

per cent are young people between the ages of 14 and 24. For the month of November, 1970, the unemployment figure in respect of young people between the ages of 14 and 24 was 10.2 per cent, an increase of 1.2 per cent over the 9 per cent for October.

If one considers Canada by regions, one sees how serious this situation is. Not only the poor, have-not provinces are in trouble, although as one might expect they are in the greatest trouble: it is estimated that this winter in the Atlantic provinces 14 per cent of the entire work force will be unemployed. I do not need to tell this to members of the House, because we have among us members from the Atlantic provinces and from Newfoundland who I am sure can tell hon. members better than I can that in some regions the unemployment figure will be 20 per cent or more. It is estimated that in Quebec 13 per cent of the labour force will be unemployed at some points during this winter. I do not know of a better way to recruit the people of Quebec into separatism than confronting them with an unemployment figure of 13 per cent. This is the result of the policies of a government with a Prime Minister who was elected to create a united Canada.

In prosperous Ontario the unemployment rate will be 7 per cent. In the Prairie provinces it will be 8 per cent. Eight per cent in fact is not an honest figure because excluded from it are farmers who are in serious economic difficulty and would like to work during the winter months. Also excluded from that 8 per cent figure are Indians and Métis who have been unable to obtain work in earlier years. With those exclusions, 8 per cent of the Prairies work force will be unemployed.

In prosperous British Columbia 12 per cent of the people will be unemployed. Is it any wonder the people of this country, and in particular the younger people, are having difficulty and are discontent? Questions have been asked of the Prime Minister concerning whether the government is prepared to adopt emergency programs so that over the next few difficult months the young people who are unemployed, who are not going to school, who are not in manpower training programs and who are not entitled to unemployment insurance benefits may be helped. I listened with dismay, and that is putting it mildly, to the flippant answers received from the Prime Minister and the non-answers received from the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

● (8:50 p.m.)

I suggest to members of the House that they read any one of the newspapers published in the city of Toronto. The *Toronto Star*, which is Liberal, the *Toronto Telegram*, which is Conservative, and the *Globe and Mail*, which sometimes supports one party and at other times the other, have all in the last couple of weeks printed lengthy articles about the difficulties encountered by young people who have drifted into Toronto, as they have drifted into other cities, from small towns and communities outside Toronto, who have no work and who are besieging in the hundreds and thousands the manpower offices, the welfare departments and the private

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charitable organizations which are trying to help them. The stories are of a kind which I have not heard since the depression of the 1930s.

It is a disgrace that in this day and age young people meet the attitude of indifference which is portrayed so vividly in the articles to which I have referred in all three of the newspapers published in Toronto. I am sure that similar articles have appeared in newspapers throughout the country, because the situation is not peculiar to Toronto. It is worse in Montreal and certainly worse in cities in the Atlantic provinces.

What do the resolution and amendments proposed today call on the government to do? First of all, to adopt policies which would achieve full employment in this country. I do not think I have the time, and this is not the occasion, to list the things which can be done, the necessary social projects which are required and which could put to work every person in Canada who wants a job. We need homes, we need schools, we need hospitals, we need recreation centres, we need manpower training centres, and so on.

The government has turned its back on such proposals because of its false idea of holding the line on inflationary pressures, something with which they have not been successful and which, as I have said, has created increasing unemployment.

The second aspect of the requests which are being made to the government is that the manpower training programs which have been created and have done a great deal to upgrade the skills, the education and the working habits of the people of Canada, be geared to meet the new dimensions of the problems. What did the minister say today, and what was said all last week or so when he was asked about these points? He said, "Well, if we find places for the young people we will have to exclude some of the older people". He also said, "We have used up all the money which has been appropriated", and, "We are doing more than we have done in other years". It may be that we are doing more than we have done in other years, but compared with the needs of the winter of 1970-1971 what we are doing is completely inadequate. I say to the minister and to the government that the government should not refuse to act simply because it does not have the money to expand manpower training programs. I do not think any member of this House, of any party, would object to or vote against a proposal by the government to increase the appropriations for manpower training programs and for living allowances for those who are taking manpower training courses.

We have also been urging the government and this minister—not just in the last two weeks but in fact, ever since the manpower training program was begun—to take out of the legislation and the regulations some of the provisions which have prevented deserving, needy people of all ages who want to participate in a manpower training program to upgrade their skills so they can get the better jobs which will be available.

Some of the regulations and policies adopted by the government have prevented people from taking part in