

of the work force swing, not because anything happened among the adults, but what was happening to the young, to the children.

Now, the population of working age would be 14 years and above. That should be a more precise figure, and would normally be more stable.

Do we have that figure?

MISS BANCROFT. I think Congressman Curtis is right. The percentage of the working population in the labor force that is a very stable figure, but what has been happening is that the labor force rate of younger workers has been dropping since the end of the war, as Mr. Clague said, because they were staying in school longer and because their opportunities to work on their family farms are diminishing.

And, at the other end of the age range, older men have been reducing their labor force rates.

With each extension of social security, the labor force rates of men 65 and over have been going down since the end of the war. And replacing them have been these women 35 to 55.

The net effect of all this is that you have the same overall percentage, but there have been vast changes within the different age groups.

Representative CURTIS. Do you have those series of statistics, do you keep those up to date?

MISS BANCROFT. Yes, we do.

Representative CURTIS. And use them?

MISS BANCROFT. Yes, we do.

Representative CURTIS. One other thing.

Incidentally, this is just an aside, but why have you kept the age of 14 and 65?

It seems to me the age 14 is somewhat artificial today, is it not, in our society?

MISS BANCROFT. Well, it is.

There are many 14- and 15-year-olds who do work of a kind that you were talking about, grass cutting, babysitting, and so on, and they do make a contribution.

Representative CURTIS. We do not include housewives?

MISS BANCROFT. No, we do not include housewives.

Representative CURTIS. They make more of a contribution, in my opinion.

MISS BANCROFT. They surely do, but these folks get paid for it.

We do show enough age detail in our detailed statistics so you can leave them out.

The only reason, I think, for keeping them in through the years is to have a consistent series.

Representative CURTIS. I see.

MISS BANCROFT. And to avoid the disruptions.

Representative CURTIS. But for that you would think that it might be better to—

MISS BANCROFT. There are certainly reasons for dropping them out, I think.

Representative CURTIS. Are there statistics on man-hours in our society. I am talking about aggregates, man-hours per year. Is there some way of not just measuring the number in the work force but the amount of time actually spent working, so that we had a con-