

*Company of Young Canadians Act*

abroad, as volunteers working in some of the have-not nations of the world.

Certainly, one needs little imagination to realize that two-thirds of the world's people are in a shocking state of development. Certain developed countries do very little about this and the gap grows wider as the years go by. I believe some hon. members have read Robert Theobald's book, "The Rich and the Poor" in which this problem has been examined in great detail. People are becoming hungrier in the world. Illiteracy is growing. People are living longer because we have lowered the death rate. People are becoming more numerous because we have not lessened the birth rate, resulting in more and more marginal land being farmed and lower yields. It does not take any great genius to understand that with the use of that window on the world, television, becoming more widespread, hungry people will not forever stand looking in that window at we fat and sassy North Americans with our sleek autos and healthy children while starvation, disease and ignorance form so much a part of their own lives. They will want a piece of the action too, and in my opinion they will take it by force if there is no other alternative.

I should like to read from a speech by Mr. Romeo Maione given recently in Vancouver. This speech was prompted by the Pearson report entitled "Partners in Development". In this speech he states:

It is becoming clear with each passing day that the challenge that faces the rich countries is to use their affluency to win the war against poverty. Yet when we face the immensity of this war, there is a tendency towards despair and away from life. The magnitude of the problem tends to develop a paralysis of the will.

He goes on to say:

Yet hope can only grow in the measure that we face facts. Let me list a few facts. Population in the world will double in the next twenty to twenty-five years. Urban city population in many regions of Latin America will double in the next fifteen to twenty years. Rural stagnation stimulates a flow of migrants from the land and urban death rates are often lower than those in the countryside while fertility remains high. If present trends continue, the largest city in India would have over 35 million inhabitants by the year 2000. Even if fertility should be considerably reduced in coming decades, the less developed world will double before the end of this century.

Of one hundred children entering primary school in developing countries, no more than thirty finish. Indeed in most African and Latin American countries, more than 50 per cent of primary school pupils do not return to school after the second grade.

One could go on increasing the shadows to obliterate the sun and so return to our affluent caves armed in quiet desperation.

[Mr. Rose.]

The next paragraph is entitled "Hope Unlimited":

This fate is not shared by the authors of the Pearson Report. They outline a whole series of actions that will move the rich countries into the heart of the war against poverty. These lines of action are part of an over-all war based on the valid experience of the 60's. Sketched in and through these lines of action are the abundant hopes of the poor countries. I was asked once "how can you find hope in all that misery?" We must learn to look at poverty through the eyes of the poor. You must feel the spirit of hope that overwhelms the illiterate peasant as he moves away from the fatalism of his rural village.

● (5:30 p.m.)

When his son even though, he leaves after the second grade, comes home and writes the family name on paper for the first time, the parents are the "victims of hope"—a whole new world develops before them. The rich countries for their own proper development must not only make contact with this hope but above all must develop a spirit of solidarity and communion to find a "raison d'être" for our affluency.

It is in this kind of setting that I feel the CYC could perform a useful role abroad. Admittedly, there are many serious problems in Canada. We have poverty here. We have examples of poor education. We have examples of a highly intense birthrate, and at the same time a dwindling death rate. Admittedly some of the past CYC volunteers would have made poor ambassadors for Canada to send abroad. This part of it though has been discussed in great detail previously. Admittedly too, at least one confidential report received by the company on probable activities abroad was written in inflammatory language, and suggested all kinds of interesting and almost frightening things. But I remind the House, those of us who are familiar with that report, especially the hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour (Mr. Perrault), realize that this document was for consideration only and never was the policy of the CYC, nor of the government of Canada as far as I have been able to learn.

But, sir, we Canadians have a real opportunity to do something useful in this area. Many developing countries speak either the French or the English language, and I think Canada finds itself in a unique position to provide a great deal more of this aid. We have trained people eager to help. Finally, we are not yet spending nearly enough to make any real dent in the problem of poverty in the developing countries.

In today's *Globe and Mail* there is a letter dealing with how we could order our priorities and do much in the foreign aid field. This