Supply

he lives at a time and in a climate where there are no jobs, a climate created by the Liberals. It means that the youth of this land, for this year and, from what I can judge, it will be worse next year, do not have a hope in hell. That is one of the most offensive things to happen in a country which could be as great as Canada. Think of the personal and the psychological effects this can have. I can tell you a bit about that, because I can remember as a very small child wanting to get a paper route and my father saying that no, he could look after us, and that there was a man out there who needed the paper route to look after his family. I can remember at the age of 14 still trying to get a paper route and the circulation manager telling me that there was no paper route for me, he had a guy with a wife and two kids who needed the money a lot more than I or any other kid did. I know what I felt like and I can understand what literally hundreds of thousands of young people in this country are feeling today. The future of this country is in our youth, and what has this government done? It has spent the money over the years wastefully, and now it cannot really go out and do the job. Quite frankly, I blame the unions, the provincial governments of whatever stripe, and I blame the Liberal federal government.

Mr. Smith: What about the NDP?

Mr. Cook: They are part of the unions. What we have here is a situation in Canada where we are looking at importing miners and technicians from other countries for major developments. Why? Because we have not trained our own people. Because the federal and provincial governments and the unions have not wanted to train the youth of this country to do those jobs. That is the greatest story of neglect by government at every level, and quite frankly I am embarrassed and ashamed of it. The day that we bring into this country a trained worker because we do not have one should be the day the youth of this nation really go into revolt. The NDP can talk about their union friends, but just how many of them are prepared to accept apprentices? They are going to compete with their workers and they do not want them.

There is a young lad in the City of Ottawa who is angry, and the reason is that he makes only \$30 a week more working than he could get on unemployment insurance. What kind of incentive is that to a young, single and healthy man? You have not provided the incentive for youth to get out and hustle. You have not provided incentives for people to work more than the minimum required in order to collect unemployment insurance. Do you think that is right? We have all heard of the UIC ski team at Banff in years past, and that situation still exists today.

Mr. Riis: What is your answer to that, reduce UIC?

Mr. Cook: What are some of the answers? I listened to the minister saying: "I have not heard one good idea from the other side of the Housse". Well, perhaps I will give him a good idea. At least it is a thought, something positive. In the United States in the 1930s they had a thing called the Civilian Conservation Corps, the CCC. It employed literally hundreds of thousands of young Americans.

Mr. Riis: Sounds like socialism.

Mr. Cook: One of the things they did was to build Timberline Lodge just outside of Portland. It was built by the youth of America when there were no other jobs, and it still exists today. It is a great ski resort, I might add. Where is that kind of thinking in the Liberal Party today? I do not know, I cannot find it. Where will the money come from for things like this? The government has this country so far in debt that it is hamstrung in terms of new initiatives, but I suggest that it could take a bloated Canadian unity office and shut it down, eliminate some of this government waste and redirect those funds into youth employment. I suggest to everyone who is watching me on his television set to think about this the next time he sees a commercial from the Liberal government or a billboard telling him how great it is to be a Canadian. You already know that, so the next time you see one of those ads, think about the money they have wasted rather than trying to help the young people of this country maintain their pride, develop their skills and go on to a useful existence.

I am really scared of what is taking place in this country, Mr. Speaker. I do not mind telling you why. I think there are any number of members here who have experienced the same thing. I have met an awful lot of people who were horribly scarred by the dirty thirties in this country. When I first started to work in the 1940s there were men who believed there is only one thing to do: take a job and hang on to it, whatever it was. Security mattered above all else. I think most of us in the House have met those kinds of people. They may or may not have had a job in the 1930s, but their spirit was broken so totally that for the rest of their lives their only concern was security. They may not have liked their jobs, but it was a job and they were going to hang on to it. No matter what else came along, they would not move. They never took a risk, never did anything, I think in many cases never even had a decent holiday in their whole life. Certainly if they were offered a better job with greater potential they would not take it. They have been broken by the 1930s. We went through two generations of people broken by the 1930s. I would hate to see another generation of our youth broken by the same kind of thing, but we will see some evidence of that this summer and it is most unfortunate.

• (2110)

I would like to quote from an article on unemployment and job dislocation. It reads:

Patrick O'Rourke, manager of employment programs with the B.C. Department of Labour, said there will be few jobs for students in the west coast forest industry this summer because of lay-offs and production slowdowns.

"The loss of a large payroll in a community means other companies have to cut back, there are fewer employment opportunities and students have to compete for jobs with people who have been laid off."

An economist with CEIC in British Columbia said the jobless rate for students in the province could be between 18 and 20 per cent this summer.