

*Oral Questions***EMPLOYMENT**

## GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO PROVIDE JOBS

**Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Employment and Immigration. I wish to remind him of a short phrase in the throne speech, that there will be an increased effort to develop critical trade skills so as to prepare today's labour force better for tomorrow's jobs. The only thing the government signalled, during the year it has been in power, is its intention to reduce and shift some of the burden for manpower training and education to the provinces, to the tune of \$1.5 billion. Will the minister advise whether there are any other initiatives which the government has undertaken to redress this critical situation in view of the fact that half the unemployed are under the age of 25 and industry is critically short of skilled manpower?

**Hon. Lloyd Axworthy (Minister of Employment and Immigration):** Madam Speaker, I am pleased to answer that question. I ask the hon. member to review some of the other announcements we have made since the throne speech. We introduced a new training program for women to bring them into non-professional fields. We established additional training funds for native people in Canada. We established a major parliamentary task force to look into the whole area of developing new programs for training, and held a number of meetings across Canada. In that regard we will be negotiating with the provinces in the forthcoming months to establish new training agreements. We have established new programs under the \$350 million industrial adjustment program act. We have established a brand new generation of critical skills training to make sure there will be an upgrading of training opportunities for Canadians in displaced communities, as well as right across Canada. That is just a short inventory of a number of initiatives we are taking to provide for additional training because we recognize it to be one of the very important issues this country will face in the coming decade.

**Mr. Oberle:** Madam Speaker, the tomorrow that the throne speech talked about was here yesterday. Canada's industrial future lies in high technology jobs. The time for study has passed. The minister knows the situation. He knows that he has to involve industry, the provinces, labour unions and the government in redressing this critical situation. The time for study is no longer here, the time is for action. When is the minister going to take some action to bring the players together and produce some effective programs?

**Mr. Axworthy:** Madam Speaker, unlike some members of the opposition, we believe more in accomplishment than in rhetoric.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton):** That is what the women thought too.

**Mr. Axworthy:** We put into place a number of meetings with industrial representatives, and in the last year signed

several major agreements with groups like the mining industry, the aerospace industry, the electronics industry, and the forest industry in the hon. member's province, to establish brand new critical skill trade programs. I will be very glad to send the hon. member copies of these agreements if he is genuinely interested.

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**MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS**

## TORONTO HARBOURFRONT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

**Mr. Roland de Corneille (Eglinton-Lawrence):** Madam Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Public Works. Will the minister give an accounting to the House with regard to the program in Toronto which caused so much excitement some while ago, the Harbourfront development, particularly with regard to the question of the terminal building?

**Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of Public Works):** Madam Speaker, I presume the hon. member is referring to news reports to the effect that, because of some problems at the municipal level and regional level in metropolitan Toronto, the plans for Harbourfront have run into some delay. I understand from the president of the corporation that those were simply delays and the program is continuing.

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**PARLIAMENT**

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS FOR EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. As he knows, some 3,000 employees on Parliament Hill are denied the fundamental right to choose free collective bargaining concerning their working conditions on the Hill. In view of the fact that over 13 years ago a joint Senate-House of Commons committee recommended an extension of these rights, and the then government House leader some two years ago promised changes in this area, what action is the government prepared to take to put an end to this unjust and primitive state of labour relations here on the Hill, and bring in the necessary legislation to extend to our employees on the Hill full collective bargaining rights?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, I believe this question was asked the other day. The hon. member was reminded that these employees are not employees of the government but of the House of Commons, and I believe the Speaker told the hon. member that this type of question would be more properly raised directly with her.

**Mr. Robinson (Burnaby):** If ever there was an instance of buck passing, this is it. Madam Speaker has said that the government must bring in legislation to extend these rights. My supplementary question is the following. While the government has delayed this legislative action, and I might say this is