

eligible for employment, the unemployment problem becomes more serious and worsens. That is the actual situation in Canada today.

As we all know, different figures are used in connection with unemployment. For the purpose of presenting this picture to the house I want to quote some figures published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. They are the latest figures, appearing in the weekly bulletin of Friday, November 18.

A year ago, in October 1959, we had 251,000 persons unemployed. By October of 1960 we find an increase in our labour force, that is, the number of people eligible for employment, of 209,000, but we increased the number of our employed persons by only 92,000. The number of unemployed increased by 117,000, so that while we have, as the Speech from the Throne says, more people employed, the rate of unemployment is increasing more rapidly than the rate of employment. That is a situation from which I do not think any of us can take satisfaction. That increase in unemployment has been continuing since we prorogued in August. That is why I say that the job of this committee is more important now than it was last summer. I think the developments that have taken place justify some decisions taken by the committee when it was last sitting.

The motion to appoint the special committee at the last session was adopted on May 18. The committee members felt that they could not do the kind of study that the problem required between the time of its setting up and the probable close of the session. It therefore started its work on the basis that it expected that the job was going to be a continuing one. That point was contained in the report that the committee made to this body. Another decision was that the committee should employ Dr. Deutsch and provide him with a sufficient number of assistants to give the problem the kind of factual, objective, thorough and intensive detailed study that it requires. A third decision, which represents a rather unusual step, was that notwithstanding the fact that the committee was dissolved with the prorogation of Parliament and the Senate itself was no longer in session, this team under Dr. Deutsch was to continue to function so as to be in a position to make a report when the next session commenced.

I think all those decisions have been amply justified by the developments that have taken place, because before one can find a solution for this problem of unemployment what is required is, as I have said, a factual, objective and detailed diagnosis of the problem, a probing into the causes and the characteristics of unemployment.

The honourable Leader of the Government has outlined the various projects that are under way by Dr. Deutsch's team. Those are the result of the discussions that Dr. Deutsch had with the steering committee and the members of the main committee during the last session. They cover aspects of this problem which are the kind of factual information solutions. I do not think there is any body in the country that can study this problem in a better way than a committee of the Senate. Certainly we do not necessarily have to find a solution to this problem, and indeed our responsibility is probably limited by our powers. But it is one thing to deal with unemployment as an emergency problem by means of government spending on public works or by stimulating private industry into employing more people temporarily. It is another thing—and I think this is our job—to give the problem of unemployment a study in depth as to its characteristics and its causes that will be more intensive than anything that has yet been done on this subject in Canada. If we do that we will have made a major contribution to the solution of this problem.

**Hon. Cyrille Vaillancourt:** Honourable senators, in speaking to his motion the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) mentioned the names of five or six economists or professors who are assisting Mr. Deutsch in his work on behalf of this committee. I believe that of this number all but one were selected from Toronto, the other being from Montreal. I feel that in a study of this kind it would be better to select some economists from the west and the east, especially from those areas where unemployment is greater. Secondly, in our Quebec *caisses populaires* we have studied the problem, and in the past three years have spent \$20,000 a year in order to ascertain family conditions in our province. For instance, some people cannot save money, others cannot work, and so on. We visited not merely 300 families but thousands of families, and in the past six months have collected answers from these people and tried to arrive at a solution. I think it will be very good for the committee to ask the advice of this organization with regard to what is the real problem of the Quebec people, and I think we can do the same thing for all the provinces. In our Quebec *caisses populaires* we work with the labouring and farming people, and try to encourage them to save. Over a period of sixty years we have not yet arrived at a definite answer to the problem, but I repeat that in the past three years we have spent \$20,000 per year, or a