Supply

and we will spend it." As a result they do not agree with some of the basic principles that we have as a federal government. We are not prepared to accept that.

By the way, I would like to point out for the enlightenment of the hon. member, since I know how interested he is in getting proper information, that when he said the position of the apprenticeable trades in Alberta is no different from anywhere else, he was wrong. In the area of apprenticeship the present figure for women in Alberta is .9 per cent compared with 4.7 per cent in Ontario, 6.9 per cent in Newfoundland and 5.7 per cent in British Columbia. That is a substantial difference, I suggest, in terms of percentages—none of which is good enough. That is one reason why we have been quite insistent—

Miss MacDonald: I thought you were bragging.

Mr. Axworthy: The hon. member opposite tends to be skeptical. I would ask her to tell us what her party did when it was in government to promote the working of women in non-traditional fields. What programs did they introduce? Not one, Mr. Chairman.

Miss MacDonald: A great deal more than you.

Mr. Axworthy: No programs at all. No affirmative action, no training programs. Not one single program was introduced by the previous government to deal with the broadening opportunities for women.

Miss MacDonald: We replaced all of your Outreach programs which you cut out.

Mr. Axworthy: I am prepared to accept the responsibility of this government but I think the hon. member opposite should look first at her own dismal record, which is not exactly great.

Mr. Hawkes: I continue to be amazed by the minister. Apprenticeable trades vary from province to province, according to their definition. I think in the provinces the minister was talking about he was including trades such as hairdressing and cooking.

Mr. Axworthy: As they do in all of them.

Mr. Hawkes: I think he may find some differences exist across provincial borders. I only have five minutes left but could the minister indicate to the House what he considers to be the primary barriers to mobility which exist in Canada today? What are the primary barriers to labour market mobility?

Mr. Axworthy: I am very pleased the hon. member has left me four minutes in which to address such a large topic. I will try my best to be brief.

I think there are a variety of barriers to mobility. Certainly one of the most important barriers at the present time is the difference in standards which are set. We have attempted to work with the provinces to establish a red seal program which would certify trades in each of the provinces on a standard

basis. However, at the present time there is only a limited number of those trades which are so certified and there is a limited number of workers in those trades. It would be my ambition that we be able to work much more directly with the provinces substantially to extend the red seal program so that there could be common certification and a common standard set for the application of trades right across Canada. Again, that is something which we intend to discuss with the provincial ministers when we have an opportunity to meet them this spring. That is certainly one of the major barriers.

A second major barrier is basic human motivation and behaviour, in the sense of being tied to a community and developing the incentive to move. That is one reason we have attempted to enrich mobility grants up to a maximum of \$4,500 to ensure that if there is an economic reason why someone is reluctant to move from where the jobs are declining to where they are expanding, that economic barrier could be reduced or eliminated. So the second major problem is overcoming some of the economic hurdles for people who decide to move.

The third area is the transfer of information so people will know where jobs are. Those people with certain trades but no work will be able to go to where work may be. We have introduced a national job bank, which is a computerized system that will be able to plug in the job vacancies right across Canada through computer terminals in major centres. Workers can then go and find out where work may be available in other parts of the country. Within the first two or three months there is already something in the range of 9,000 different placements on that job bank. The number will certainly grow beyond that. This gives us the ability to provide for an information transfer so people know that the job is there.

The fourth area, as we have pointed out, is major regulatory and legislative limitations imposed by both levels of government. We must work to eliminate those. At the provincial level there is the kind of Draconian legislation which we see in the province of Newfoundland where they totally exclude workers from other provinces, preventing them from moving in to work in the offshore fields. There is the construction legislation in the province of Quebec which also excludes workers from other provinces. There are regulations in the trade services and training areas which must be reworked in order to provide for common standards. We must provide that kind of mobility where legislative or regulatory barriers have been set up which people must try to get around.

Those are some examples of the kind of mobility barriers which we must work on. As I pointed out, they must be worked on in a variety of ways and in combination with levels of government and industry itself.

Mr. Hawkes: Could the minister explain to us what the difference is between the manpower regulations associated with the northern pipeline and the legislation passed by the Newfoundland government?

Mr. Axworthy: Mr. Chairman, I believe that if the hon. member looks at the legislation he will find it does not provide