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groups and task forces put a convenient end to parliamentary dialogue since they provide the stock answer: "Well, it's being looked into."

It is general knowledge that unemployment hits people in the lower-income bracket the hardest for a variety of reasons. They are unable to compete for many jobs because they lack the education of the other classes (now, there's a vicious circle that could use a task force). Thus, they are the most expendable and the least able to protect them-

of youth unemployment to overall unemployment has risen slowly but steadily.

Couple this with the fact that overall unemployment has been getting worse and worse over the past decade (last year's national unemployment rate of 5.9 percent is the highest since 1962), and the problem facing today's youthful worker becomes clear.

A quick breakdown: unemployment among males from 14 to 19 last year was at 15.0 percent, the highest since 1961; among males 20-24 it was 10.5 percent (the highest since 1961); among females 14-19 it was 11.4 percent (the highest ever); and among females 20-24 it was 5.1 percent (the highest ever).

This year the figures to August are even higher, creating a bleak picture for those young people who hope to break into the job market for the first time this year.

But all these statistics are from Statistics Canada's conservative reports. There is also a large percentage of youths who constitute a hidden or sigused unemployment group.

When the Canadian economy is on a downswing (a situation that happens with frightening regularity) and there are fewer jobs, a significant number of young people, especially females, withdraw from active participation in the labour force. Some of these people return to school, some leave to see the world, but most are classified by Statistics Canada as "retired", - i.e. neither working nor seeking work.

This factor raises the true unemployment figures for youth by two or three full percentage points. For example, the unemployment rate for males aged 14 to 19 in March 1971 was listed at 17.5 percent was about 22.6 unemployed.

So, you might ask, if the labor market is so bad, why don't they go back to school? Unfortunately, when the economy slumps, that option gets removed as well. Universities have only three sources of income: students, government and industry tighten their belts and dish out fewer riches to universities.

And universities, with smaller subsidies, have to limit enrolment by raising admission standards, or else raise tuition fees so that students themselves have to pay more. While all this is going on, of course, the would-be student cannot find a summer job and thus has no money.

Universities base their projected enrolment on their own figures and the statistics of the Economic Council of

Canada and Statistics Canada. Most universities then commit themselves to their annual expenditures on that basis. They count on tuition fees per student and on government subsidies which are also allotted to the university per student enrolled.

More than one budget had to be reshuffled this fall when actual enrolment figures were discovered to be much lower than the universities had budgeted for. The main topic which the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) held their directors meeting in late September was under-enrolment.

Davidson Dunton, president of Carleton University in Ottawa and president of AUCC, commented after the meeting that cross-country enrolment was significantly below the universities' estimations. "In western Canada as a whole, enrolment will not be above what it was last year, much less than what was projected," he said.

The AUCC found from their members that enrolment was not only falling off in freshman year, but large numbers of upper year students were also dropping out of university. The only two provinces in Canada whose university enrolment lived up to projections were Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

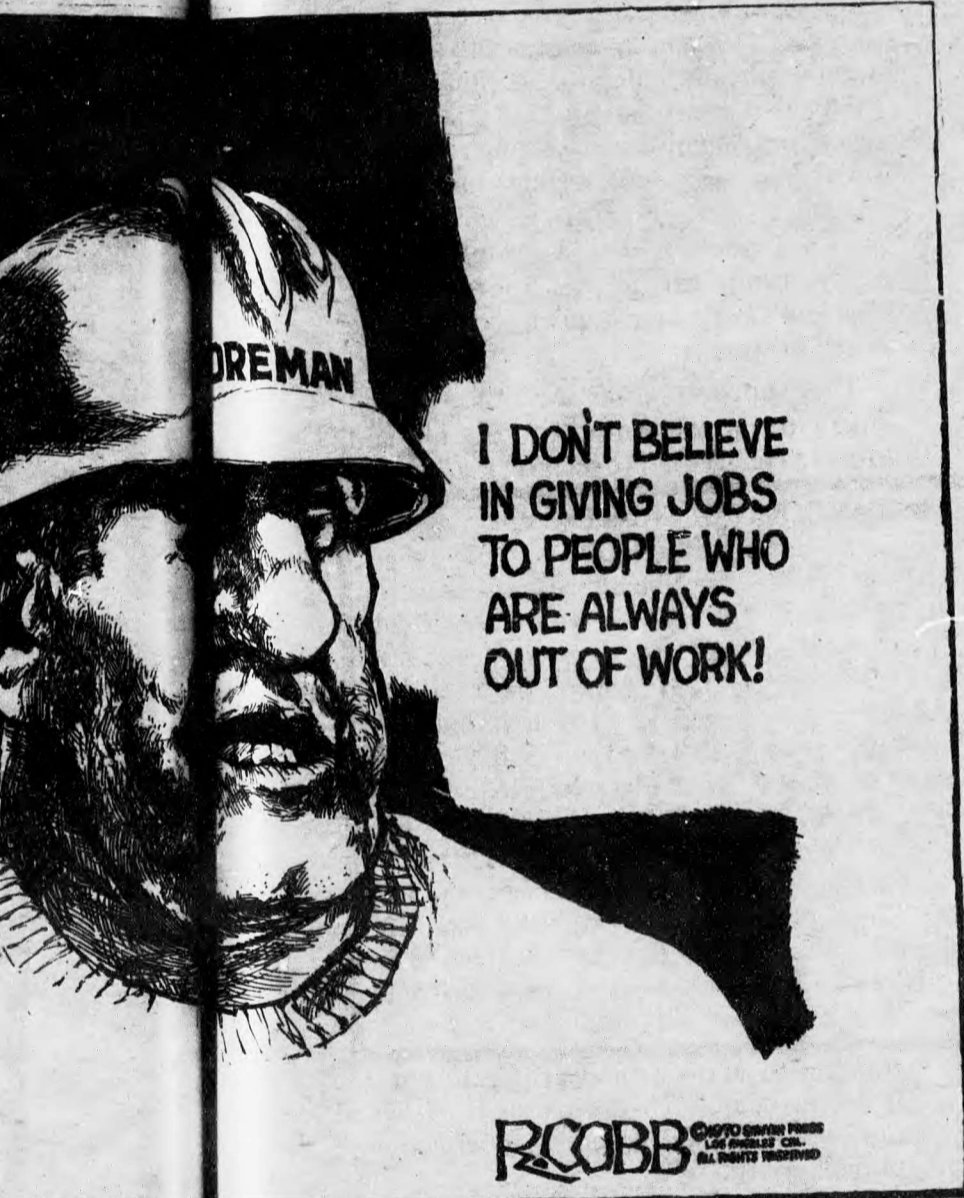
Had the AUCC correlated rising summer unemployment with lowering university enrolment (university enrolment overall isn't really falling off; the ratio of the total student population to the number of qualified potential students is), they would have found little to be surprised about.

A close inspection of summer unemployment figures shows that summer job opportunities have been deteriorating consistently since 1968. And "make work" schemes by the federal government, like Opportunities for Youth, are no lasting solution to this problem.

Every summer since 1968 the total numbers of teenagers employed has decreased from the previous year, while every summer has seen an increase in the number of teenagers looking for jobs. This trend will inevitable continue because the seasonal demands of the Canadian economy cannot possibly absorb the hordes of unskilled university students who seek employment each summer.

Summer savings is the single biggest factor in financing education. Over 40

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ethics" to explore the prob-

ays later the Prime Minister that the problems with the up which has entered the labor who, according to him, were back to school at their normal

are they not going back to a new phenomenon, Trudeau sets up another study group the student mystery. Study

selves.

But what few people realize is that unemployment is also a serious problem among those under 25. Even when the Canadian economy is going full-tilt at near-zero unemployment, the young are beset by consistently high unemployment. Youth unemployment, for the past twenty years, has been an average of 100 percent higher than the national average.

This discrepancy has been getting greater during the past decade as the ratio