

Business of Supply

work, enterprise and initiative, we are going the wrong way.

It is surely possible to achieve such aims but not the way it is being done at the present time. We do not help concerns to employ young people. Even in the case of those who hold degrees, whenever they enter the labour market, people are afraid to give them work claiming that they have no experience. If they have no experience, how do you want them to learn anything? Thus, people in the constituency of Champlain could have said on June 25 last: "He never was a member of parliament, he has no experience; so let us not elect him."

Therefore, there is something wrong. We are in a vicious circle. One cannot acquire experience if one cannot get work. One has to begin somewhere.

Even through artificial means of creating employment, we shall be able to develop our resources.

But the most serious aspect of it all is that our young people are not learning to love work. Unfortunately, the young are saying to themselves: Since we are not provided with work, with anything, it means that work in itself is not a good thing. We have created such a state of mind whereas we live in an era of progress, at a time where everybody is looking for comfort.

But in spite of the lack of work and income, young people want to make use of the advantages brought about by progress. It follows that they try, in all kinds of ways, more or less honest, to enjoy the same advantages in life.

That could explain, in part, the relaxed morals in our country, the growing number of crimes committed every where. Of course, when there is no work, there is no money. As money is essential to them, they manage to get some anyway.

And so, when we study the employment problem, and particularly that of the students, we touch upon a colossal problem, that of the new generation, that of the training of our youth which we would have wholesome so that our country can benefit from them in the future. We realize that it is high time to find the real causes, and to stop cataloguing opinions according to their source. Little does it matter where the solutions come from; we must pause and study them and, if needs be, forget partisanship to see them objectively, and adopt those that stand a chance of solving the serious problem which the student manpower confronts.

[Mr. Matte.]

[English]

Mr. Ross Whicher (Bruce): Mr. Speaker, I want to say that while it was not possible for me to listen to all of the speeches this afternoon, I have appreciated those to which I have listened. I feel that a great deal of thought has been put into them, not only by members of my own party but all opposition parties. We all realize as members of this house that the subject of this motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) is one which worries not only we who sit here as elected members of this honourable house, but also all people of Canada.

Perhaps some hon. members have strayed slightly from the subject. As a matter of fact, this is something that I do very often myself. To bring the mood of the house back to what we are discussing, I will restate the motion as it stands:

● (8:30 p.m.)

That this house regrets the government has not provided for the development and retention of manpower resources in Canada and, in particular, of student manpower resources.

I had the opportunity of listening to the Leader of the Opposition this afternoon, and as a member of the government party I must say quite frankly that he made many good points. He spoke of many things that are worrisome to us as citizens of Canada. On the other hand, I must respectfully say to him that he did not offer any solutions.

All of us know that we as a country really have not provided for the development and retention of our manpower resources but, on the other hand, the solution is not as easy as the placing of this motion on the order paper. The Leader of the Opposition pointed out that there are approximately 250,000 students in Canadian universities, and I point out that this represents the investment of a fantastic amount of money, I know that the government of Ontario alone this year is spending over \$1 billion of taxpayers' money on the education of children in primary and secondary schools, and this does not take into account universities.

Education is a fantastic expense. It is an investment not only in the present but in the future. One thing that has annoyed me is that in spite of this huge investment by the people of Canada in our young people, once these young people finish their education and get a certificate, many of them pack up and leave for what in their opinion are greener fields. May I remind you, Mr. Speaker, that one third of all the doctors who graduated in