

Supply—External Affairs

level relations with only two of the new French speaking nations in Africa, so I would submit that this type of student or youth aid program would allow Canada to play a very efficient and effective role in French speaking Africa.

Combined with a peace corps type operation, Mr. Chairman, must be the setting up of adequate training facilities here in Canada. I hope that this government will immediately consider the encouragement of university training facilities which would serve a three-fold purpose: to train personnel who could be used domestically for some of our ARDA programs in depressed areas; to provide personnel who could be used for these self-help programs we have instituted for Indian reserves; and to provide personnel who could also be sent abroad.

I would strongly urge the minister to ask his department to give immediate consideration to such a peace corps type program for Canada. This would mean perhaps substantial government support for the very successful private program initiated by the Canadian university service overseas organization, which this year has over 200 students, young people and older people abroad serving in the name of Canada. This organization is a privately sponsored organization which receives its contributions from the public, but has been helped this year by government aid in transporting abroad in R.C.A.F. transports certain of their personnel. It has also benefited from the advice of the external affairs department. Whether the government would support such a well proven, successful private program or would decide that the establishment of a parallel, fully government sponsored aid program is better is a matter for departmental decision; but I am convinced that something should be done immediately either to aid substantially the university program or to set up a parallel government program.

The inauguration by the Canadian government of a massive peace corps type operation would mean more value dollar for dollar than any other form of aid. But, much more important, I submit it would be the right kind of therapy for a youth in this country, which, in its introversion and preoccupation with Canada's internal problems, is losing sight of the role Canada should be playing in the world. By looking beyond our frontiers, by making use of the evident advantages of possessing two of the world's greatest languages and cultures and by making available to the world the experience of com-

promise which is ours, almost uniquely in a century still plagued by ancient antagonisms, I submit our youth can silence the doubters and cement our own unity more effectively in this way than by any other method.

Mr. Cantelon: Mr. Chairman, I should like to spend a few moments discussing Canada's foreign aid policy. Most of these comments seem to offer widespread criticism. It is easy to find many illustrations of this criticism. I refer only to one, an article in the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix* on August 21 of last year, which discussed the whole question of Canada's foreign aid policy and seemed to conclude that we gave too little. And that is my own conclusion.

It has been suggested that a favourable level of giving for a country as prosperous as Canada would be about 1 per cent of our gross national product. I am not sure whether this has been arrived at by a "guess and by golly" procedure or by careful analysis. It does seem, however, that this would not be an exorbitant amount particularly since some countries, especially the United States and Britain, already measure up to this percentage. Canada is well below it.

Perhaps the first question we should ask ourselves is, why do we give to foreign aid at all? Very superficially we might answer, because it is expected of us. Or perhaps because it really does not hurt us very much, if at all. But I think these would be superficial answers and to be expected only of the cynical. In my view, we give mainly because we really do care about mankind generally, and about our brothers in the have-not nations. We would like to do our part to raise their standards of living and to see that they have the material things of life which we enjoy.

I am sure we all know that a great deal of material aid will be required. We know that it is a task which cannot be done in a minute but one that takes many years. We also know that we are doing quite a bit along that line; but as I said earlier, I do not think we are doing enough. I am quite sure the people of this country are prepared to give, and spend the time to give assistance to these people, to help solve their problems.

There are many ways in which we may help, and the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond referred to the speech the minister made in which he set out some ways. However, there are some ways I should like to mention. First of all I believe that we have many commodities, some of which might