no mention of tax incentives. There was no mention of tax penalties for non-performance by foreign companies which like to keep their research and good jobs at home. There was no mention of grants. There were just hollow words. There were the same hollow Liberal words we have heard for 13 Trudeau years and which have turned this wonderfully potentially rich jewel of a country into the world's richest banana republic.

To get back to the point of the hon. member for Ottawa Centre about education, let me quote from this very day's Ottawa Citizen, which reports the betrayal of the entire scientific community of Canada by the scuttling of the five-year research funding program brought in by the previous Conservative government which this government and this minister said earlier in their term of office they would support and enhance. I would just like to read a little bit of today's item. It is headed "Scientists blast federal government for double-cross". It reads as follows:

In what scientists consider the ultimate double-cross, the federal government has scuttled a major program for revitalization of university research and scientific training programs.

The five-year program, run by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, was approved in principle last May amid applause from university, government and industry officials across the country.

Designed to get Canadian researchers back to work and offset severe shortages of young engineers and scientists, the plan called for significant budget increases for the council until 1985. Despite reassurances the five-year plan would continue this year, however, it has been quietly sabotaged.

The last sentence says:

"Never before have I seen a government announce with so much fanfare, a policy that it canned a month before," says Cowan.

What kind of government would treat its citizens like that? What kind of Member of Parliament would sit mute and sphinx-like while the Trudeau, MacEachen, Lalonde triumvirate, the three musketeers who cavalierly direct the affairs of