

Supply—External Affairs

defence, Great Britain spends 27 per cent and the United States 52 per cent. It would appear that Canada has spent a greater amount of money than would seem reasonable in this respect, but I should like to bring to the attention of the hon. member for Sherbrooke and many other hon. members of the house the great contribution that Canada has been making to the United Nations peace forces throughout the world. I understand that although this money is spent under our defence budget a great deal of it is spent in the maintenance of peace. Our government has also mentioned increased foreign aid and has referred to specific items in the Speech from the Throne.

I believe that without such aid all other initiatives for peace are meaningless and cannot be fruitful. Two thirds of the world's population are underfed, underclothed, undersheltered and to a great extent illiterate. Unless these people are soon helped their despair will not be confined to Asia, Africa or South America but its violence will pour over into Europe and North America. Frustrated hunger will not respect superficial international boundaries.

A few weeks ago, Mr. Chairman, I had the privilege with other members of the house of visiting the site of Expo '67 and I was greatly impressed with the enormity and imagination of this great project. Those men associated with it should be congratulated. Already 70 countries have expressed their desire to participate and I believe that Expo will provide a great opportunity for Canada to meet the world and for the world to meet Canada. I believe that through this Exposition Canada can make a significant impact on all humanity.

However, I believe the Exposition could do much more than sell goods and exchange cultures. I believe it could be a great occasion to make a major breakthrough for sustained peace and world order. Significantly, the Expo theme is "Man and His World". I believe it would be very appropriate to establish at Expo a program designed to relax international disputes and permit peaceful settlements, perhaps with a conference somewhat similar to the Pacem in Terris Conference which was held in the United States. Alternatively we should have a model United Nations of young people from all over the world because these are the people who have to live in the world of the future. Furthermore, Mr. Chairman, scientific, economic and commercial projects could emphasize the

need for assistance and co-operation between the developed and underdeveloped nations and dramatically bring public attention to this whole question.

I should also like to refer to the Company of Young Canadians, which I think can make a significant contribution to peace within Canada and abroad. I note that some students and student groups in Canada have objected to the creation of the Company of Young Canadians because they feel it is an intrusion into an area already occupied by CUSO, Canadian University Services Overseas. It is my hope that the legislation setting up the Company of Young Canadians will provide for co-operation with CUSO, with the World University Service and other groups interested in these same matters. I was pleased to note that the new chairman of the Company of Young Canadians was formerly with CUSO. I think this indicates that the government is taking many steps in the right direction.

• (5:20 p.m.)

It also occurs to me that there are many people who are no longer young who would also like to work both in Canada and abroad for the unfortunate people of the world. These would include retired persons, widows, unemployed and others who are still in the prime of life and who may be willing to dedicate a year or two of their lives to this great work. Perhaps the government may be able to find some means, through legislation similar to that which will establish the Company of Young Canadians, to provide these people with an opportunity to contribute to the solution of the world's problems. Although the house may pass many items of progressive legislation, Mr. Chairman, I think that we would all agree that if we cannot work with the nations of the world to maintain peace, then everything else will be meaningless.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Allard: Mr. Chairman, rest assured that it is not an expert on international matters who is taking the floor, because when I sat here between 1958 and 1962, I ventured to make a speech on a problem of world importance and that might explain why I was then relegated permanently to the position of backbencher.

However, it is very pleasant today to make some remarks in the debate on the estimates of the Department of External Affairs because the head of that department is such a