

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

MAYORS' CONFERENCE

March 30, 1965

Georgetown Room, Washington Hilton, 2:00 PM

Gentlemen, I am very happy to welcome you today to the second Vice Presidential Conference of Mayors.

Some days ago, the President designated me to act as the liaison man between himself and the cities and suburban areas of the country. I have sent each of you a copy of the President's Message on cities and suburbs, and a letter mentioning this appointment. I must say I have received many kind remarks acknowledging the receipt of my letter.

This will be another in a series of many, many conferences I plan to hold with the Mayors and

county officials of this Nation.

A very worthwhile dialogue has already commenced -- first at the meeting I had with a few of you that are here today, and again at my conference last week with the officers and directors of the National Association of Counties.

Today I have with me several prominent government officials -- I want to assure you that their main purpose in being here is to find out what you want and to listen to you state your problems. They can give you a brief statement explaining how their programs can help you -- but primarily these experts are here to get the benefit, first-hand, of your individual and collective reaction to their programs as they affect your areas.

For my part -- as a former Mayor of one of America's large cities -- I bring first-hand

experience to this assignment. Hopefully, my years in the United States Senate working on legislation will also help; and together we shall achieve for the President the partnership to enact the programs needed by your cities.

This Nation is facing urban problems never dreamed of only 25 years ago:

The problems of urban blight --

The explosive growth in our population created unprecedented demands for housing --

The challenge of upgrading our educational system and expanding it to reach our full potential --

The need to make our urban places more beautiful --

These are our problems as well as your problems.

We have Robert Weaver and Secretary Celebrezze, with their top lieutenants, to discuss problems in this area.



You are now grappling with the new programs being administered by the Office of Economic Opportunity, and you are as deeply concerned about unemployment in your cities as your federal government.

President Johnson is confident that our economy can achieve an ever-increasing standard of living, and -- at the same time -- meet the challenges of technical advances which have left too many people without jobs. On these problems, Secretary Wirtz and Director of CEO, Sargent Shriver, are here with me to hear your problems in their area. I have also asked Governor Collins, Director of the Community Relations Service, to sit in on this meeting.

The problem sought to be solved by each one of the specialists here all seem to touch upon the



civil rights of human beings in America; and I know that each of you -- as well as we on the federal level -- find this one of our great challenges today.

In this connection, I should like to add one further note. As a result of my last meeting, Mayors from 12 large cities across the country each brought home to us at the executive level their deep concern to do more to rehabilitate many of the neighborhoods in their cities. I have, since that time, had all of the people in the Executive Branch working on this problem, and I am confident that in the near future we'll come up with some constructive suggestions.

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MAYOR ALLEN: What are the chances of the supplement program going through as outlined by Dr. Weaver and the President?

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: The rent supplement?

MAYOR ALLEN: Yes

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: The rent supplement is in serious trouble in the Congress right now, but I think they'll overcome it with a little help. What do you think?

MR. SENNER: Mayor Allen, I think with a little (inaudible) it's got a much better than 50-50 chance.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: The gentleman right behind you?

QUESTION: Yes, I'm Mayor Houghan of Oakland.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Oakland, California?

MAYOR HOULIHAN: Yes, Oakland, California.

I'm a little disturbed over the thrust of the President's message and the question is not so simple: Why do we have to have more suburbia rather than less?

MR. SENATOR: Mayor Houlihan, let me tell you what we've been working along. Just take figures that just about everybody's agreed on now. This is going to happen whether you have any Federal program or not. The real key is you're going to have orderly or disorderly development. We're building about a million and a half new housing units a year, give or take, you know, a half a thousand here or there. People figure there's going to be 2 million by 1970, so there's going to be an added increase of 500,000 a year. Now where are they going to be built? The consumer has apparently made a decision. The overwhelming majority of these are going to be in outlying areas, because people want fee simple title.

Now there's an awful lot that you've been doing in cities to try to make it more attractive, and I think with some success in a lot of places. But just think, you're going to have another 500,000 units of housing a year, and all the



experts agree the majority of those, an extra half a million a year is going to be in outlying areas. What we're trying to do in this program is not to bring that about, because it's going to happen anyway. What we're trying to do is see whether or not it can remain an orderly process, rather than just have it go helter-skelter.

VOICE: Yes, go ahead, Terry Schrunk, go ahead.

MAYOR SCHRUNK: Terry Schrunk, Portland, Oregon.

How are you?

In our first meeting we discussed this with Dr. Weaver. I objected to programs which encourage the erosion of the central city. Dr. Weaver was wading through memorandum explaining how the central city would be protected from urban sprawl.

MR. SEMER: Mayor Schrunk, I think we've got the beginning in those programs which everybody certainly agrees, really vault across all political subdivisions. Downtown and suburbia know that we're in this together. You just can't

have one without considering the other.

As we go into multi-jurisdictional public works, water and sewer and so on, the Federal Government, I think sensitized by mayors more than anybody else, is very much interested in whether it is in accordance with comprehensive planning. In comprehensive planning by a lot of jurisdictions.

Now the urban renewal program has been in core cities and look what is emerging from it. The various regional planning efforts that have come out of the urban planning assistance programs. I think that the Federal Government increasingly not only recognizes the problem you state as being the downtown city problems, but also recognizes the problems that are resulting from suburban development. The county people themselves are interested in that, and I think that the Vice President put it awfully well when he said that we grow together or we fall together: people in downtown and suburbia. I honestly don't think, Mayor Schunk, that there's a darn thing in the world that we can do to stop it. The question is can we help shape it?

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: May I just add this, Terry, that the questions that were posed at our first meeting have I think caused some careful reexamination of our thinking on this whole matter. But in the President's message on

urban affairs there is programs to encourage rehabilitation of by private homeowners. The thought was expressed that this was too modest a program in the initial presentation as given to Congress but what you have happening in your cities is the big massive urban renewal as the heart of the urban program for doing something about your cities. Those of some means or wealth or higher or upper middle income frequently move to the suburbs. And if you can get a program that will provide for neighborhood rehabilitation within the cities, before the neighborhood becomes completely dilapidated, so that it is a better living area in which there could be modest clearance, let's say tearing down of certain buildings to make for playgrounds or open spaces, but maintaining the character of the community. I think you'd do a lot to hold people in the core city. It's also a matter of public relations and local leadership.

There's already the talk that people are moving back into the core city. There's maybe not as much of it as there is talk, but with the high-rise apartments and with many other developments that you have in your core city there is, I think, a move towards the city again as it was in the past out of the city.

Now the program doesn't attempt to take people out of the city; what the program does is what Mr. Sasser indicated.



That some people are just plain going to go there anyway and a lot of them are, and since they are we try to make the whole area livable and within a kind of a metropolitan area recognizing the fact that the core city provides a lot of the facilities that are used by the suburbanites. We know all about that, anybody that's ever been mayor of a major city. But the suburbanites are now finding out that the taxes are not so low; they're also finding out that when they put all those cess pools in they contaminate the water supply, even the lawn. They're finding out that the birth rate goes up and the school costs go up; they're finding out a lot of things, so it isn't at all that the core city is dying on the vine, particularly if the core city people will make up their mind to make their cities livable, and that means cleaning them up, that means beautifying them and that does mean open spaces; it means more maybe than we've got in this proposal. We've got the beginnings here on community centers, on health centers. Where are these health centers going to go for example, under the Health Act the President has, in the core city, around your big universities, or around your health departments. There are many things that are being done to the core cities.

I don't say that you can't make it one or the other. We can't pit one group against another; the purpose of the government is to serve the people, where the people may want to live.

Now, let's see here, somebody else--anybody else want to argue the point a little further?

VOICE: Yes, Mayor Henderson of Fresno, California.

And we in California have particular problems. First of all, they don't have good state legislation for annexation, and we have a rehabilitation problem.

We have worked with the Federal Government in a very friendly way and I developed a project in our mall downtown and now we're working on a produce center, we have a rehabilitation program and we have four major redevelopment programs. We completed the downtown core, or practically.

Now then, we have an annexation problem with about one-third of our people outside. Now this suburbia bothers some of us in California, and we've gone and done something about the core and put our energy in that and then all of a sudden maybe another city will be created. Here are more

suburbs, and that's not the kind of help we need. We had your help in the core and already we have shown our faith by doing something about the core. Now, this program may create another city to compete with it. This is what we're afraid of. Now I know that's not what you're trying to do, but we're afraid of it.

Secondly, I think that the program now is dead as far as housing is concerned, but I think we ought to re-examine the amount of money in relocating of businesses and I am a little bit afraid my Project Director is a little bit worried. He wants me to call my Congressman to ask him to introduce an amendment to the present bill, regarding relocation of businesses and small businesses in the community. This is a very touchy thing in California. This is my opinion.

**VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY:** Well, I want to say that the suggestions that come on this problem from the Mayors are going to be very helpful in the designing of legislation and in the testimony on the present program. This is the first time that we really--not the first time, but the first time you've had as many Federal officials at one time with you at a table - one of the first times that we've had a chance to have this exchange of views. And I think that out of it



you can give us concrete examples of what you think ought to be done: how present legislation ought to be amended, and what you think the effect of that legislation will be. I think it will be very, very helpful.

And I'm hopeful that we'll not just have this chit-chat but that we'll ultimately be able to generate from you individually specific proposals from your own experience of what you think ought to be done. And if you can get them into us we'll get them to where they ought to go.

VOICE: Mr. Vice-President, I'm Mayor Goldner of St. Petersburg, Florida.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Yes, sir. How do you do, Mr. Mayor.

MAYOR GOLDNER: Fine, thank you. In this particular area, one of the concerns that we've had for sometime has been that we have a number of FHA foreclosures in our area. I would be very interested in the ability to utilize this inventory of housing for some of the purposes that are selected under the Housing Act of '65. In reading the outline of the Act, and in reading the Act, itself, it didn't appear that there was a specific vehicle enabling this, and my purpose is to inquire if there is, or if not why shouldn't

there be, some way of utilizing this waste?

MR. SEMER: Mr. Mayor, there are two points on that. In places that have a high inventory of foreclosed homes, what we're trying to do is set a pricing policy so that it doesn't wreck the local market by dropping prices too far. And on the other hand, not to have the price so high that Federal inventory just keeps growing.

MAYOR GOLDNER: No, I meant to take them off the local market and use them for example in the rental supplement such as you're proposing under the first section through the vehicle of a non-private corporation perhaps, or using them in the area where people could not buy their own houses under a private market in any event.

MR. SEMER: That's right.

MAYOR GOLDNER: You would help in your race problem, because it would give us a vehicle of dispersion that you wouldn't have in any other form.

MR. SEMER: Well, what we're trying to do in this

year's bill, is to loosen up some by existing programs like the Public Housing program, so it can deal with the existing inventory, and--

MAYOR GOLDNER: Are you telling me there's a way of doing this now, sir?

MR. SEMER: I don't think there is a way of doing it now except with considerable difficulty. As I say the reason I started out with this pricing policy is because any public official that's in one of these areas has a high inventory of foreclosed homes, is caught in the switches; there isn't any question about it. If you want to get rid of the inventory you could get rid of it tomorrow at distress prices. That would wreck your economy. You don't want that.

On the other hand, our responsibility is to protect the Federal investment. And I do think you can bleed this housing off -- you can find other purposes, other objectives, that do tie in with the poverty objectives, the community action programs, and in this legislation which I think will be through within another 2 or 3 months if we get the provisions that we're asking for, I think that will take a lot of these foreclosure units off the market and redirect them, to tell the truth.



MAYOR GOLDNER: This is the proposal that I have here. Thank you very much.

VICE PRESIDENT: This gentleman. We're going to take about five more minutes here on the housing aspect and then we'll move on over here on anything on the Labor Department and HEW matters.

VOICE: Mr. Vice President, maybe I had better come back because I wanted to direct some comments with reference to the Economic Opportunity--

VICE PRESIDENT: Anybody else on the housing? Yes, sir, Jerry--Jerry Cavanagh?

MR. CAVANAGH: In relation to the housing bill, I think it's good to see expressed today this concern by 90 Mayors. The reasons the United States Conference of Mayors, and we as individuals have not endorsed the New Towns Proposal are:

One is that there's a feeling on our part that it tends to encourage the creation of suburbia notwithstanding the stated objectives by virtue of the fact that grants are

made available for community facilities, which are not made available to the same degree to the old or urban areas.

Also there's a feeling that this would merely enhance you the proliferation of local agencies in the suburban areas.

Then too there's the question of whether there's excessive governmental control in relation to this whole program. But also I think we should raise this point at this time, too. With relation to the total amount of money recommended in the Urban Renewal Program, there's a strong feeling on the part of many Mayors that's it's totally inadequate, because we're operating at about the same level as we were when there were 500 or 600 cities. But now 800 cities in the country are using urban renewal as we have been in the last several years. In other words, 500-600 cities use urban renewal funds, and certainly the public housing units--I think New York City alone has requests equal to the total number of public housing units which you recommended in the housing bill this year.

These are serious concerns. Another thing, in relation to the rent supplementation, I know I speak for a number of Mayors of older cities, when the rent supplementation program

only applies to new construction, it really is not too helpful in a city like mine.

Why wouldn't it be logical to have this program apply to not only new construction, but rehabilitated housing for example? As the Vice President pointed out, we've discussed before that the real key to these older cities is not renewal because we can't possibly finance urban renewal, but it is rehabilitation, conservation, and I think there should be a much greater thrust in the Housing Bill. And some of us feel it would be a great tool to apply to rehabilitated housing.

Take for example an old apartment building--some not so old. The cost of acquiring those and rehabilitating by a non-profit or limited dividend corporation would require less than construction of new houses, yet they require new elevators and other things to make them readily habitable, even very desirable on the part of a lot of people in Detroit, in Pittsburgh or any other city.

Thus, I think these are some of the limitations that represent serious reservations in the minds of the Mayors. And that's not to say that we don't wholeheartedly support the program but faltering as far as we're concerned because urban renewal is really standing still, instead of moving forward, and we're deeply concerned about this.



Now it is nice when cities across the face of the country have learned how to use renewal in its proven value and develop the great interest on the part of private developers now you, in effect, are sort of putting the lid on.

This is what I'm very concerned about.

VICE PRESIDENT: Go ahead, Milton, take a whirl at that.

MR. SEMER: May I comment, starting, you know, from your last point forward.

We'd like very much to get into existing housing and as a matter of fact, the statute as drafted permits the application of rent supplements to existing housing. But all of you have been before legislative bodies and you'll have to concede, you have a very serious tactical problem. As I say again, the statute is drafted with both new construction and existing construction, but you have a drop in housing starts and there's always concern. Are you using Federal money to increase the inventory or just to take care of the existing inventory? You recognize fully the point many of you made that if you take a unit out of the substandard inventory and bring it to standard you are not adding a unit.

And the other important thing about applying rent supplements to existing housing, is that it's murder in a place that doesn't have any elbow room and I hope this doesn't sound too bureaucratic, because the pressure is on to bail out projects that are in trouble, and usually you're asked to bail out projects that are in trouble because they're priced too high.

If you start supplementing those then you go on the defense right at the start. So what Dr. Weaver has done is to try to point out that aspect of it, which emphasizes adding to the inventory new construction and pointing out in passing that the law as drafted and now before the Congress does not exclude or prohibit existing housing.

I think we're--we really need your guidance and the guidance of Congress as to how to split this, what the proportions ought to be.

VICE PRESIDENT: Now I'm going to ask that we move on to any questions that you might have for the Secretary of Labor. Just ask any question--yes, sir, the Mayor of Fargo?

MAYOR LASHKOWITZ: Mr. Vice President. The discussion up to this point is centered around the relationship of the

central city to the suburbs. Now some of us are from cities in rural oriented States, where we have a problem of reapportionment. Take our State with its position in regard to the world, whose character is 60 percent urban under some definitions.

I would like to ask you, Mr. Vice President, if there could be some kind of dialogue engendered between the people in the so-called urban areas and the people in the so-called rural areas in order to help rural America emerge from a continuing economic crisis, because we're faced, Mr. Vice President, with--as you know as one of the great friends of American agriculture--with the great migration from the rural areas into the cities and then we have this competition for jobs, the depression of wages, and the general stagnation. I would like to go up to this group of Mayors and national leaders, if we could Mr. Vice President, stimulate some sort of discussion between the leaders of urban America and rural America so we can save some of these values of rural America. Would you comment on this, sir?

SECRETARY WIRTZ: I can't help but agree with the gentleman is completely well-taken; it really reflects the point that Orville Freeman was not included on this program--



which, Mr. Chairman, I can only file on his behalf a brief of protest--but he has been pressing very strongly for recognition of exactly the point you make.

It's reflected a little bit--well, a little bit in the statutes, in the various bills; it's reflected in our administrative organization here, in the setting up now of a quite specific set of inter-agency procedures so that we're now taking up the problems to which you refer. I think there has been a little matter of some oversight there, and I think that oversight has been corrected pretty substantially as far as our inter-agency relationships are concerned.

But if your dialogue has to do with the larger community, and I'm frank to say that I think very little has been engendered, but I know Bob Weaver and the Secretary of Agriculture would be glad to undertake this.

**MAYOR LASHKOWITZ:** Those of us living in urban centers so frequently attribute the high cost of living to the farmer and we just adjourned our legislature in North Dakota and the feeling between the two segments of our society is bound to result in misunderstanding and result in distrust. I think you'd want to save this type of rural society that produces such abundance for America. We must have these discussions. We can

then do more on the State level and ease some of the strain on finances.

SECOND VOICE: I have only one thing to add here. There is one element apparent in this situation (inaudible) because we all mean what we say about wanting the programs coming in from the local communities. They come in more effectively, more expeditiously from the municipal centers than they do from the rural areas. That's one of the complicating factors. We're working under very strong pressures right now to try to see if we can even up the attention that was paid in the rural areas to these programs.

QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, my name is Max Tidmore and I'm Mayor of Lubbock, Texas.

I would like to point out one problem I think that perhaps should be directed to the Secretary of Labor. Each summer as school is out, we have many, many boys from 13 years and up from all walks of life, not particularly poverty-stricken, boys whose families are quite able to take care of them but who feel that they are not beginning to grow into adults and must learn how to work. So they go to a neighborhood store perhaps or some place where they think there is a job and are told that due to our laws they have to be 16 or 17 or some

other age, and these boys after 3 or 4 trips like this, become exceedingly discouraged and they decide there is no place for them in the world.

These are the boys who when they get to be 18 or 19, then they begin to wonder what to do and some become our juvenile delinquents. I think that some consideration should be given to let us say, free enterprise or individual enterprise being able to let these people work without having to even get into an economic program or a poverty program.

SECRETARY WIRTZ: The answer is, Mr. Mayor, first, we have a 14-year old boy who said to me last summer at such a moment, "Dad, how old am I going to have to be before I'm a member of society?" I know exactly what you mean, but I don't mean to give you a soft answer. I would propose that we in no way open up these present job markets to that group. I could not tell you two worse figures: one is the general overall unemployment figure which is worsened by the fact that some people will try to hire kids at a lower rate when they should hire adults at a higher rate. But that's not the heart of my answer.

The heart of my answer is that there are going to be in June of this year, 2,000,000--over 2 million 16 to 21 year olds unemployed. There's going to be a jump of a million between May and June. I would wish that the economy were working



on the basis and the society on the basis where we could do something for the group that you're talking about, which includes my son as well as yours, a lot of special things.

I take my hat off to the National Science Foundation, which, here in the District of Columbia, has a special program for kids of that kind. I think it's got to be a special program, Mr. Mayor, because as far as the regular job market is concerned, the thing that is keeping me awake nights right now is the number of 16 to 21 year olds, which is up higher. There's going to be 2,000,000 of them in June, 2 million of them hitting unemployed. It's really a very frightening prospect and so I would say that the problem--there has to be priorities, and that that problem the under-16 has got to be met on a special basis and we've got to find jobs for this 16 to 21 year olds first.

VICE PRESIDENT: Well, we just face once again the changes in our society. When I was 14 years old, Dad had a drugstore and there was some work to do and believe you me the pay wasn't much, but there was work to do. And when some of you were 14 years of age and 13 you could fill the old hard coal heater or you did something else. I, with

three sons, and being in public life, I want to tell you that the hardest job I've ever had is figuring out with them what could they do that would be of some help to them. If they get a job in the Government, somebody says, "Ah-huh, you got your boy working in the Government." And mother says, well, the boy ought to be close to Dad. Well, now where's Dad. He can't have him in the Government without losing the election, and--

(Laughter)

And I figure that's a pretty big price you have to pay, so we do have our problems. There aren't these old grocery stores we used to have and for Dad to have his son there and his daughter. And, the problem is a very serious social problem. All right, anyone else here? Yes sir. The gentleman-- wait a minute. Will you excuse me. This gentleman's been waiting so long in the corner down here and I've been denying him a chance to be recognized.

QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, there's a question I'd like to ask Secretary Wirtz, but I do not want my position or my attitude in these things, because they're liable to be misinterpreted on my city to suffer it's good image. Let me say that Charlotte,--I'm Mayor Stan Brookshire from Charlotte,--

our city prides itself on its social conscience and economic consideration, moved voluntarily and I would add without pressures or duress, to do those things in correcting inequities and in providing Negroes an opportunity to education, play, and job opportunities, before the 1965 Civil Rights Act. We are right proud of what we're doing.

As Secretary Wirtz said, the question is: Isn't favoritism in training and apprenticeships to make amends for past inequities or past discriminatory practices in fact in itself discrimination in reverse.

SECRETARY WIRTZ: Yes, Mr. Mayor, I think you're right. I don't think there's any other answer to it. We've been very careful to stay away from any kind of quota approach to this problem for that very reason. We've been very careful to say and to insist that as far as Federal policy is concerned, discrimination in reverse is just as bad as discrimination the first way. And not out of any high sense of morality, because I don't think we can make--putting it in a permanent way--I think we'll make our way further and faster on that basis, than if we went on another.



However, when it comes to any kind of preparation by way of education, by way of apprenticeship programs, by way of training programs of any kind I would take a different view and would feel that as far as the youngsters in the training are concerned, I would feel that there are legitimate emphases on making up for disadvantage. So far as the job situation is concerned, I should never want to see a situation where one man gets a job as against another man or that one was more entitled to it, simply because of the disadvantage that man had suffered. No. Logically that's not it. My statement at the beginning was quite careful to say, was quite carefully put to say that the pressure is going to be for equal results beyond equal opportunity. And I expect it as a practical matter, particularly in the areas of apprenticeship and so on and so forth, there should be some recognition of that fact.

VICE PRESIDENT: Yes, sir?

QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, gentlemen, I'm Frank McDonald of Evansville, Indiana. I think this discussion

this afternoon has been a terrific discussion. I think it's been most enlightening to all my colleagues and I would like to probably change it a little bit by saying this without any hesitation whatsoever to you, Mr. Vice President, and your colleagues. We are very happy and proud in Evansville from the tremendous cooperation that we have received from the Federal Government. Secretary Wirtz's department and Secretary Celebrezze's department have gone the extra mile and a half with the things that we have in the City of Evansville. You yourself, Mr. Vice President, and I'm sorry that Sargent Shriver has gone, because Evansville is the first city in Indiana to be funded under the Economic Opportunities program and under the Youth Training Program--work program--from Secretary of Labor's office in the amount of \$450,000. Our CAP has been funded. I think you're on the right approach and I just want you to know that all the problems that you face, that we down in Indiana feel as though terrific progress is being made.

We're doing this. We are working very close in seeing that there is complete exchange of ideas on almost an hour-to-hour basis between our Mayor's Commission on Human Relations, on the On-the-Job Training Program, and they'll be the same cooperation and coordination in the Economic Opportunities Act. And we're very thankful and very appreciative in

Indiana, in Evansville, of the wonderful cooperation that we've had and I think this discussion here today Mr. Vice President, you and your colleagues are to be complimented on, along with President Johnson in getting on with the task, and here's one man in Indiana, I want to say that it's a real rewarding feeling to have an entre into the Vice President's office, one that we know who's had the experience, one who has the sympathy of the cities at heart, one who has a complete comprehension of the programs that Mayors face as we go down the road in this progress in this great Administration.

And to me its very comforting and I want to congratulate you all.

VICE PRESIDENT: Well, that's mighty nice and thank you.

(Loud, extended applause)

VICE PRESIDENT: Befor we leave, I do want us to hear a word from Mayor Lawrence--Governor Lawrence--Mayor Lawrence, and then we get to another question here. Davey?



GOVERNOR LAWRENCE: The principal thing I do want to say, Mr. Vice President, is how happy I was as a former Mayor and I'm still deeply concerned with municipal affairs, with the President's selection of yourself to take on this burden knowing that you have only a dozen or more other major burdens the President has given you to perform. It's a wonderful thing especially because of the fact that as Mayor of Minneapolis we all know that you were interested in the problems of the Mayor's office and I feel that through this meeting and through subsequent activities of this group, under your leadership, will get better results in the cities throughout the country.

I think this has been one of the most stimulating meetings of this kind that I've ever attended and I think we've made a lot of real progress and I'm sure we'll continue to do that under your leadership.

(Applause)

VICE PRESIDENT: I ask the former Mayor of Pittsburgh and former Governor of Pennsylvania and now a Special Assistant to the President, if he would be kind enough to just serve as a sort of special advisor and consultant to me, on this

matter of working with the cities and he's agreed to do so and I want him to be with you. I want you to know and I hope that he will be able to find the time for this, that when you have matters that you feel that ought to be brought to the attention of the Government, if you can't find a particular cabinet officer, to take your time that you need him for the problem that relates to that Department or some associate in that Department and you are unable to get a hold of me, I'm sure that Governor Lawrence will be more than happy to receive your communication and work with you.

There's no man that I know that knows more about this Government and the inter-governmental relations, and by the way, we're going to try to strengthen our inter-governmental relations apparatus with a little more representation for local government. I think this is something you'd be interested in knowing, that we do have an Inter-Governmental Relations Commission. There are proposals being advanced into Congress to strengthen the local government participation in that structure. This is one that has been going now for several years.

Are there any questions here now to--yes, questions to either Governor Collins or Secretary Celebrezze?

**QUESTION:** I'm Mayor Pace of San Jose, California and I'd just like to say that we appreciate very much this invitation, and I think it's unfortunate that all of the people, all of the Mayors in the cities in the United States, couldn't be able to be here and to partake of some of this, and the question I'd like to ask you is: How do we assimilate the various information that we've had, With things changing from day to day will there be any type of a newsletter that we will receive, Mr. Vice President, from your office or something that sort of will help to keep us aware--we're overburdened sometimes with pamphlets, bulletins and need to have some help in sorting some of the things out. Is there any thought of giving us some help on a newsletter to give us some clues on how to do the job the best way it can be done.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Well, let me say that your Conference of Mayors and your National League of Cities, I'm sure, have their regular newsletters, and we'll work very closely with the people that you have on the staff of these respective organizations. I'd like to work through them. I think that they--they're in constant contact with you and I happen to



know the men that you have employed and they're extremely able people, and we will work with them very closely.

Also, from time to time, we will get together material such as you have here. I think we ought to pull together a good synopsis of this meeting for example. I'm not quite sure whether we placed at each of the folders here the short analysis of the Department of Labor program, such as given to you by the Secretary here, and the short analysis or review of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare programs that have immediate direct application, to the cities.

Now you've got all the aids and this was wonderful on the part of Mr. Celebrezze and his Department to get this ready. I'm sure that Bob Weaver could do the same thing in a rundown of all existing housing and--programs and urban programs under his particular section.

We'll try to do that, but I don't want to duplicate existing services, and it's all right with you at this stage, we'll try to work through your newsletters, your established newsletters that you get as a paid member of the respective associations.

Now, is there any questions here--yes, sir?

QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, I have a question that relates to administration. I'm Mayor Vince Bogart, the Mayor of Wichita. We have a smaller administrative staff in our city I'm sure than many of the cities here. But one of the problems that we have is the coordination between our city and the respective agencies. I think this has developed and I'm glad to see it develop to a point where it requires a great deal of time on the part of our administrative staff to really understand the different phases that we must go through in order to accomplish the various programs that have been set up.

I'm contemplating here today, as I'm sure many cities have, of establishing, if I can, a department in the city, that would be, that would have as their sole task the understanding of the knowlege of the contracts with the various Federal agencies and that sole task, and I think it would be well if other cities mightn't consider that, and I wonder if, in doing that, would there be any particular agency of the Government that they would contact in order to be educated on these various things that are necessary to accomplish the program.

VICE PRESIDENT: Well, I'm hopeful that the--before the first of July that we will be able to establish by either a plan of reorganization or statute, a Department of Housing and Urban Development. If we establish that Department and this is really what's been needed for a long time, to pull together in the one department of government all these many, many projects and programs that you're talking about that are here for you and not that they all necessarily fall under the Department, but someone will know where they are and what to do about them and how you get to them.

Now in the meantime, may I say that most of your programs are with the Department of HEW--housing, urban renewal, and with the--and the loan programs and with the Office of Economic Opportunity. When in doubt, you know I've always wondered what the purpose of Vice Presidents were--

(Laughter)

VICE PRESIDENT: --but when in doubt, send me a letter and one thing I do know how to do is to route any real hard work to someone else, and I'll be--I mean this



quite sincerely--I'll guess at Secretary Celebrezze.

SECRETARY CELEBREZZE: Most or all of your programs of HEW are handled through your State organizations, so it would be good to understand your setup would also work perfectly with your State organizations, because they're the ones that set the priority in submitting these programs if we could only follow the priorities that the States set for us.

VICE PRESIDENT: Now before--I notice a number of you having to leave. Before you leave, you all have your telegram of invitation this evening to the White House and that is a 7 o'clock reception that they -- the President and Mrs. Johnson -- are extending to you. Is there anyone here who doesn't have that telegram of invitation?

Good, and I'm very pleased that you have it and I'll look forward to seeing you there and may I just clear one other thing. There will be a number of the press about and you are of course at liberty to make any observations that

you would like because you are office-holders in your own right and men and women of particular convictions or point of view. I thought if it's agreeable to you when we are through here I would brief the press in general what was discussed and how this program developed. I mean, telling who were the participants and the nature of the questions without making any particular evaluation of them or trying to cite any controversy, because I know what makes headlines. It's a good fight and controversy, but I'm of the opinion that it might be a little better at this stage if we indicated that we were trying to work out our problems and trying to come to a meeting of the minds.

(Applause)

VICE PRESIDENT: All right, this gentleman.

QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, Mayor Katz of Gary, Indiana.

VICE PRESIDENT: Yes, sir, Mr. Mayor.

MAYOR KATZ: I want to assure you that Mayor McDonald spoke for the five Indiana Mayors present here this afternoon. All of these programs that we have discussed this afternoon, I'm sure that in addition to the improvements being sought in urban areas, one of the main purposes behind all of them is to alleviate conditions that are causing tension problems throughout the country as you so well put it.

It seems to me that he spoke of many areas. I suppose that this very well can come within the realm of Governor Collins' activities. One of the problems that has not been spoken of this afternoon, is the problem presented by the inability of approximately 10 percent of the American people to attain the status of equality in housing opportunity. And I'm not now speaking of public housing opportunity; I'm talking about a problem that is an immediate problem and a present problem in my community but a problem that will no doubt be involved in every community represented here this afternoon.

This is a problem of the ability of our Negro citizens to obtain housing which they can economically afford. Unfortunately, this status does not exist today in Gary, Indiana, just as I am sure that it does not exist in many other communities, and I would hope that ability, and intelligence, and the brains



represented by the men here today, men in this room will give some time to assisting communities in America that are confronted with this problem.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Mr. Mayor, I can assure you that there's a good bit of time going into this. In fact, as Governor Lawrence who is the chairman of the President's Committee on Equal Opportunity in Housing and a number of the governmental officials, local officials, and Federal, and builders and contractors of renown are on that committee and they've been making their study of the matter and they're going to make a report very shortly to the President's Council on Equal Opportunity and to the President.

Governor Collins wants to say a word.

**GOVERNOR COLLINS:** The Vice President is very anxious for the new grass roots, as he referred to it, of the President's council on Equal Opportunity to develop an individual dialogue with the Mayors of the city governments, where we can discuss and help you find help for your individual problems. You can do so much in a broad general conference like this, but when you come right down to it, there's not any two cities where the problems are exactly alike.

Now this is a rather difficult thing for us to do in a very short time, but I did want to impress upon you our desire to do just this: Where you have a condition as Mayor Katz has in Gary and he and I talked about this here before, we want to set up here a conference with you as an individual and with those in your city government you'd like to bring to that conference where we could discuss your individual problems. We want to know something about your concern in advance of that meeting, so we can be sure to have at that conference the representatives of the various agencies of the Federal Government who can best contribute information that is helpful to you.

Now this is the invitation that I sought to extend to you in the remarks I made in a preliminary way, and I hope that those of you who feel that we may be able to help you in setting up a conference of this kind won't hesitate to let us know because we really would like to extend this kind of cooperation.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Before we take another question, we're just about now at the end of our day. There are several people here who have been so patient. They've been

here to observe and be of help if at all possible, and I know that you're most grateful to them for that help, and let me just introduce them to you. They haven't been called today, but 1 or 2 you want to know and I know you'll want to know them all. Dr. Luther Terry. Dr. Terry is the Surgeon-General of the United States.

(Applause)

VICE PRESIDENT: Many of the health programs that you've heard about here today, the Community Health Centers, the work in fields of research in health and so forth, go through Dr. Terry's office. He's a highly respected public servant.

Then you've met Francis Kepple, the Commissioner of Education, And Dr. Kepple again.

(Applause)

VICE PRESIDENT: And Ellen Winston, the Commissioner of Welfare.

(Applause)

VICE PRESIDENT: And Mr. James Quigley, who is the Assistant Secretary of HEW.

(Applause)



VICE PRESIDENT: I want you to know that Secretary Celebrezze takes a particular joy in working with this group. When we get together, the Secretary and myself, we sort of just feel that we're the inside men in the Government because we've been former Mayors. Isn't that right, Tony?

(Laughter)

But I think it's a wonderful tribute to you that the Secretary would have these top people of that great department which is responsible for so much of the health and welfare of America, to be here with you and I wanted you to see them. Did you have any questions? You now have had a chance to at least take a look at them; maybe after the meeting you can walk over and ask whatever question you want to of any of these servants.

Now in the Housing and Home Finance Agency you've met Mr. Milton Semer, who is the aide to Mr. Weaver, and Roger Williams--Roger here?--yes, sir.

(Applause)

Mr. Williams is a special assistant to Mr. Weaver and Mrs. Sarah Perrin. Yes, Mrs. Perrin. I believe Mrs. Perrin's been taking down the proceedings here,

haven't you, pretty well?

(Applause)

MRS. PERRIN: Not too well.

VICE PRESIDENT: Well, I looked at you over there; I know you've been doing a good job.

Now, Roger Lewis, from the Department of Labor, the Special Assistant to the Secretary. Is Mr. Lewis still with us?

(Applause)

And you met Jack Howard earlier today. Jack Howard who is in charge of Labor Youth Corps, and if you have any problems on manpower, training or Youth Corps, why there's the fellow over there, just sic 'em, go right over after him.

(Applause)

And Mr. Gams who is the Executive Officer of the Manpower Administration.

(Applause)

Mr. Gams.

And Jack Conway of the Office of Economic Opportunity still with us?

All right, we have Lyle Carter who is the Assistant Director here. Lyle?

(Applause)

Lyle Carter is Mr. Shriver's assistant.

Another Assistant Director, Hyman Bookbinder, right back here.

(Applause)

And any of you that have any questions now on the Office of Economic Opportunity--OEO or whatever it is--you speak to Mr. Carter or to Mr. Bookbinder and I'll ask them to kindly stick around here for a few minutes afterwards. You don't have to be at the White House until 7. It's business suit. You don't have to get all dressed up in my inaugural suit.

(Laughter)

If you brought those tails along tonight, just keep them locked up.

Now in the Community Relations Service, working with Governor Collins, Roger Wilkins. Mr. Wilkins.

(Applause)

And Seymore Sabbath. Is he here? There he is.



(Applause)

These two men are the strong support to Governor Collins and I just can't compliment them enough for the work that they're doing, Governor, and for the work that you're doing. It's been monumental and much of it goes unheralded.

Is Warren Cilcens here? Mr. Cilcens. He is a special assistant to Brooks Hayes who is the consultant to President Johnson on inter-governmental affairs.

Well, now we've had a good staff of people here. Mr. Neal Peterson from the Vice President's office. Are you here yet, Neal?

Over there.

(Applause)

Mr. Peterson has been the liaison man with you here. And Bob Jensen, my press officer, and Julie Kahn, and Frances Kelly.

I think the boys have taken the afternoon off. I'm going to check into this.

(Laughter)

Now are there any other questions here?

All right, one final question. We're on the line now.

QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, representing the largest city in the United States and the largest State, and representing one-tenth of the State's population, Gene Shellworth, Mayor of Boise, Idaho--

(Laughter)

VICE PRESIDENT: I thought Bob Wagner changed.

(Laughter)

MAYOR SHELLWORTH: I am sure I speak in behalf of all the Mayors here, I want to thank you and your staff and all these fine gentlemen for taking this time to answer questions. (The rest of the Mayor's comments were completely inaudible to the electronic and human recorder).

VICE PRESIDENT: Well, we're going to conclude this meeting by just summarizing for just one minute and ask you this: When you write a letter to the Vice President's Office, because that's what you do, just don't hesitate to put on the outside of that letter, something about Mayor's Conference, and that will get prompt attention.

That's No. 1.

No. 2, try to write to the Departments and you get more prompt attention. Every Department's been instructed by the President of the United States to give special attention to your communications. I want you to know that. The President has met with the cabinet and asked the cabinet to give special attention to the communications from the Governors and the Mayors and you're going to get priority consideration.

The programs in the field of Economic Opportunity covering all the way from labor to education to health to the community action programs, are keyed to your cities. Stay in close touch with Mr. Shriver's office. I know of no office in this government that will go out of its way more to be helpful to you than the Office of Mr. Shriver.

And then may I ask you on your home levels, to try to implement your bi-racial committees, your human relations committees; your committees on equal employment opportunity. Give them a little of your personal touch, a little of your personal direction. Because the truth is, when you



get the figures of the Secretary of Labor today, with two million young people between the ages of 16 and 21, or 16 and 20, without work this summer, and he didn't give you the percentage of those that will come from minority groups, but a shocking percentage of them....a startling percentage from minority groups, and these are people who have all too often little or no advantage and sometimes are filled up with bitterness and frustration which is fully understandable. And we'll get a little agitation, irritation, a backlog of a lot of frustration, and it gets hot and you're in a core city and there's no place to go, nothing to do and no one seems to care, well all hell breaks loose and once it starts it's hard to get it under control.

We want to work with you as never before. My feeling is that the achievement of the President's goal of the Great Society is in our hands, your hands, my hands, all of us working together. We can't do this alone, any one of us. And we're going to build it up in our cities and out on our farms; we'll set up this dialogue too between

our rural people and our city people and I--this is a second meeting. There will be a third if you want to come I'd like to be able to cover all the major, not only the major, right--going down to the smaller cities. I want the Mayors of these smaller cities to understand what you're up against and what you're doing and what we're trying to do. Now if you men feel that these meetings are worthwhile, if you want to continue them, if you feel that you're coming to Washington is helpful or if you want to have them on a regional basis. I've been thinking about what we might do is take some of the Federal Government out to you instead of always bringing you in here. Of course, it's kind of nice to get away, one in a while, fellows; keep that off the record--but--

(Laughter)

VICE PRESIDENT: But if you feel it would be good to bring a team out sometime to a region, let's say to the Rocky Mountain States area, down in the Southeast, or into the Central West or up into the New England States, or up in the Pacific Northwest, if you feel that's

what we ought to do, well give it some thought and give me your opinion or your views in a letter, will you, or any kind of a little association or resolution that you have.

Thank you and see you at the White House.

(Applause)

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VICE-PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Now, who's got a question for Mr. Shriver?

All right, let's start right here. We'll go right down the side and around.

QUESTION: Ivan Allen, Jr., Mayor of Atlanta. Mr. Shriver, I compliment you on your statement. It was excellent, sir.

Atlanta is faced with the same problem that I suspect every other metropolitan area is, and that is that we are ringed with a large number of smaller municipalities. You have stated that from your figures, I believe, that approximately 75 per cent of the major cities have been operating under an economic opportunity program of some type. I think you said 26 had made no application. Is that right?

Mr. Shriver: That's correct. But 35 of those have applied. Those applications are still pending. But actually there are 53.

MAYOR ALLEN: Only about half of us are now operating under the program?

MR. SHRIVER: That's correct as of now.

MAYOR ALLEN: I would take that to mean that the balance of the smaller cities have neither the facilities to create this help or to get it done and not anywhere near as successful in having the program of this group. If that's the case, how can we help you and how can we get through to these relatively small municipalities on our own core--or on the perimeter of the Corps city to get this job done? Because this is where we're going to falter in the next 6 or 8 months.

MR. SHRIVER: Well, I must say I think that's a very magnanimous attitude to take, Mayor Allen. First of all, let me say that if any city out in the environs, for example, of Atlanta, wanted to come in under the Atlanta program, it would be perfectly permissible so far as we're concerned, for you, so to speak, to annex to your program any community near Atlanta who wanted to participate in your program.

There is no rigid definition therefore in this bill of what constitutes a community--it can be a whole city, as in your program; it can be the city plus the county in which the city is located. For example, Detroit, in the middle of Wayne County, could have a program for the entire Wayne County or for Detroit, and other cities similarly.

So that you could develop to a county-wide program in Atlanta, and even then, you could add 2 or 3 counties in the environ, if those counties want to do it. We're not sitting here in Washington and telling you that it's got to be done one way or the other.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: But it does take someone to be the agent, to bring this about, Mayor Allen.

Yes, sir?

QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, I would like to quote suggestions to the Mayor of Atlanta--

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Would you give your name and--

QUESTION: Mayor Kowal of Buffalo, New York.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Yes, Mayor.

MAYOR KOWAL: Instead of initiating a program at the city level, we got all of the Mayors and some of the Supervisors who act in a similar capacity within the County



of Erie, and instead of having it confined to the city of Buffalo, we have now a program going for the County of Erie which takes in the city of Buffalo, and 27 other municipalities outside of that city.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: This was the point to which Sargent Shriver was directing his attention.

MR. SHRIVER: Could I just take a second to express a work of congratulations to Atlanta. I think that some of our Southern cities may well lead the way in the solution of this racial--race problem, as compared to some of our Northern cities. I don't say that it's black or white--to make a point--but I do think a city like Atlanta deserves a great deal of credit, as is the case also of Savannah, Georgia, for example, in developing a completely-integrated program in that city both at the top level and down in the neighborhood level. That's not the easiest thing to do. And it's been done by them.

QUESTION: Mr. Shriver, I'm Mayor Woody Dumas of Baton Rouge, and I'd like to preface my remarks by saying that I was the author of the bi-racial law, the Community Relations Program, in Baton Rouge and it has been very successful, since you're talking about racial relations.

We've also taken the stride of--we've consolidated our government between the county and the city. I'm the Mayor of the city and the President of the county. So we've done some of the things that you're talking about.

The problem that we have, which is the same one all the other Mayors have, is a question of economics. In your program, we have already--our city has set up its committee on anti-poverty and we're now asking for a planning grant. But the thing that concerns me most of all is lack of funds in my community, as in other communities, you now will say that you will give 90 per cent or whatever the terminology is. Because of the lack of funds in my community, I've wondered what's going to happen in a year or two when these programs get into effect, and we've asked to match this 50-50. I think we can look forward, Mr. Vice President, into this thing, because you are no different from us on that route. We don't have the money; that's why we're here. We're begging you for money because we don't have it. If we had it we wouldn't even be here.

And I feel this, that something should be done now on this then when the time comes we will not be faced or embarrassed in our own community because of lack of funds. I wonder if you could tell us about that.

MR. SHRIVER: Yes, I'd be happy to. I think that it's possible at any rate that the President will propose that the 90-10 ratio be continued for an additional year at least. Second, I think that all of you are or will be and can be extremely influential with the Congress. Whether the rate stays at 90-10 for one more year or two more years depends upon, first, the success of the program, and second the opinion of the United States Congress.

We have no definite desire that it be changed to 75-25 or 50-50, but 50-50 was established by Congress, not by me.

MAYOR DUMAS: I think a point I'd like to bring out is the fact that I was privileged to meet with the Vice President this past Friday morning in the Executive Office and as the Vice President of the National Association of Counties we asked the Vice President if he would cooperate with us or release some of the taxes from the Federal level and let us collect them on the local level and we can match you better.

MR. SHRIVER: I think President Eisenhower tried a little bit of that, but it didn't seem to go very far, did it Mr. Vice President?



VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Well, as I said to the good Mayor of Baton Rouge, Sarge, this was one of the task forces appointed by President Johnson, has gone into this matter of sharing of revenues and it is a very live and wide issue. It is not within the present tax program of the Administration, but I want to make it crystal clear that it is a pending, live matter, and one that is being given discussion by the Governors when the Governors were in here a week ago meeting with the President and one that we discussed at the County meeting and one I'm sure that the Mayors of municipalities are deeply interested in.

And as we adjust the Federal revenue structure in an effort to keep our economy stimulated and to fulfill these local services, this, in my mind, this particular Federal sharing program has great merit.

And may I also add what Sarge Shriver said. I've been a member of Congress 16 years, and if you Mayors will make your wishes known individually and collectively without any ands, ifs, or buts or ors, if you come down and show what you can do with Program moneys, if you can show what will happen without those moneys, if you can show what will happen because of the inability to raise revenues, I think you'll find the Congress receptive to your urgent plea.

And the present 90-10 ratio was put in as a starter; the concept of 50-50, I think, was put in to the law more in hope than in reality and I would hope that you might take a look at it and study this from your municipal point of view. Because I agree with you, sir, that you get these programs started and then you run out of money, you raise peoples' hopes, you've recruited personnel, you've organized and prepared facilities, and then boom, it's over. It's almost worse, than if you didn't get started.

Therefore, whatever we start we ought to have the plans in mind how to carry through, and therefore we might get some consideration in your national municipalities group here as to resolution and to some statement on this matter.

QUESTION: Mr. Dumas, Baton Rouge - By the time we pay our Federal income tax and our State income tax against our local government, well, the people feel that they've been gouged so much that they don't vote for these programs, and you don't have the money.

MR. SHRIVER: The 10 per cent that's required under these provisions can come from other than tax sources.

QUESTION: I'm Lester Palmer from Austin, Texas, and I'd like to ask Mr. Shriver, perhaps some programs we're now handling under a United Fund setup, say. There is some thought and some apprehension in this city that perhaps this might cut down on contributions to the United Fund. This is not the intent at all, is it to further supplement and enlarge on those areas that were covered or go into the areas that are not now presently taken care of?

MR. SHRIVER: The answer is we'd like you to do both. I've sat on a number of United Fund boards of directors, and I've never sat on one yet where they had all of the money that they needed for those agencies. So that where those programs are good and they get the approval of the public as well as the private groups, but we're willing and eager to help to add to what they do. They have to have a maintenance of effort, however.

VOICE: It must be in addition to--

MR. SHRIVER: That's right, that's right. And new programs too.



QUESTION: Mr. Shriver, I'm Charles S. Trimmier and I'm Mayor of Mobile, Alabama, 150 miles from Selma, 200 miles from Montgomery and 255 miles from Birmingham where my friend Mayor Boutwell presides.

I have a group of questions. This concerns any possibility of change--some of you have heard of my Governor-- I'll try not to mention his name. I have trouble with my temperature thinking about him anyway. But will the present veto powers of the Governor be sustained? In Titles I and II of the Act, this has been our particular local gripe.

MR. SHRIVER: Well, the answer is of course, that's a congressional matter; that is in the law, namely, that the Governor has that right of veto within 30 days. Let me say however, that no Governor has yet exercised that veto. In fact, they've all--

MAYOR OF MOBILE: They're not Governors like ours,--

(Laughter)

--because he's threatening it today.

MR SHRIVER: I know he's threatening it and in a couple of cases, including your own, I think that it does require-- I hate to say this--but I think it requires a little bit that you stick to your guns. You look to me like a guy whose going to anyhow--

(Laughter)

MR SHRIVER: --if you stick to your guns and the people in Mobile will stick with you, then you have the opportunity to make it pretty hot for him, because if the citizenry is really behind you and he vetoes it that isn't going to sit too well.

MAYOR OF MOBILE: Mr. Shriver, I have plans, let me assure you.

For example, this has been the law, it's a vacuum in which we have operated. We have worked hard. Our group has been integrated from its inception. We are blessed with none of the racial disorders, simply because we have recognized, supported and worked with the Negro community leaders. This raises a further question with respect to the new programs you mentioned-Project Headstart. I began life as a YMCA secretary so I have a long-time personal interest in that.

Your deadline is April 15th. We presently have an application before you, for example, planning. No way in God's world can we get one and then move to--I've given this my full attention and full travel for the last--

MR. SHRIVER: Well, if you have your application in, you met the deadline even though--

MAYOR OF MOBILE: Well (inaudible) planning funds are in, but, as I say, my newspaper doesn't tell me, I cannot continue to give great gobs of time now and April 15 is the deadline.

I can get the planning money tomorrow and April 15 is 15 days away. I don't know about this money tomorrow.

MR. SHRIVER: Yeah, well, No. 1, we could help you with that and the applications for Project Headstart are not very complicated ones to fill out, to tell you the truth. They're not elaborate and I think although it is a very short time, with your application already in for advanced planning, that you could probably qualify under this deadline.



MAYOR OF MOBILE: I presented it to Mr. (inaudible) on Thursday.

This is the real key.

MR. SHRIVER: Your State is in a devil of a situation as compared to the others right at this moment.

MAYOR OF MOBILE: And yet it is a State than can profit more from these programs than any state--

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: May I say that in reference to the question of the Mayor of Mobile, that you have time or if you can't find that time, there are people here--who all's here from the Office of Economic Opportunity?

MR. SHRIVER: Well, seated over here against the wall is Acting Deputy Director Lyle Carter--

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Yes, sir.

MR. SHRIVER: --away over there. And here's Hy Bookbinder over here from our office who is in charge of private operations over there.

Now, the office of our new enterprise is at 19th and M. It's down in the general area of the Mayflower Hotel, 19th and M. The community action part of our program is managed by a man from Cincinnati, a lawyer, Ted Berry. There are 2 or 3 other fellows there with him, some whom you may know--Fred Hayes and Dick Boone, particularly there working with him, and (inaudible).

The Project Headstart is being run by the head of the Syracuse Medical School. His name is Dr. Julius Richman. He's in the same building. You can get him there.

And the Neighborhood Youth Corps for example, run by Jack Howard, who is seated over there against the wall on the other side--that's in the same building.

So I think a number of these programs that might be of interest to you, you could get answers about them in that one place.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: And if you come in and say you're a Mayor, you'll get priority attention.

MAYOR TRIMMIER: I would just like to say to you and Mr. Shriver really for my people, the very ones that Mr. Shriver has named have been splendid helping. This has been duck-

fighting really from the word go down our way. And their folks have just been great. I say this to all of you; they will help you.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Now, right here, this gentlemen and then we'll--

QUESTION: I'm Mayor Keeman from Vermont--Burlington, Vermont.

Listening to the different discussions, there's one group that I haven't heard from that gives me much consideration so far.

We talk about the youngsters, we talk about the boys and girls from 16 to 18 to 21, but I'm primarily concerned particularly in Vermont and I suspect it might be with other places, with the dropouts who are leaving schools from the ages of 15 and 16 and 17 and have to drop out for a multitude of reasons now have developed a liking for a young lady, they get married and in time a couple of youngsters come along.

When they dropped out, they got about a dollar, a dollar and a quarter an hour rate, because they did not have an opportunity to get back for further education and training; they're really up against the--they're behind the 8-ball, in that they're not getting much more than that dollar or dollar and a quarter an hour. I can't help feeling that if



there is some way whereby the States or the cities could be helped by the Federal Government to establish trade schools in those areas that those people would be given an opportunity to get away from the discouragement of trying to live and raise a family and find it an impossibility on the wages that they're getting. And if we can give trade school education and that's to encourage them to go back for more education, perhaps if we can double their earning power.

MR. SHRIVER: Dr. Keppel, the Commissioner of Education, United States Commissioner of Education, is here. Would you like to say a word on that, Dr. Keppel?

DR. KEPPEL: There are two programs, I think. The 88th Congress made major changes in the Educational Act. No. 1, the last Congress not only changed the nature but quadrupled it in size. The nature of the program today is 50 per cent of the funds spent right now for school age children and 50 per cent for those past school age. This is now a situation where the initiative being taken by your cities will make the difference in changing the State plan.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: May I just get to the point, are you saying to the Mayor that the thing he has to do is contact his State Board of Education?

MAYOR KENNAN: I have made contact with the State authorities and they do have training programs in the schools, but of course they're limiting them to about 15 persons, and that only helps about 15 persons in a group whether its automobile mechanics or body-building or something of that nature. What I'm thinking of is if we can get a larger group.

DR. KEPPEL: May I talk to you about that later? I'm really confused about the 15 persons.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY: Mr. Mayor, you find your way over before the end of the day to Commissioner Keppel and I know he'll be of help.

MAYOR KENNAN: Thank you very much.

MAYOR MARIAN ERDMAN: I am attempting to get vocational training for poverty children -- largely Indians. I am really running up against opporition from the labor unions.

Has anyone else run into this?

SECRETARY WIRTZ: I would like to see you later. I have another problem. There has been a great deal of progress made in the last  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years. I believe most of the misunderstanding of the unions has diminished. Really there is not much more I can do than to say that we will be glad to work at this level down through the ranks. That is not the feeling as a whole of Labor. They were entitled to object to programs that would mean dilution of some jobs. We have made a number of accommodations. It still exists in some local communities. If there is a situation of that sort I think we could be helpful in communicating to the locality through the most appropriate channel.





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