

nearly a billion dollars. I am informed that about 12 per cent of the nation's working force is still engaged in agriculture, and their wages, salaries and supplementary incomes are now three times as high as they were in 1935.

There is another thing which may help some—it was referred to yesterday by the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald)—and that is the Prime Minister's proposal for a United Nations food bank, to provide food for needy nations. That proposal is gaining support, and it is encouraging to note that a joint resolution, co-sponsored by Canada, the United States and four other countries, was unanimously approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations on October 27 last, and has been forwarded to the F.A.O.—the Food and Agriculture Organization—for action. Mention of this was made in the Speech from the Throne, and I hope that it will be developed.

Honourable senators, my last subject is employment. In view of the fact that the Senate has reconstituted the Special Committee on Manpower and Employment, and in view of the steps which are being taken by the Government with respect to employment, the conferences which have been held and the contents of the Speech from the Throne, I do not intend to speak at any great length on this subject. I wish to congratulate the honourable senator from Royal (Hon. Mr. Brooks) who yesterday dealt with the unemployment situation, I thought, in a very creditable manner. However, I wish to point out that there is a very high post-war birth rate which is bringing thousands of young people into the labour market all the time. I read recently that 24 per cent of Canadians now unemployed are under the age of 25 years.

I see considerable difficulty lying ahead of us, honourable senators. I have just finished reading a speech made on September 2 by George L. Wilcox, president of the Canadian Electrical Manufacturers' Association. I do not know whether I have it here or not, but no doubt honourable senators have read it. He pointed out that Canada's population had increased by 4 million in the last 10 years, and that it will likely increase by another 4 million by 1970. As you know, our present population is a little over 18 million, so ten years hence it probably will be in the neighbourhood of 22½ million. He stated that our labour force in 1970 will have increased from its present level of some 6 million-odd to 8.1 million; and this will mean that we shall then have to find jobs for 2 million more workers than we have at present. That is a startling figure, honourable senators, and the

problem will be to find these 2 million jobs. They will not be found in agriculture, because fewer and fewer people are coming into agriculture as the years go by. He seems to think that the jobs will have to be found in secondary manufacturing and service industries. In my opinion, honourable senators, his speech offers much food for thought, and I recommend it to you as good reading.

Before I close my remarks, I would like to refer briefly to the world situation. The honourable senator from Royal (Hon. Mr. Brooks) referred briefly yesterday to the population explosion, as he called it. That is what I wanted to speak about. Honourable senators, I am astounded when I consider the world population explosion that is taking place at the present time. My sources for the figures which I shall quote in a moment are a booklet called the *Winds of Change*, and a report of the Committee of the Church and International Affairs to the Nineteenth General Council of the United Church of Canada at Edmonton in September of this year. The following statistics are taken from that report. There are 140,000 more people on earth today than there were yesterday, and there are 50 million more people than there were last year. There will be 1½ million babies born within the next week, and the net increase in the total number of people on earth is now 6,000 every hour.

Even if agriculture and medicine make no further progress in sustaining life, we can calculate in advance what is likely to happen. For example, within the next 20 years China will likely have a population of one billion and India will have about the same. The problem which this population explosion presents can be better understood if put in historic outline.

After perhaps several millions of years of human life upon earth, world population at the time of Christ has been carefully estimated at not more than 250 million people. In the next 1,700 years it had doubled. At the time of the Black Death, in the fourteenth century, world population had risen to about 500 million. In the ensuing 200 years it had doubled again. By the middle of the nineteenth century the human population had climbed to one billion. More astonishing still, in the next hundred years the one billion population not only doubled but tripled. Now, in the middle of the twentieth century, world population is crowding three billion.

Hon. Mr. Reid: We will soon need more than a food bank.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Dr. Harrison Brown, of the California Institute of Technology, shows by simple arithmetic that the present rate of human increase means that in one