

The Budget—Mr. M. Roy

approach in the field of family allowances and income security. Selective benefits, that is to say benefits payable to lower income people, are being increased so as to better reflect the needs of families who shoulder heavy family responsibilities but whose income is unfortunately not commensurate with their burden.

• (1720)

As regards veterans, their pensions and allowances will also be increased yearly in accordance with the cost of living index; 333,000 Canadians will benefit from this new measure which will cost \$25 million a year.

Thirdly, another measure will be of help to students: it is a new deduction related to the cost of obtaining education which will be in addition to the existing deduction for tuition fees. This new measure will be a deduction of \$50 per month per student for each month in the year during which the student is in full-time attendance at certain institutions. This measure will benefit 600,000 students and will amount to \$50 million.

Fully aware that our young people are an important natural asset, the government has not spared any efforts to help them through job creating opportunities during the summer months and by granting \$85 million to create jobs in various federal departments.

The original Opportunities for Youth Program has been implemented. This program aims at developing the creative spirit of our young people who are asked to submit such projects as would improve the life of Canadians. This very imaginative program has met with tremendous acceptance from students who have submitted 19,000 projects.

In order not to further "bureaucratize" this initiative, full freedom has been given by the government to a youth committee to make a selection from these projects. I am very happy to learn that the government will review the implementation and approval criteria of these projects so that their execution would have some permanent effect on the well-being of the community.

Moreover, and in order to encourage industrialists to employ students in the summer months, a vote of \$262,000 has been earmarked towards a national advertising program.

Wishing to contribute to the success of the Operation Placement Program, the Department of Manpower and Immigration has set up for the benefit of students 137 employment centres to be added to the 390 manpower centres disseminated across Canada.

On May 15 last, I had the privilege of presiding at the opening of the employment centre for students in Laval. That centre is located at 127 des Prairies Boulevard, at Laval-des-Rapides.

These various projects show to what extent we are concerned with the training of our leaders for tomorrow, who today, are more prone to imitate than to judge, to execute than to advise, to launch new projects than to pursue old ones.

Mr. Speaker, since Confederation, it is easy to recognize the years during which the Liberal party has ruled, since it respects the individual and his freedom. The Liberal Party is aware of the potential of each citizen. Improving

[Mr. Roy (Laval).]

the life style of Canadians is a priority objective of this Liberal government. Improving the life style of old people, of low-income Canadians, developing the potential of our youth by challenging their creativity, facilitating access to universities through interest-free loans during the academic period, those are the things that mark the difference between the Liberal party and other parties.

In closing my remarks on the study of the budget, I am bearing in mind the image of the society constantly before us, the image of a world where all are striving to retain their livelihood, sell their products, their work, their talents and their ideas.

In the first place, a well-organized economy must provide a job for those who can and want to work, and such task is not as easy as it seems.

Through last year's Local Initiatives Program, the federal government contributed to create 92,577 jobs during winter, but what impresses me even more, Mr. Speaker, is that as a member representing the province of Quebec I note that 40 per cent of these jobs, that is 38,473, were created in this province, which represents an amount of nearly \$64 million.

I think that this is a feature that proves to what extent federalism spells profits for the province of Quebec.

About the Local Initiatives Program, Mr. Speaker, I should like to state that all the projects of Laval which were presented in last November were approved, for an amount of \$886,000. I shall only quote some of the main grants which are very significant, for instance, \$295,000 to improve the Chomedey filtering plant, which shall have an added capacity of 25 million gallons daily. Thus, we shall ensure a better pressure during peak hours, and avoid the water shortage during summer in Chomedey.

Another federal grant to Laval amounted to some \$166,725 for a sewage and water system in the area of Sainte-Dorothée. Another contribution which is quite appreciated at this time in the riding of Laval, is the \$80,613 allocated for building a tunnel on Concorde boulevard, under the CP tracks. This tunnel will facilitate the east-west traffic flow which at the present time, is only possible over two main roads, Cartier and Saint-Martin boulevards.

Which means, Mr. Speaker, that last year, through the Local Initiatives Program, the government granted the City of Laval \$886,847, which is equivalent to the creation of 471 new jobs. In addition to this, an amount of \$318,000 was invested in the City of Laval, in the private sector, under the Local Initiatives Program, following the presentation of projects by non-profit organizations.

I could talk on and on about the many departments that are unceasingly striving to create new jobs. One of them is the Department of Regional Economic Expansion which invests in various under-privileged areas in order to foster employment there.

From 1965 to 1970, even if we have created in Canada twelve times more jobs in absolute number than in the whole of France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden and Great Britain put together, there is still in this country a certain level of unemployment. Even if in March 1972 there were 8,016,000 people—that is, 336,000 people or 4.3 p. 100 more than last year—employed and