

REMARKS

OF VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY

AT VICE PRESIDENTIAL CONFERENCE WITH CITY MANAGERS

COTILLION ROOM, SHERATON PARK HOTEL

1:30 P.M., May 20, 1965

Gentlemen, I am very happy to welcome you today
to the Vice President's Conference with City Managers.

In March, the President designated me to act as
liaison man between the White House and local government -
cities and suburban areas of our country. I must say
that announcement of my new assignment has brought
many offers of assistance. Among the very first was
your organization -- the International City Managers
Association -- and this conference today grew out of
that offer to help.

The conference today is another in a series of conferences ^{we} ~~we~~ intend to hold with local government officials. ^{we} ~~we~~ have held three meetings with Mayors representing the Nation's cities from the largest down to those with populations of approximately 50,000. ~~we~~ have met with Mayors from many of your cities -- more than half of those on the invitation list. Already the dialogue which has commenced is producing a better appreciation of local government problems in high levels of the Federal Government.

County officials

h This Administration has launched ^{a broad} ~~the broadest~~ ^{ancient} attack ~~in the history of the world~~ against the enemies [^] of ^{man kind} ~~people and individuals~~. We are warring against --

- Poverty
- Ignorance
- Waste
- Ugliness
- Crime
- Discrimination
- Illness

∟ The plans of attack are spelled out in the
thoughtful and imaginative messages that President
Johnson has sent to Congress this year. Some of
those messages which are of particular interest to
you are on your desk here this afternoon.

At the head table here with me I have a particularly knowledgeable group of men. Their purpose today is not only to answer your questions and tell you about their programs -- but it is also to learn first-hand from you the problems you are running into on the front lines -- yes, we realize the front line in this war is at your doorstep.

I know some of your problems. In my early years of public life, I was a Mayor of one of America's great cities. I bring some first-hand experience to this assignment. I spent many years in the United States Senate working on legislation which is of some importance to you. Together I hope we will achieve, through partnership, success against the enemies of city and suburb and the people who live in them.

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

-- The problems of urban blight

-- The explosive growth in our population which has created unprecedented demands for housing and public facilities

-- The challenge of upgrading our educational system and expanding it so that all individuals have the opportunity to reach their full potential

-- The need to make our urban places more healthful and more beautiful.

↳ These are your problems. Since the future of this

Nation clearly depends on the future of our cities and

suburbs, the challenge of these problems is a ~~national~~ *National*

concern.

The men I have with me today are administrators of Federal programs aimed at helping you to answer these challenges.

L Milton Semer is the Deputy Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency which administers the

major Federal programs of urban redevelopment, transportation, public facilities, urban planning

and housing. L These are grant and loan programs of particular interest to you as local government

administrators. This Agency has a particular responsibility in the President's war on ugliness because of these programs and its grants for urban open space. In answer to your questions, I'm sure

Mr. Semer will touch upon several other programs his Agency administers and also on what is being planned.

✓ I know you will have many questions for Hyman Bookbinder, ~~because~~ ~~he~~ is the Assistant Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity. ✓ I am sure there are many, many problems with applications for such things as Job Corps Training programs, Work Training programs, Project Headstart and Project VISTA. It is going to take your administrative skills on the local level to win this war on poverty. Remarkable progress has already been made, but there is a long fight ahead.

✓ Secretary of Labor Wirtz is here to answer questions you may have about the Manpower Development and Training Act, one of our excellent tools in the war against ignorance and unemployment. The Neighborhood Youth

Corps project is one that you are interested in.

Many of you are already involved in this.

↳ The Job Development Program is a new one which the Labor Department plans to start talking to your Mayors about in the near future. This program aims at filling ~~10,000~~ ^{thousands of} jobs by January in the service industries. This is the area where experts agree ~~that the service industries~~ jobs go begging not because we don't have the people, but because the people are not properly trained to fill them.

Wilbur Cohen is Under Secretary-designate ^{of the} ~~of the~~
Department of Health, Education and Welfare and he's
here with some of his top lieutenants from the Public
Health Service including Dr. David Price, Deputy
Surgeon General, and his experts on air and water
pollution. HEW is an integral part of the President's
assault on all of the ~~subjects~~ ^{enemies} I enumerated earlier,
particularly in the areas of overcoming ignorance
and illness. Mr. Cohen has also brought along
Peter Muirhead who is Associate Commissioner of
Education. His specialty is higher education.

L You will notice on your desks today a large green book titled "Vice Presidential Conference, Grants-in-Aid Programs of HEW." These programs are too numerous to mention, but this is a book that requires your serious attention because only through efficient utilization of these programs can the Federal Government do its part in achieving the Great Society.

{ I mentioned earlier my experience in municipal government. Sitting here with me are two other gentlemen with similar experience. Elmer Staats is an expert in public administration and fiscal management and Governor David Lawrence is a former Mayor of Pittsburgh. So, we will be prepared to discuss these areas with you.

Some of the city managers who were unable to come

pleaded that they were involved in budget hassles.

Maybe they should have come.

As Chairman of the President's Council on Equal Opportunity, I am charged with coordinating the Federal

Government's programs in the area of Civil Rights and

Equal Opportunity. Many of the programs such as the

employment
Equal Opportunity Program, Federal Aid to Education and

Manpower Development and training deal with the root

causes that contribute so greatly to racial tensions

in our cities. The Federal Government stands ready to

work with you to the limit of our resources in fighting

the social and economic conditions leading to discrimination

in jobs, housing, education and other areas of community

life.

Governor LeRoy Collins of the Community Relations Service

and other appropriate members of the Cabinet are anxious to work with local leaders in combatting these difficult problems.

Before asking for questions, I might say that our previous conferences have been fruitful. Special problems were brought to us by the Mayors, serious important problems of rehabilitation of our cities, making public housing and highways more beautiful to lead the way for local programs of beautifying cities.

And problems of the unemployed in the cities have been ~~mentioned~~ *discussed*. All of these problems are now being worked upon at the top level of Federal Government.

We want very much to add to this list today, so at this point I am going to ask for questions. The time is short, so in the interest of efficiency I am going to ask that we move from one subject to the next in orderly fashion, and that all questions be confined to the subject at hand so that we'll be working one at a time on each subject.

First of all, I would like to get into the matter of housing and urban development and related programs administered by Milt Semer and his Agency.

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS
TO BE AIMED AT WIRTZ

1. Would you generally outline what the President's Job Development Program is; how the program is developing, and, specifically, how a mayor can become involved?
2. Mr. Secretary, the Manpower Development and Training Act is now in its third year of operation. Can you tell us a little about its progress over this period in terms of the number of areas, programs and people involved? Have we been able to find jobs for the trainees when they finish their training?
3. The President has just signed the Manpower Act of 1965 amending the MDTA. Will you tell us briefly what the general nature of the amendments are and what impact they will have on the program?
4. The Neighborhood Youth Corps program is now underway for in-school and out-of-school youths 16-21 years old. What are you planning in the way of opportunities for the youngsters who will be actively looking around during the coming summer months?

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION CONCERNING POVERTY

1. How many cities do not have a Community Action Agency?
2. Are any of the cities having problems complying with regulations governing Community Action Program?
3. Is the headstart program going to be important in your city?
4. Do you have questions on the VISTA Program?
5. Give us information on problems in solving the poor in the management of Community Action Program.

PRIMING QUESTIONS AIMED AT WEAVER

1. Well if you City Managers can't think of any questions for Bob Weaver, I have one. Didn't the Bureau of the Census recently conduct a study of relocation experience in urban renewal? Bob, what were the findings?
2. The 1965 Omnibus Housing Bill contains a new program we are calling rent supplements. Dr. Weaver would you explain the rent supplement program -- what we expect it to do and how we expect it to do it?

STENOGRAPHIC TRANSCRIPT

VICE PRESIDENTIAL CONFERENCE

WITH

CITY MANAGERS

Washington, D. C.

20 May 1965

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NATION-WIDE COVERAGE

1 VICE PRESIDENTIAL CONFERENCE

2 WITH

3 CITY MANAGERS

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6 COTILLION ROOM, SHERATON PARK HOTEL

7 2:00 P.M., May 20, 1965

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MR. PETERSON: Ladies and gentlemen, I wonder if I
3 might call the meeting to order. My name is Neal Peterson and
4 I am an Assistant to the Vice President. The Vice President
5 has been unavoidably detained at the Senate over government
6 business, but he will be here very shortly.

7 In the meantime, we do have a number of people who
8 are going to participate in the conference, particularly
9 Secretary of Labor Wirtz, who will start the conference off
10 and begin discussing the programs that the Labor Department
11 has that are of interest to city managers.

12 With that, Mr. Wirt .

13 (Applause.)

14 SECRETARY WIRTZ: I might talk about the difficulties
15 in getting the afternoon started with respect to time and
16 with respect to the careful patterning of the program which
17 had been arranged, but I think rather than delay it in any
18 way the best thing to do is not worry about the patterns and
19 get down as quickly as possible to the business before us.
20 The Vice President will improve this occasion more than I
21 can hope to by his general remarks, and I suggest that we just
22 jump right into the middle of it. These are to be working
23 sessions. In the two previous meetings with the Mayors we
24 have made them exactly that, which has meant spending very
25 little time with the kick-off and spending all of it on the

1 game.

2 I will start off, therefore, in terms of my own
3 particular responsibilities, with just the slightest setting
4 of them in context. The programs at the Department of Labor
5 which are of most importance to you include particularly two:
6 ~~one~~ is the Manpower Development and Training Act, which is now
7 ~~in~~ the middle of its third year of operations. Some 65 of
8 you are from cities in which there are Manpower Development
9 and Training Act programs, and some of you may have questions
10 about those.

11 I believe that program is sufficiently familiar in
12 general that I am not going to take time to describe it. It
13 is, as you know, a program devised for the training and re-
14 training, particularly of workers who have had a connection
15 with the work force and who lose their jobs and who require
16 some kind of training or re-training in order to qualify for
17 jobs in the community. It is a program that started, as I
18 say, about two-and-a-half years ago. Just to give you some
19 idea of its magnitude, it is presently at a point where there
20 are between 375,000 and 400,000 workers covered by programs
21 which are either in operation or which have been approved.
22 It is presently moving at a rate which is reflected in the
23 fact that as of today there are about 75,000 people in train-
24 ing in this country. And the total graduates of those courses
25 are now some place between 75,000 and 100,000.

1 You may have questions about the new legislation
2 which was enacted about a month ago. The most significant
3 feature of that is that it postpones for another year any
4 matching. It is still on a 100 per cent Federal basis. The
5 change made by Congress this year was to put it on the 90-10
6 matching basis a year from now. There are also liberalizations
7 of those programs so they now extend over longer periods which
8 enables us to get into more of the hard core cases. But I
9 won't go further into that.

10 With respect to the other part of the Department's
11 program, I would say this. It is the so-called Neighborhood
12 Youth Corps program. It is part of the Poverty Program with
13 Sargent Shriver and the Office of Economic Opportunity heading
14 up that program. Various pieces of it are handled by the
15 Office of Economic Opportunity, itself. That is particularly
16 true of the job corps and the Community Action program and the
17 VISTA program and the Head Start program and several others.
18 Hy Bookbinder is here and will be speaking to that, and
19 Sargent Shriver will be.

20 One part of the Poverty Program is the Neighborhood
21 Youth Corps Program and it is that part which is administered
22 by the Department of Labor. Other parts of it are adminis-
23 tered by HEW and Wilbur Cohen, the Under Secretary now of
24 HEW, is here to talk to that part of it.

25 Very directly, then, and specifically, the

1 Neighborhood Youth Corps Program is as follows: It is a pro-
2 gram set up to provide work training opportunities for boys
3 and girls between the ages of 16 and 21 who live at home and
4 do this work in the local community as distinguished from the
5 Job Corps Program which will involve their living in jobs for
6 this work training experience. The Neighborhood Youth Corps
7 Program, then, is a program for boys and girls living at home
8 working on community projects. Those projects are submitted
9 to us by the local communities. They all start there. And
10 they are considered and approved on the basis of the training
11 value which they have to the individual, the income value
12 which they have to the individual, and also the value which
13 the projects have to the community.

14 By definition, the work must be work which would
15 otherwise not be done; it must not be profitable. It can be
16 illustrated, in reference to some of the programs that have
17 already been initiated, as programs for help in the hospitals,
18 for conservation work of one kind or another around the town.
19 Some of them are for children in school, to help them get
20 the income, among other things, that will permit them to stay
21 in schools. Some of them are for young men and women out of
22 school. And now a new part of that program covers the summer,
23 this summer, itself.

24 This program has moved with extraordinary speed.
25 Starting in January of this year there have been brought into

1 this program already in terms of boys and girls actually in
2 the programs about 65,000, so that the experience at this
3 point, not in terms of futures but in terms of those already
4 in, is up to that figure.

5 There are Neighborhood Youth Corps Projects -- I
6 gave you the wrong figure. One hundred thirty-nine of the
7 cities represented in the call to this meeting have Manpower
8 Development and Training projects. Sixty-five of you already
9 have Neighborhood Youth Corps projects. As of two days ago,
10 the number of projects approved is 133. It is in all states
11 except four, and it covers 151,000 enrollees of whom over
12 60,000 are already in these p-ograms, actually participating
13 in them.

14 We will this summer, by virtue of special arrange-
15 ments which have been made in the allocation of funds within
16 this program, be taking on an additional 70,000 to 125,000
17 boys and girls. This summer program had been filled up until
18 a very recent adjustment in it and the situation today is that
19 there is still some opportunity for the approval of programs
20 for this summer.

21 You should know that by October of this year there
22 will be approximately 200,000 boys and girls who will have
23 gone through these Neighborhood Youth Corps programs. They
24 can be of a variety of different kinds, but as I say, they all
25 involve the identification of needy groups and the

1 identification of projects which very much need doing in terms
2 of the community as well as the individual. We pay 90 per
3 cent of the bill. The other 10 per cent is borne by the
4 contracting agency and can be in either money or in kind.
5 These are the programs with respect to which I have particu-
6 lar responsibility and I will be glad now to take your ques-
7 tions about their administration.

8 I have a message that the Vice President has left
9 the Capitol and will be here in a few minutes, so talk fast.

10 Are there questions about these programs?

11 Yes, sir.

12 MR. ZWEIG: I am Ronald Zweig, Manager of Bristol
13 Township, Pennsylvania. Our community has a Community Action
14 group and we have an outside private group, non-profit group,
15 which has submitted application for a Youth Corps program.
16 They were able to go directly to the Labor Department rather
17 than coming through the Community Action group. Is this going
18 to remain the procedure, or will approval be required of the
19 Community Action organization?

20 SECRETARY WIRTZ: The situation on that is this: I
21 would think that as this whole program develops to its fullest
22 extent, the Community Action Program would in most cases be
23 the focal point for anything of that kind. The attempt to
24 get the various programs moving, all of them, as rapidly as
25 possible, has led us to provide for alternative approaches as

1 of now so the approach for a Neighborhood Youth Corps program
2 you said Youth Corps, did you, or Job Corps? The Job Corps
3 would come directly to the Office of Economic Opportunity,
4 but you are talking about the Neighborhood Youth Corps?

5 MR. ZWEIG: Yes.

6 SECRETARY WIRTZ: That can at this point come in
7 either through the Community Action set-up or come in directly
8 In the long run I would expect it to follow usually a single
9 channel and usually involve the Community Action Program, but
10 as of now they can come on either track.

11 Yes, sir.

12 MR. STIERER: Bob Stierer, Troy, New York.

13 Can you give us any idea of when you might be re-
14 leasing the next group of announced cities on the Neighborhood
15 Youth Corps?

16 SECRETARY WIRTZ: Mr. Battle is here. Can you tell
17 me, Mr. Battle?

18 MR. BATTLE: It will be on Monday.

19 SECRETARY WIRTZ: And how comprehensive will it be?

20 MR. BATTLE: Approximately 15 cities.

21 SECRETARY WIRTZ: Will Troy be among them?

22 (Laughter.)

23 Mr. Battle here is the Associate Director of this
24 program. The Director is out of town today and with respect
25 to such matters of the Youth Corps you might take them up

1 with Mr. Battle or Mr. Ganz, our Associate Manpower Director.

2 So there will be another list announcing 15 projects
3 on Monday. And I think that is only part of the answer. We
4 expect within the next 30 days to see the announcement of how
5 many of these additional projects?

6 MR. BATTLE: Within the next 30 days will take us
7 beyond the 1st of June, almost to the 15th of June -- we would
8 expect close to 100 projects by the 15th of June.

9 SECRETARY WIRTZ: Okay.

10 MR. TURNER: Bob Turner of Boulder, Colorado.

11 Mr. Secretary, what programs do you feel local
12 governments might undertake to augment Federal programs in
13 the area of unemployment?

14 SECRETARY WIRTZ: The question is as to what areas
15 seem to me to suggest possibilities for development by local
16 communities; is that right? For use in connection with one
17 or another of these programs, or the Neighborhood Youth Corps,
18 or any of them?

19 MR. TURNER: I am just wondering in what way could
20 we augment or help or supplement the Federal programs.

21 SECRETARY WIRTZ: We would like to put it the other
22 way. I am not going to make a speech on the subject. We
23 don't think poverty or unemployment is going to be licked
24 out of Washington. We think it is going to be licked in the
25 community and I should like to turn the question around, or

1 at least to answer it in reverse order.

2 Accepting the proposition that the programs will be
3 developed principally locally with the Federal Government
4 participating in one way or another, especially financially,
5 I should like to suggest only a broad approach in answer to
6 the problem. I think the situation is today that in almost
7 any community in the country there can be matched identifiable
8 needs in terms of work, work which will not otherwise be done,
9 and identifiable needs in terms of individuals who need train-
10 ing or help of one kind or another, and that the matching of
11 those two can be put together now for the benefit of one or
12 the other of these programs.

13 To be specific today the situation is such, with
14 respect particularly to the younger group because the Poverty
15 Program in some of its parts, not all, is aimed at them -- if
16 there are needy individuals, youngsters in these communities,
17 the situation is today that by identifying things which need
18 to be done in the community, conservation work, help in the
19 hospitals, that kind of thing -- and I use just those two
20 illustrations -- there are these programs available to permit
21 the working of the younger group into them. My only difficulty
22 with that answer is the whole answer is really directed to it
23 because what we have tried to do here is line up the various
24 parts of the present program which can be brought to bear on
25 it.

12

1 If I were to give you one other illustration, simply
2 to give you the variety of the thinking on it, there is very
3 great interest today in what we call job development programs.
4 I took a helicopter from the Port Authority in New York the
5 other day over to the Newark Airport, and one specific impres-
6 sion I had is that this country is covered with young -- it
7 is full of young -- I might be misunderstood. A good deal of
8 it could be developed not economically at the going rates for
9 adult labor but with some kind of help from some program or
10 another. That need is a particular form of beautification,
11 cleaning up that situation. The programs of that kind would --

12 Gentlemen, it is my pleasure to introduce the Vice
13 President of the United States.

14 (Standing ovation.)

15 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Gentlemen, I am very sorry I
16 have been detained but I just said to Governor Lawrence that
17 about the time that I got ready to come here one of the men
18 who wanted to talk to me about your housing problems got hold
19 of me and said we had to do a little work. This is the prob-
20 lem that we face in terms of discrimination in housing and I
21 was regrettably necessarily detained.

22 First, let me join with my associates here on this
23 platform -- and I am sure particularly with Secretary Wirtz,
24 who was kind enough to open this meeting -- in expressing a
25 word of thanks to you for your attendance, and expressing the

1 hope that this gathering may be of some real benefit to you
2 and not just a brief visit to the Nation's capital. I am
3 confident that you have already been informed that there is
4 a substantial stack of material in front of each of you -- and
5 you don't need to be informed about it. It is there as living
6 evidence of the interest of the Federal Government in our
7 municipalities and our local government institutions. I hope
8 that you would look upon this material as resource material
9 and have either yourself or someone in your office become
10 thoroughly acquainted with it.

11 I recall when I was attending Pharmacy School as a
12 young man that I said to a professor of mine, "How in the world
13 am I supposed to be able to remember everything in the National
14 Pharmacopaea and all these things I am studying, pharmaceutical
15 chemistry, et cetera?"

16 He said, "If you try to remember all that you will
17 be of no use to yourself or anybody else. What you need to
18 remember is where to go to get the information. Just remember
19 where the books are and just remember what is in the books."

20 So, if you will remember that you have these docu-
21 ments and possibly acquaint your secretary with them or one
22 of your staff assistants, if you have such personnel, I think
23 it can be very helpful to you.

24 The Department of HEW and the Department of Labor
25 and other departments of government -- the Office of Economic

1 Opportunity, Housing and Home Financing -- have gone to some
2 lengths to prepare a very good synopsis or, should I say,
3 concise analysis of the respective programs in their agencies
4 that relate to municipal and suburban and local government
5 projects or assistance.

6 I will take just another moment before we put on
7 our next speaker -- because today we want to hear from you in
8 the form of your questions. The President asked me last March
9 if I would serve as liaison between the White House or the
10 Executive Branch of Government and the local governmental
11 officials and we have had, I think, three meetings with the
12 Mayors of our cities, and we hope to have several more. We
13 have had one meeting with the officers of the county officials,
14 we hope to have more, and plan to. And we met with the
15 Executive Board of your Association of City Managers and, as
16 a result of that, planned this particular meeting today. And
17 we hope to be able to have more because it is my view that the
18 more that we can converse and communicate, the better that
19 it is going to be for all of us.

20 There is a very good dialogue that has been estab-
21 lished now between the local government and the federal
22 government, and we ought now to come to an understanding
23 that the federal government is here to assist, not to antagon-
24 ize or not to dominate. The federal government is supple-
25 mentary. It seeks not to supplant local governments. We are

1 trying our best to find ways and means of making the federal
2 establishment a loyal and faithful ally to our state and local
3 governments. The real burden of government for most of the
4 services of our people is at the local level. It is there
5 where people receive their help from government. It is there
6 where the rules and regulations and ordinances of government
7 can have most direct application.

8 I come to you not as a neophyte in this, even though
9 my experience in local government was limited to two terms as
10 Mayor of Minneapolis, but I studied it; I tried to become
11 knowledgeable both as a student and as a practitioner of
12 local government. And I have always felt that it was most
13 regrettable that some people indulged themselves in the abuse --
14 I guess you could call it abuse, or more politely the exercise
15 of trying to promote animosity between the different levels of
16 government. The Government of the United States consists of
17 every jurisdiction that we have, from the township to the
18 sewerage district, to the port authority, to a county, to a
19 drainage district, to a city and village, and on up to the
20 state governments and then the federal government. This is
21 our government. We are a partnership. We are not the enemies.
22 I said to an audience the other day that the enemy is not in
23 Washington and it is not in the state capitol and it is not
24 in the city hall -- at least not in this country. The enemy
25 is in Moscow or Hanoi or Peking. We ought to identify where

1 our friends are and where the enemies are, and once we do that,
2 maybe we will be able to proceed to some constructive work.

3 I would like to mention to you, also, that your
4 government at all levels is engaged now in a broad attack
5 against old enemies at the local level. And those old enemies
6 are related to some of the most serious problems affecting
7 mankind: The enemies of poverty, of ignorance, of waste,
8 of ugliness, of crime, of discrimination, of illness -- these
9 are really the enemies and these are the ones that really
10 tear the heart right out of our country. These are the local
11 enemies.

12 The plans of attack on these enemies are many and
13 varied. You have heard from the Secretary of Labor. He has
14 a great deal to do with the Job Development Program, the Man-
15 power Training Development Program, with the Neighborhood
16 Youth Corps, with a host of activities, all designed as a
17 part of the arsenal of strength to attack these enemies of
18 poverty and of ignorance and of discrimination and of waste
19 of human resources as well as physical resources.

20 We are going to hear from the Administrator of our
21 Housing and Home Finance Agency who has so much to do with
22 the urban development and urban affairs and housing. And I
23 hope before the day is out -- we have Mr. Bookbinder here,
24 who is the Assistant Director of the Office of Economic
25 Opportunity, and possibly Mr. Shriver will be able to join

1 with us. There are a host of programs there that affect your
2 municipalities, the places where you work. And we want those
3 programs to work. And may I say most respectfully the real
4 test is on in America as to whether or not these programs that
5 are to be locally administered and federally financed can
6 really be effective and successful. There have been many
7 rather -- well, I would say snide and less-than-complimentary
8 remarks have been made already to the effect that if the
9 federal government is going to appropriate the money it had
10 better run the program. Yet I have been brought up to believe
11 over the years that decentralization has great merit. And we
12 are now faced with the problem as to whether or not you can
13 have certain federal standards, with moneys from the federal
14 treasury going to local government and community action groups,
15 and have the program both effective and honorably and ably
16 administered. I think we can, but it will take a little doing,
17 and we are going to have to really test ourselves now to see
18 whether or not this massive structure of our great Republic,
19 and its institutions, political, economic, and social, can
20 really respond to challenge.

21 The problems of urban life which are so close to
22 you are really mushrooming, and I think these conferences that
23 we have been having are rather timely, maybe even a little late.
24 But of course we have been trying to do something about urban
25 problems for a long time but we haven't done nearly enough, not

1 nearly enough. We haven't really put the energy and the brain
2 power and the skill and the ingenuity of the American people
3 to work on our cities yet. We have just been tinkering with
4 them. And I want to say this, my dear friends, that if we
5 tinkered as much with our defense structure, just a patch here
6 and a little patch there and a little scratch there and a little
7 movement there, we would still be moving around with the cross-
8 bow and arrow. And somebody else maybe would have had the
9 atom bomb.

10 We have all sorts of modern science and technology
11 that are utilized and directed towards weapons systems,
12 systems analysis. We put the best brains that this world
13 has to offer on how you perfect a weapons system, how you
14 improve logistics for your Defense Department. And what do
15 we do with our urban problems which are growing just as fast
16 as the population and actually multiplying faster? We come
17 in and tighten up a bolt here and somebody says, "You should
18 add another member to the Planning Commission." Somebody
19 says, "Should we have a five-year study on whether to do this
20 or that?"

21 There has been so little research done on how to
22 make cities beautiful and livable, how to make a city so that
23 it fits into nature, itself, that it is almost shameful,
24 particularly when we pride ourselves on being so intelligent
25 and so skilled.

1 I surely don't know all the answers because if I did
2 we would have had a little private conference and I would have
3 spelled it out for you and you could have gone home and claime
4 it for yourselves and had all the answers.

5 The truth is, none of us has all the answers. We
6 are just groping. But I think the purpose of these meetings
7 is to put up what is growing to be the national problem, the
8 problem of urban living, how you adjust to it, how you design
9 cities so they are livable and useful.

10 How do you get a man from his house to his job?
11 We are trying to get a man from Cape Kennedy to the moon and
12 we can't even move one from Arlington to the middle of Wash-
13 ington.

14 (Laughter and applause.)

15 So we have problems of transportation, we have prob-
16 lems of stream pollution, we have problems of water supply.
17 These are just fundamental problems. And the truth is that
18 we haven't yet come to grips with what to do about them. So
19 we will look at it.

20 And we are going to face up to this problem of urban
21 blight. We are going to face up to this problem, also, of
22 the need for adequate public facilities. How do you get a
23 balance between the public facilities and the private sector?
24 What is the proper balance between population and public
25 recreational facilities? We have a number of experts in

1 education now that have some idea of the balance between
2 teachers and students -- one teacher for so many students.
3 Did anybody ever figure out how many swimming pools you ought
4 to have for so many kids? Has anybody stopped to figure out
5 how many parking spaces you should have for the foreseeable
6 future when you and I know between now and 1970 there will be
7 90 million automobiles on the streets? Where will you put
8 them? I think we should ask General Motors about that. They
9 are producing a lot of them; and Ford, and many others. But
10 that means 25 million more than you have now. Have you figured
11 out 25 million more parking spaces?

12 I think these are matters that we have to take a
13 look at. One of my favorite themes is we build four-lane
14 highways smack up to a one-lane bridge. I fought that thing
15 for five years when I was Mayor of Minneapolis. We had a
16 real Donnybrook. We were great out in the country, but sure
17 didn't know what to do with it when it came to town. I am
18 happy to report to you that after 20 years they have widened
19 the bridge.

20 (Laughter.)

21 I also want to remind you there is one bridge they
22 have not widened. That was the bridge under the railroads.
23 We used to have anywhere from five to six killed every year.
24 There was some reason you just could not move that bridge. I
25 finally met a lawyer who said he had spent 21 years fighting

1 the City Council to keep that bridge just right there. And
2 I told the railroads one time -- and I love them dearly --
3 "You fellows could have built three bridges for what you
4 paid that lawyer."

5 (Laughter.)

6 I regret to tell you that I didn't succeed in the
7 fight. The bridge is still there and so is Humphrey. I am
8 still going back at them one of these days.

9 (Laughter.)

10 Well, I like to be with you. I want you to know
11 that. There is no group of men that I would rather work
12 with than people at local levels of government. I know the
13 City Managers represent the professional, skilled administra-
14 tors. This is a great system and a great profession. If
15 my memory serves me correctly, I believe the inspiration for
16 City Managers in a sense came from George Washington, himself
17 who said when he was thinking of a Federal City it should be
18 administered by and supervised by a trained superintendent.
19 He wanted somebody that knew his business.

20 Now, a City Manager does not violate the institu-
21 tions of local government or democratic processes. We have
22 just come to the point now where the business of local
23 government is too big to be fooled with. I have met with
24 your Mayors now. About half of you here, your Mayors have
25 been here, too. We have had some mighty good exchanges. We

1 have learned a good deal. They have been asking some tough
2 questions. And even occasionally they have been able to get
3 some prompt answers. I remember the last time they were here
4 Willard Wirtz cleared three projects within one afternoon.

5 (Laughter.)

6 I think you ought to know that Bob Weaver is just
7 going to have all kinds of money up there and if you want to
8 take after him, that will be just fine, and I want right now
9 to tell you we are just as proud as can be here in the Nation's
10 capital to have one of the outstanding men in the field of
11 urban development, city planning, and housing development who
12 is Administrator of our Housing and Home Finance Agency which,
13 we hope in due time, will be a part of the Department of Urban
14 Affairs and Housing. We think we are going to make that not
15 too far down the line here.

16 I present to you now, for whatever remarks he would
17 like to make, Robert Weaver.

18 (Applause.)

19 Would you let me interrupt a moment here. Where is
20 my friend, Elmer Staats? I want you to meet Elmer Staats,
21 the Deputy Director of the Bureau of the Budget, because any
22 time you really need something you may think the President
23 and Vice President and the Director of Housing and Home
24 Finance have something to say, but they really don't. We
25 have to go see the high priest over there at the Bureau of

25
1 the Budget. And this is he; this is the fellow right here.

2 Another great asset is that he is from Minnesota.

3 Bob, go right to it.

4 MR. WEAVER: Mr. Vice President and Gentlemen: I
5 don't think it is necessary for me to give a speech because I
6 am sure all of you are familiar with the programs that we have
7 and I know personally from my own involvement with many of
8 you that you are very active in these programs and quite
9 knowledgeable about them. I might simply run down the list
10 to remind you that the first is FHA which in recent years we
11 have begun to make more effective in the urban areas, also
12 coordinating it with the Urban Renewal Program.

13 There is the Urban Renewal Program, which is in
14 operation in most of the cities that you represent; the Open
15 Space Program which, while not directly in many of the cities,
16 is certainly around them and related to them. There is a
17 Public Housing Program which is now some 20 years old; College
18 Housing which very often is dormitories in the urban universi-
19 ties and colleges. There is the Advanced Public Works Planning
20 Program, the Public Facilities Program, and the new Mass
21 Transit Program, a program which probably deals with one of
22 the most difficult problems you can imagine, as the Vice
23 President pointed out so aptly.

24 I am just wondering, Mr. Vice President, now that
25 the bridges have been widened, whether the highways have been

1 widened to six lanes and you will have to widen the bridges
2 again.

3 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Yes.

4 MR. WEAVER: That is the way we go.

5 I would like to say a word about the pending housing
6 legislation which, as you know, was reported out yesterday by
7 the Banking and Currency Committee. Without going into detail,
8 I can say that certain new programs, as well as the strengthen-
9 ing and continuation of existing programs, will emerge. The
10 first new approach will be an approach of the rent supplement,
11 which in effect will mean that we will be able, in all parts
12 of the urban complex, to build a much larger quantity of
13 housing for low and moderate income families and we will be
14 able, probably for the first time, to include within one
15 project or one development, many income groups -- and this, I
16 think, will be a great advantage both economically and
17 socially.

18 In addition to that, there will be additional tools
19 for the very difficult process of rehabilitation. And those
20 of you who have Urban Renewal programs and are in the process
21 of the rehabilitation activity know this is a very, very
22 necessary one but an extremely difficult one, and we hope
23 with this new legislation we will be able to give you new
24 approaches to make this process more effective.

25 We are also providing a new program which I think

1 is of great significance, and that is a program of grants to
2 central cities for small open-space projects, which would
3 involve not vacant land as our existing Open Space Program
4 does, but improved land so you could get small parks, small
5 playgrounds within the cities themselves. This is on a grant
6 basis.

7 And then there is, related to that, a program of
8 grants for natural beauty. These would include the develop-
9 ment of such things as parks and playgrounds, and there would
10 be the improvement of river banks and, of course, landscaping
11 and tree planting and the like.

12 And then there is a program of public facilities
13 which meets social needs. These are small facilities like
14 neighborhood health centers or small developments -- not large
15 ones. And they will be coordinated for the most part with the
16 Community Action Program of the anti-poverty approach. And
17 there is a new program of basic public facilities, primarily
18 for water and sewer.

19 Now, all these things will give additional impact,
20 additional effectiveness, we believe, and additional instru-
21 ments, to assist you in meeting the problems which are yours
22 and which we try to assist with by means of offering financial
23 assistance and technical help.

24 And now I think since you are all involved in many
25 of these activities, I can use my time best by attempting to

1 answer your questions.

2 If there are any questions I will be happy to answer
3 them.

4 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Could I just say that what we
5 would like to do, if we might now, is try to keep the questions
6 within the context of a certain group of programs. At this
7 particular stage, since Mr. Weaver can be with us for the day,
8 and he is a mighty busy man, I want to try to get him to the
9 housing aspects and urban development, strictly concentrated
10 on the Robert Weaver jurisdiction, so to speak. Then we can
11 get over to the Labor Department and a little later we can
12 move into the Office of Economic Opportunity. And I see we
13 have Wilbur Cohen here, our Under Secretary, who can just
14 cover the general field on anything that relates to community
15 facilities or health problems and so on.

16 So will you stick to anything that comes under Mr.
17 Weaver's jurisdiction, take him apart right now -- treat him
18 nicely.

19 (Laughter.)

20 MR. FUERST: Mr. Vice President and Mr. Weaver, my
21 name is Fuerst, from New Rochelle, Westchester County, New
22 York -- and when you hear Westchester County, I guess you
23 know what our problem is. There is a certain amount of con-
24 fusion there and in Connecticut as to the position of the
25 Federal Government in aid of our transportation problems.

1 I understand the States of New York and Connecticut have put
2 up millions of dollars and we are waiting, I believe, to see
3 whether the Federal Government -- I think it comes under your
4 jurisdiction -- is going to assist in a demonstration grant.
5 I wonder if you can answer that question.

6 MR. WEAVER: I will be delighted to.

7 The press has indicated some time ago how much money
8 we were going to appropriate or delegate for this purpose and
9 what we were going to do with it, but unfortunately, until a
10 few days ago, no formal submission had been made to us. So
11 anything you have read about how much or what or for how long
12 has no basis of fact in it.

13 The situation is this, that under the law the Demon-
14 stration Programs are not available for bailing out railroads
15 in distress. They are available for those activities which
16 are demonstrations in the sense that, though they may assist
17 the particular railroad that is in difficulty, they also give
18 us a technique which can be used elsewhere -- and this is
19 what makes them demonstrations and this is what makes a
20 proposal eligible for assistance.

21 The application from the New York and Connecticut,
22 as I said before, came in this week. It is now being analyzed
23 by lawyers in the Department to find out whether or not it
24 is eligible. If it does cross that hurdle, then we will
25 look at it and find out how long the demonstration will last

1 and how much money will be involved. We are processing it as
2 quickly as possible. We are not committed to any allocation.
3 for this and whether or not we move will depend, first, upon
4 the legality of the proposal and secondly upon its economic
5 size.

6 MR. STALLINGS: E.R. Stallings, San Mateo County,
7 California, population 550,000.

8 In regard to the Open Space Program you made refer-
9 ence to possible inclusion of small areas where demolition
10 would take place, for neighborhood parks. Is any consideration
11 being given to the bulkhead we have run up against in planning
12 a flood control project with a water retention basin, sur-
13 rounded by recreational lands, in lieu of downstream channel-
14 ization of flood control, whereby we can acquire the basic
15 land not only for the surrounding recreational use but for
16 the basin, itself, under the Open Space Program?

17 MR. WEAVER: Let me say there are three Open Space
18 Programs in existence and in process. Among the three I think
19 you can get some assistance. Whether or not you will get
20 total assistance, I couldn't say.

21 First of all, there is a new program that the De-
22 partment of the Interior has proposed. This, I think, is the
23 most closely related to your problems and that is a program
24 which will be administered primarily to the State Parks
25 Division.

1 There is the existing program of Open Space which we
2 have, which is a program we administer between ourselves and
3 the local communities. These will be administered so they will
4 complement one another; sometimes they will be joint and some-
5 times go separately.

6 And finally there is this new one which is not
7 pertinent because I take it this is not a matter of tearing
8 down existing structures but is land acquisition and develop-
9 ment.

10 I suggest you do two things: First, that you get in
11 touch with the State Park system which would be probably
12 coordinating the state plans, and also with our regional office
13 in San Francisco which will be able to give you advice as to
14 how far we will be able to assist you under our existing
15 program.

16 MR. MARSH: Mr. Vice President and Mr. Weaver, my
17 name is Bernard Marsh and I am the Manager of Skokie, Illinois,
18 a town of 7,000.

19 We have two Demonstration grants, or we are involved
20 in two Demonstration grants there, and we, I believe, have
21 the need for at least two capital grants in transportation.
22 I would like to make a comment on the question of urban
23 transportation. I think the communities in urban complexes
24 in metropolitan areas need to give a great deal more emphasis
25 to, and have more concern with the problem of rapid transit.

1 Our Demonstration grant -- one at least -- has
2 proceeded far enough now so we have demonstrated success and
3 we can see substantial changes for the better in our living
4 pattern. I think that more emphasis should be given by your
5 Department and your Agency, and also by the communities through-
6 out the United States to this great problem we have of making
7 the public aware, or getting public acceptance of the fact
8 that rapid transportation has to be a subsidized thing and
9 has to be supported by the general public.

10 MR. WEAVER: I would concur with you. I can't
11 resist the temptation to speak for a moment of the Demonstra-
12 tion project Skokie has. This involved a railroad which had
13 been pretty much abandoned, and we were able to tie this in
14 to the elevated rail system in the City of Chicago by making
15 an express run. And we did a Demonstration project to see
16 whether this would be economically feasible. I am delighted
17 to say that it proved to be, that our ridership was much
18 greater than we had expected and it is a howling success, and
19 I think it will be more or less self-sustaining from now on.

20 If it had not been for Skokie's own initiative in
21 thinking this up and presenting it, that equipment and the
22 roadbed would have gone to waste and there would have been a
23 great economic loss. As it is, I think this is a great con-
24 venience and facility for the people in that community and
25 it has been a real asset. And this is under our Demonstration

1 Program in mass transit.

2 We certainly will welcome the interest and greater
3 understanding about mass transit. Let me say this is one of
4 those areas which is extremely difficult, but I think it is
5 almost a must for our cities if they are going to survive and
6 not be choked to death. And also, I think that despite all
7 the wonderful gadget approaches that are going to solve this
8 problem, it is primarily an economic problem and I think the
9 cities have to realize that maybe it is worthwhile to have
10 the general public support a mass transit system so the people
11 who do use their own automobiles can enjoy them.

12 Richard Brown has recently written a book about this,
13 and he has a lovely passage in there where everybody is on
14 the highway and one guy gets a flat tire, and everybody is
15 there and they starve to death because they can't move.

16 MR. THOMPSON: Wayne Thompson, City Manager of
17 Oakland, California. In President Johnson's message on cities,
18 he says that each year in the coming generation we will add
19 the equivalent of 15 cities of 200,000 each. So that we will
20 not build our old problems into our new cities, has your
21 Department given any thought to the New Town concept, or
22 perhaps the development of a prototype city?

23 MR. WEAVER: As you know, in 1964 we proposed
24 legislation for funds which would be lent to large-scale
25 developers of what I call new communities to differentiate

1 them from the European new towns, because I think ours are
2 indigenous to this country. That proposal was not enacted in
3 the Congress and had very little support. This year we again
4 introduced it and it was again opposed.

5 I regret to say that some of the opposition came
6 from some of the Mayors and city people who felt that by
7 developing new communities you take money and people away
8 from the cities. I submit that both of these reasons are
9 probably not supported by fact. In the first place, you are
10 going to have new suburban development whether we are involved
11 with new communities or not. And in the second place, the
12 very bill that proposed this assistance for new communities
13 also proposed five new programs, and a tremendously enlarged
14 amount of money to the central cities, themselves. And finally
15 let me point out that if you are going to have Federal
16 assistance to new communities -- because we have 100 already
17 in various stages of planning and development -- if you are
18 going to get them and have some Federal involvement, then you
19 will have Federal standards, and one of those Federal standards
20 would be to see they are part of a community-wide and area-
21 wide planning concept. And this is the best protection of
22 the central city and its relation to the suburbs. Because
23 if they are looked at as part of a totality there is much
24 less possibility of mutual attack one upon the other.

25 So I would say I think this is really a city-central

1 city oriented proposal despite the fact its locale is outside
2 the central city. I regret to say the support this year is
3 somewhat larger than last year but it is not overwhelming --
4 and that is an understatement.

5 (Laughter.)

6 MR. ROWLANDS: Mr. Vice President and Mr. Weaver,
7 I want to thank you for the fact that your Transportation
8 Office is working so effectively in processing these various
9 applications. I happen to be David Rowlands, the City Manager
10 of Takoma, Washington, and we were very pleased with the
11 expedition with which that was processed.

12 I have two questions regarding the Urban Renewal
13 Program and Open Space. Number one, you alluded to Open Space.
14 Is there an attempt being made to synchronize the program
15 between the HHFA and Department of Interior so the grants will
16 be on a 50-50 basis rather than having grants on different
17 percentages with the two Departments?

18 MR. WEAVER: Yes. As a matter of fact, this was
19 involved from the very beginning because when we went out for
20 a 40 per cent grant it was understood the Interior was going to
21 operate on a 40 per cent basis despite the fact they were
22 permitted to go up to 50 per cent. However, in the process,
23 the Interior was set at 50 per cent and we have now, through
24 the Administration, sent letters to both bodies of the
25 Congress requesting that our 40 per cent be placed to 50 per

1 cent. So there will be parity. This is the Administration's
2 position and I think it will have Congressional support with-
3 out any difficulty.

4 Also, these programs will be synchronized so there
5 will not be competition between them and they will complement
6 one the other.

7 MR. ROWLANDS: That is the answer I was hoping to
8 hear.

9 Secondly, in connection with your own office, is it
10 possible to issue an Administrative Order which would make
11 it unnecessary to have re-certification of workable programs
12 on an annual basis? In talking to a lot of your own people
13 at various offices throughout the country, it is our feeling
14 you can not implement a program sufficiently to make the real
15 progress that you want to review in a year's time. We feel
16 it would be more sensible to re-certify every two years or
17 three years. It would save your staff a lot of time and save
18 the local governments a lot of time.

19 MR. WEAVER: I have great sympathy. I sign each
20 one and it is 1500 a year. But let me say the Congressional
21 language and particularly the language at the time of the
22 hearing and the Congressional hearings gives us no option in
23 this. The concept is pretty well spelled out and it is that
24 there must be progress and this progress must be looked at
25 and checked annually. And I think there is within the Congress

1 very little disposition to retreat from that position. So I
2 have the feeling I might issue the order but it wouldn't be
3 worth very much if I did.

4 MR. ROWLANDS: Thank you.

5 MR. CUSTER: My name is Richard Custer, Manager of
6 West Hartford, Connecticut.

7 I would like to second Mr. Rowlands' compliments to
8 your Department for your expeditious handling of an Open Space
9 grant to our community, I believe one of the first 30 per cent
10 grants in the country. Now we have solved that problem, how-
11 ever, we are quite concerned about the findings of the Municipi-
12 pal Manpower Commission which were recognized in Title 8 of
13 the Housing Act of 1964, to the effect that our municipalities
14 are facing an increasing need for trained urban personnel.

15 It is my understanding that a rather modest approp-
16 riation is now somewhat endangered in the Congress to implement
17 this program. I wonder if you would comment on that.

18 MR. WEAVER: I might say, Mr. Vice President, I
19 wish this was the last question because I always like to quite
20 while I am ahead and I have had two compliments now.

21 (Laughter.)

22 The history on this is as follows: This was enacted
23 in the 1964 Bill and it came up in a supplemental appropriation.
24 And the supplemental appropriation, as it passed the House,
25 provided no funds for this and specifically said that

1 Appropriations Committee in the House did not feel that funds
2 should be appropriated for that. We appealed this and in the
3 Senate got the item restored, but in conference it was knocked
4 out.

5 We are now in the process of our annual appropria-
6 tions for Fiscal 1966. Again the House has knocked this out.
7 Again we are appealing it before the Senate. And we don't know
8 what will come out but we are going to keep after it as hard
9 as we can because we feel it is very, very necessary and very
10 much needed.

11 THE VICE PRESIDENT: What was that item again?

12 MR. WEAVER: That is the training of persons and
13 fellowships, which would be a matching program to states.

14 THE VICE PRESIDENT: I like to interrupt these well-
15 organized -- you stay here, Bob. You are so far ahead I want
16 to be close to you.

17 (Laughter.)

18 But may I suggest as a former member of the Congress
19 for 16 years, there is only one way to get that money in
20 there -- and I think it is needed. This is the support in
21 depth you need for good urban development, to train more and
22 more people in this profession of which you are worthy members.
23 Just go up there and see your Congressman. It is nice to see
24 the Washington Monument but it can't do you a bit of good. It
25 is nice to see the Lincoln Memorial and that will inspire you

1 a little but you need to go see your Congressman.

2 The fact is that the House of Representatives has
3 twice rejected this type of training grant and assistance.
4 And it is one of several, by the way, we have had lots of
5 problems with. So while you are here, just call on the boys.
6 Just have a friendly little chat. You know, the folks in
7 Minnesota never hesitated to come and see me, and it had effect.
8 I used to have one standing rule. I was from Minnesota against
9 all comers. Whatever they wanted out home, I was for them.
10 You'll be surprised how you can convince people that is a good
11 philosophy if you just work on it. You just go down there and
12 get after them.

13 MR. WEAVER: The Vice President can say those things.

14 (Laughter.)

15 THE VICE PRESIDENT: But maybe he shouldn't.

16 (Laughter.)

17 A CONFeree: Mr. Vice President and Mr. Weaver, I
18 would rise to ask the same question that my good friend here
19 has already opened up very well. Let me just add one more
20 question or one more point.

21 Could you give us any reason why this has been so
22 difficult to get across, other than the obvious one that we
23 haven't been talking to the right people? Because in the
24 International City Managers' Association we are so hepped on
25 training and personnel development we perhaps find it difficult

1 to understand why everyone else doesn't think like we do.
2 Some of the academes who are here today I suppose are applaud-
3 ing this, too, because I suppose that is their blind spot.
4 Maybe you can give us some additional hints as to why this
5 problem has persisted.

6 While I am on my feet I may be repetitive but I
7 would like to say we would like to work with you in developing
8 this program. We already have a very fine training program
9 and if there is anything we can do, let me assure you we would
10 like to work with you to see this thing works in the field
11 correctly and productively.

12 MR. WEAVER: Thank you very much. Let me say, fol-
13 lowing your last point, if and when -- and I think it will be
14 "when" because I think it will be funded, I think the success
15 or failure of it will depend in large measure upon you gentle-
16 men. We have to be awfully sure that the first programs which
17 are going to give the thing its image are sound and well
18 thought out and meet the needs, and you know the needs better
19 than anybody else.

20 Secondly, I think it is terribly important that in
21 working with the academic people who will be carrying this
22 out, many of you who have academic backgrounds and backgr unds
23 of administration as well, make sure these programs are down
24 to earth and are with actual operational problems. We feel,
25 for example, the first thing they ought to stress is in-traini

1 rather than training new people. These in-training programs
2 can be very much fluff, now, or they can have some substance
3 to them. And I think it is our usual job to make sure they
4 have substance.

5 To answer your first question, all I can do is
6 paraphrase the language of the Appropriations Committee in
7 the House of Representatives. They made two points: One,
8 this was not a proper function for Federal assistance, and
9 secondly, there was no need for this program because the
10 states and localities were doing this very well themselves.

11 THE VICE PRESIDENT: I think we will let Dr. Weaver
12 have a moment of relaxation now. I must say that after having
13 heard two of you distinguished gentlemen compliment Mr.
14 Weaver and his Agency on the expeditious handling of an
15 application, we were almost ready to recess the meeting and
16 say this is a great day. Because the last time we were to-
17 gether here I recall a few folks were asking, "What happened
18 to that application we sent in last year?"

19 But I want to compliment you, Doctor. I know you
20 had these men planted here. (Laughter) But that took
21 organization and management.

22 We are fortunate to have with us today the Director
23 of the Office of Economic Opportunity, which is the title
24 of the program that is more characteristically known as the
25 Anti-Poverty Program, the war on poverty.

1 Mr. Shriver is the Director of the Peace Corps that
2 has an enviable reputation in its own right. He did a mag-
3 nificent job as Director and Administrator of that program
4 and the President asked him to take on this extra assignment,
5 as if he didn't have enough to break one's back already, but
6 he seems to be standing up pretty well. He doesn't have gray
7 hair; he has no sort of overworked pallor here. He looks good
8 and healthy. I want to tip you off that he has \$1.5 billion.
9 That is, the program known as the War on Poverty will have an
10 appropriation right around that figure.

11 Lest you want to get all of it today, may I say
12 there have been a few ahead of you. There have been some in
13 to see him already. But this program covers the entire area
14 of our nation, and so many of the problems that beset our
15 communities. It is a program for the development of human
16 resources. That is what its whole purpose is. It is related
17 to people and people's needs. It is a program not so much
18 of social welfare as of the creation of opportunity. And I
19 think the title "Economic Opportunity" tells part of the
20 story. It is more than economic opportunity. It is just
21 opportunity to be a participating American.

22 I am very proud to have him with us. I know that
23 some of you may have questions in reference to the tremendous
24 number of programs under his jurisdiction. His administrative
25 powers cut across several agencies. He is sort of like a

1 conductor of a great orchestra, and if you have some problems
2 that relate to jobs and health or children or to adults, to
3 cities or rural areas, here is the man right here. Here is
4 the man who knows the answers and has the money, Sargent
5 Shriver.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. SHRIVER: I can't really thank you, Mr. Vice
8 President, for that introduction. First of all, I don't have
9 all the answers, and second, I don't yet have the money. Other-
10 wise, the introduction is exactly accurate.

11 I do have, however, the need for a great deal of
12 assistance from all of you, assistance in clarifying what the
13 true nature and true scope and true objectives of this War
14 Against Poverty are.

15 There has been a vast amount of misinformation.
16 Some of it has been, I might almost say, malicious misinforma-
17 tion and there is a great deal of confusion in the minds of
18 most Americans -- and I might also say there is probably some
19 confusion in your minds about the different programs which
20 were authorized in the last session of Congress.

21 Consequently, I think you could render a great
22 service to us -- as a matter of fact, I know you can and we
23 certainly hope that you will -- by carrying the accurate story
24 of what we are trying to do back to the communities of which
25 you are the leaders.

1 For that purpose we have provided you, along with
2 all the other material you have there, with a brief outline of
3 the various programs. It looks like a small city telephone
4 directory, but still it is brief. Because in enacting this
5 new legislation, the Congress actually created a whole new
6 arsenal of weapons, almost like the weapons in the Defense
7 Department. And sometimes we do draw that analogy to try to
8 describe what we are doing.

9 In the Defense Department we all know that there
10 are the Army, the Navy, the Marines and the Air Force, and we
11 all know there are special weapons like aircraft carriers and
12 tanks and guided missiles and airplanes and so on, all of which
13 are needed to conduct a successful military war.

14 In this war against poverty we, too, have got a lot
15 of different weapons, and each one of them, we hope, is cal-
16 culated to solve a different aspect or help to solve a dif-
17 ferent aspect of poverty. The trouble is, nobody ever heard
18 of it before. And so when I or you, if you have the occasion,
19 rapidly reel off, "Neighborhood Youth Corps, VISTA, Job Corps,
20 Work Study, Work Experience, Rural Loans," and other names
21 like that that nobody ever heard of before, nothing happens
22 except confusion in the minds of the listener.

23 So I would hope, as I said a moment ago, that you
24 would take the trouble and the time to glance through the
25 book that has been supplied to you.

1 Fundamentally, this program can be broken down into
2 a few major headings. We have three different programs, all
3 of which are aimed at teen-agers. One of them is called the
4 Neighborhood Youth Corps, one is called the Job Corps, one
5 is called Work-Study. They are all new programs.

6 These programs have already enlisted well up into
7 the hundreds of thousands of young Americans. That is a fact
8 which has become obscured. Maybe it hasn't already been
9 mentioned. I don't know the exact number in the Neighborhood
10 Youth Corps -- they have approved budgets for 151,000 teen-
11 agers in the Neighborhood Youth Corps in the first six months
12 of this operation. There have been 250,000 additional teen-
13 agers apply for the Job Corps. By the end of June there will
14 be about 20,000 enrolled in the Job Corps. And by next year
15 at this time, depending on what Congress gives us, there will
16 be up to 150,000 or 175,000 in the Job Corps.

17 Work-Study, run by the Department of Health, Educa-
18 tion, and Welfare already has 50,000 youngsters enrolled and
19 participating in that program, which is financial assistance,
20 jobs for college students.

21 In those few programs alone we are already reaching
22 hundreds of thousands of young Americans, most of them out
23 of school and out of work.

24 The second title is called Community Action, and
25 that is the program there has been so much talk about, and

44
1 perhaps an extra amount of confusion surrounding it. Community
2 Action is a relatively new concept in American life and
3 government. As of today there are about 400 different com-
4 munities which have sent in programs to Washington asking for
5 us to fund a Community Action program. I am not going to
6 define that for you. I think you City Managers all know what
7 we mean by community action and I am sure you have read the
8 statute. Suffice to say that we have underwritten or agreed
9 to underwrite approximately \$70 million worth of activity
10 in that area. Some of the programs are already well under
11 way, not just in the big cities but in rural areas as well.
12 I will be glad to answer any questions about it.

13 Another area of our program has to do with rural
14 America, small towns and farms. We run that with the Depart-
15 ment of Agriculture. This time it is restricted to a small
16 loan program, small, \$2,500 or less, loans on long-term
17 accounts to people who can not get any loans from commercial
18 banks or even from the Small Business Administration. That
19 program, I hope, will be enlarged, because the Secretary of
20 Agriculture and our Office have inaugurated a new Special
21 Rural Task Force to come up with some new solutions, we hope,
22 to the problems of poverty which are so prevalent in the
23 rural areas of America.

24 Another part of our program is the VISTA volunteer
25 program. It is like the Peace Corps, only instead of operating

1 overseas it operates in the United States. We expect to have
2 about 1500 VISTA volunteers in training or actually at work
3 by the 30th of June. The applications for that have been
4 extremely encouraging. There have been about 20,000 as of
5 today. That is about 5,000 we got for the Peace Corps in the
6 first year of Peace Corps operations. I recall in those years
7 everybody said we were being flooded with applications for
8 the Peace Corps. At that time in our country it was considered
9 phenomenal that anybody would go to work for a small amount of
10 money, \$75 a month. Today it doesn't surprise people to hear
11 that more Americans are volunteering to work at home for \$50
12 a month as VISTA volunteers. I am glad it doesn't surprise
13 anybody any more because it seems to me we may be taking for
14 granted the fact there are thousands of people who want to do
15 things in their own communities and even in foreign communi-
16 ties to help their fellowman on a volunteer basis. I think
17 that is a good sign about our country.

18 We have the Work Experience Program which is run
19 by HEW for us, and the Under Secretary, Wilbur Cohen, is here
20 and better qualified than I to answer questions about it.
21 But in substance it is a program designed to give job training
22 and jobs to the unemployed fathers of families where there are
23 children on ADC. There are a large number.

24 I don't have the precise figure at my fingertips
25 but it is going very rapidly and will number well over one

1 hundred thousand participants by June 30th.

2 We have a number of other programs, all of which are
3 outlined in that booklet, but I might conclude with one that
4 hit the headlines of most of our newspapers this week. It is
5 called Project Head Start. This book is merely a compendium
6 of the grants announced by the President on Tuesday of this
7 week (indicating). There is nothing in here but different
8 towns and cities across the face of America which received
9 grants on Tuesday.

10 We have been accused, justifiably on occasion, of
11 dragging our heels and not responding as rapidly as Dr. Weaver's
12 Agency responds to these applications, but in this case I don't
13 think we have done too badly, because this program was announced
14 on the 19th of January; it is the 19th or 20th of May today,
15 and this book here contains 2500 grants involving children in
16 9,000 different centers in every one of the 50 states.

17 In about ten days we will announce another batch of
18 these grants which will bring the total number of children
19 covered up to approximately a half million.

20 This program is exclusively for children this summer,
21 to prepare them for the first grade or for kindergarten. It
22 will aggregate, by the time it is finished, about \$100 million.
23 We intend to carry it forward during the regular academic
24 year and into the following summer, Congress willing.

25 Thank you very much.

1 (Applause.)

2 THE VICE PRESIDENT: I think in order to tie this
3 package together now so we can get into this area of human
4 resources and what is being done cooperatively between the
5 different levels of government, communities, groups, we might
6 want to have a few words from the Under Secretary of Health,
7 Education, and Welfare. The Secretary of Labor has already
8 spoken to you and Mr. Battle is here to answer any questions.
9 Then, after we have heard from the Under Secretary, Mr. Wilbur
10 Cohen, we can pitch into the question period with Mr. Shriver
11 and Mr. Cohen and Mr. Battle, whoever you wish to talk to,
12 because these programs all fall within the orbit of what we
13 call the Economic Opportunity Program.

14 I am pleased and proud to present a gentleman who
15 has been a faithful servant of this government for many years
16 and has earned, and believe me, merits the respect of the
17 members of Congress with whom he has worked so diligently.
18 He has an enviable record of performance on Capitol Hill as
19 well as in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
20 That is Mr. Wilbur Cohen, the Under Secretary.

21 Wilbur.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. COHEN: Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

24 After listening to what Sargent Shriver has to say
25 about the confusion that might be in your minds about the ten

1 programs in the Poverty Program, I could well say that you
2 might be confused about the 150 programs we have in the
3 Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. And we have
4 given you, of course, the same type of compendium that you
5 have about the other programs and I couldn't do justice in
6 a short time to each of these 150 programs, plus the fact
7 that I think you might want to know that Congress is adding
8 on about ten new programs in our Department each year and I
9 am sure that many of them are programs which you are vitally
10 interested in because they all affect people at the local
11 level.

12 Our programs range 11 the way, as you know, from
13 the financing of municipal treatment plant projects, air
14 pollution projects, hospital construction, the establishment
15 of health research facilities and the construction in a
16 number of fields, construction of mental retardation centers
17 and the new legislation for the construction and, hopefully
18 in the future, the staffing of the community mental health
19 programs, to the work, training and experience programs that
20 Mr. Shriver has mentioned.

21 We also have, of course, in the new Elementary
22 and Secondary Education Bill, a great landmark bill, well
23 over a billion dollars that will go to the local school
24 district for helping to finance improvements in the excellence
25 of education for the children of the educationally-deprived

1 families. And these programs are all designed, of course, to
2 help the local communities and the states do a better job
3 on the overwhelming financial and other problems that they
4 are presented with in improving the human resources of our
5 country, as the Vice President said.

6 All of these programs affecting Health, Education,
7 and Welfare depend, as in the case of the other gentlemen who
8 spoke, on a great deal of local initiative and responsibility
9 in the design of the project consistent with the kind of
10 requirements and standards there are in Federal law.

11 However, I might say I do have the impression that
12 many of the local officials are not as well aware as the state
13 officials are of the many, many types of programs that we
14 have in which the local officials may apply directly to the
15 Federal Government for financial help. Many of these, of
16 course, are not on the so-called formula grant programs but
17 under what we call project grants. We are in a position,
18 either through Research Grants or Demonstration Grants, to
19 work directly with local communities, cities, villages,
20 counties, and in cooperation many times with the state agen-
21 cies, for programs that will help to demonstrate the possibil-
22 ity of working out more satisfactory national programs suc
23 as Mr. Weaver indicated.

24 There is no problem that we face in Health, Education,
25 and Welfare that is more important or larger in dimensions

1 than the problem of developing trained manpower in the health,
2 education, and welfare field. We are acutely aware of the
3 fact that if the Federal Government, the localities and the
4 states are going to meet all these human resource problems,
5 we face a tremendous shortage of skilled people. We have a
6 shortage of nurses, a shortage of physicians, a shortage of
7 dentists. We have a shortage of social workers. We have a
8 shortage of clinical psychologists. Almost every area in which
9 we need to develop programs to help meet this population in-
10 crease of two-and-a-half million people a year in this
11 country -- we have tremendous shortages. And we need to work,
12 of course, with the local communities in the development of
13 projects that will bring people and resources together. And
14 I hope in the material that we have given you, you or someone
15 on your staff will go through and see the ways in which many
16 of these 150 programs we have in HEW might be of help to you.

17 I know that will take some thought on your part
18 but, if you want to think about it and then you have some
19 questions, we suggest you get in touch with us and we will
20 be very happy, depending on the particular piece of legislation
21 whether it involves a state plan or local projects -- to help
22 you and to work with you in the development of sound projects.

23 I hope very much that we will be able to do this.

24 I can't hesitate, however, whenever I have an
25 opportunity such as the Vice President has given me, to say

1 one word on the subject which has been spoken about, that in
2 your role as community leaders in your communities you help
3 us on what I think is going to be, and what I look forward to
4 as one of the major problems that we are faced with. When
5 Mr. Humphrey came to the United States Senate in 1949, I
6 think it is correct that the first bill he introduced was
7 what is now the Medicare Bill that will be passing the Congress
8 in the near future. He also was the author in 1952 of the
9 immediate Medicare Bill that is now going to pass. That gives
10 you some idea of the great far-sighted wisdom he had in being
11 able to see what Congress was going to do in 1965.

12 (Laughter.)

13 The point I want to make to you right now is that
14 those of us in HEW recognize, on this particular piece of
15 legislation we have in front of us, there is a great deal of
16 misunderstanding, particularly among the local medical groups,
17 as to what is in this bill.

18 It is not a program of socialized medicine. It is
19 not a program that will change the practice of medicine or
20 the relationship of the individual patient to the doctor,
21 except that it will help pay the bill. It will help, of
22 course, to pay the hospital bill, and it will help to pay
23 the doctor's bill.

24 And I think, and I hope, when this becomes law,
25 that in your role as leaders in the community -- because I am

1 sure you meet a lot of these doctors and the other people in
2 the community who feel a sense of frustration about what is
3 happening in this national legislation -- you will help to
4 interpret to them the fact that this important legislation
5 will make it possible for more of the older people of your
6 citizens to get the hospital care and the medical care they
7 need on the advice of their personal physician, and will be
8 paid through this system. It will not in any way -- and I
9 can assure you of this -- not in any way adversely affect the
10 practice of medicine or interfere with the practice in hos-
11 pitals, or the medical care given by their individual doctors.

12 This I think, will be one of the great areas, as
13 the Vice President said, where we think you, as City Managers,
14 can help at all levels of government to bring understanding
15 to people at the local level of what this national legislation
16 will mean to them.

17 I will be glad to answer any questions when it comes
18 my time.

19 Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Before we proceed on the ques-
22 tions I just wanted you to know that the distinguished gentle-
23 man to my right and your left is the former Mayor of the City
24 of Pittsburgh for so many years that I don't want to recall.
25 I think that he started Pittsburgh and then rebuilt it, and

1 then he became the great Governor of the Keystone State, the
2 great State of Pennsylvania. He is today a very important
3 advisor to the President of the United States, a special
4 assistant to President Johnson, working particularly on matters
5 that relate to our urban problems and the matters of dis-
6 crimination in housing, as well as many others -- a generally
7 good handiman to have around, I will tell you, when it comes
8 to people and urban development.

9 I would like to present, if he has a word he would
10 like to say to you, Mr. David Lawrence, the former Mayor and
11 former Governor and distinguished citizen from Pittsburgh,
12 Pennsylvania.

13 (Applause.)

14 GOVERNOR LAWRENCE: Thank you very, very much.

15 As a former Mayor particularly, I know a great many
16 of the problems you face. I was president of the U.S. Con-
17 ference of Mayors and knew the difficulties we had back in
18 those days in being heard. And I am one of those that is
19 more than elated to see the Administration going about this
20 problem of helping municipalities about the country.

21 The Vice President had difficulty in describing me
22 here, but I probably can tell you a better way in which the
23 late President Kennedy described my position. I was in his
24 office one day and the Prime Minister of Great Britain was
25 coming in as I was leaving. The President said, "Will you

1 wait and meet the British Prime Minister."

2 So he presented me by saying, "This is the former Mayor
3 of Pittsburgh where he served for 13 years, the former
4 Governor of Pennsylvania where he served for four years, and
5 now he is just a Washington bureaucrat."

6 (Laughter and applause.)

7 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Now, the floor is yours.

8 All right, sir.

9 MR. BAILEY: Mr. Vice President and gentlemen, I am
10 Steve Bailey of the International School at Syracuse University.

11 I want to first pay tribute to Sargent Shriver be-
12 cause I know of the brickbats he is taking generally. It seems
13 to me the Poverty Program in the last few months has been an
14 extraordinary success story in spite of the tremendous prob-
15 lems. I don't know, Mr. Shriver, a more difficult job in
16 Washington, including the President's, so I want to publicly
17 take off my hat to you.

18 This does, however, lead me to this comment: I
19 would like the advice of this panel: The Poverty Program with
20 its many ramifications, tied together with everything that is
21 going on in HEW, with things going on in HHFA, with things
22 going on in area redevelopment, with all the state programs
23 in welfare and health and so on, and all the private agencies
24 that are in this business, leads some of us who try to follow
25 these matters to the conclusion there is a tremendous need for

1 a new development of local social planning, comparable to the
2 physical planning which has gone on for many years in connec-
3 tion with highways and urban renewal and so on.

4 This is a difficult problem to get into because you
5 don't know where to start and where to end. But at some point
6 at the metropolitan level, at the city level, at the regional
7 level, it seems to me there is a tremendous need for local
8 interests to set up some kind of well-staffed activity which
9 will try to ask long-range questions about the quality of
10 human life in our regions, in our metropolitan areas, and in
11 our cities, and be a clearing house of information of the
12 various programs, private, public, local, Federal, so there
13 is some means of increased participation and some means of
14 coordinating some of these long-range problems we are facing.

15 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. I want
16 to say that I believe several of the members here ought to
17 comment on it. This is, of course, right at the heart of
18 the problem we face in the nation with a vast and changing
19 technology and shift of population, urbanization, industrial-
20 ization.

21 I think most of us, because we live in it, fail to
22 see what a tremendous impact it has. We just don't quite see
23 it except in our own locality, and then if you could have the
24 time to look down the road 150 miles, it is even worse to
25 see what happens in light of the sprawl of the city, the lack

1 of adequate advance planning, either physically or socially --
2 even the problems that some of our municipalities face on
3 just the most elementary things such as water and sewers.

4 We have talked about a better information program
5 relating to these many activities of Government. For the
6 first time, gentlemen, you have in booklet form -- for the
7 first time -- an index, so to speak, of the many programs that
8 the Federal Government has into which you, as municipal
9 officials, can tap in, or look at, and list, see whether or
10 not you wish to participate or whether or not it meets your
11 needs. We thought this ought to be done because many people
12 are just plain lost when they try to find somebody in Washing-
13 ton or in the Federal structure to talk to about a particular
14 problem. And not only are these programs listed but the
15 people who operate them are there, their address, their tele-
16 phone number, where you can find them. We would even have
17 put a picture in there if we had had time but there is occas-
18 ionally a shift of personnel so we thought better of doing
19 that.

20 The Office of Economic Opportunity has given con-
21 siderable thought to the matter of the coordination of inform-
22 ation or serving as an information center on this vast number
23 of programs that relate to human resources. And I want to
24 emphasize again this phrase "human resources."

25 The other day I saw some figures that were startling.

1 These are general figures. They are maybe not dollar accurate,
2 but close to it.

3 We spend approximately about \$500 a year, possibly
4 a little less, per pupil in our public education structure.
5 Isn't that about right, Wilbur?

6 MR. COHEN: Yes.

7 THE VICE PRESIDENT: We spend \$1800 a year on a
8 school drop-out. We spend \$2500 a year on the average for a
9 family on relief -- I think that is very modest. We spend
10 \$3500 a year for someone locked up in a state penitentiary.

11 For crime it is \$3500; for relief, \$2500; for
12 toying with delinquency and having trouble as an adolescent,
13 it is \$1800; and for equipping somebody to make something out
14 of his life, it is between \$450 and \$500 that we spend. We
15 have the whole blame thing upside down.

16 And what we are trying to do through the programs
17 Wilbur Cohen and Secretary Wirtz and Sargent Shriver talked
18 to you about is not necessarily that we need to spend more as
19 such, but to try to bring together these programs and bring
20 them to bear upon the problems that are in your community
21 human-wise, the human problems, the problems that come about
22 because of people and people's needs and people's limitations --
23 these human deficits.

24 It is really quite staggering when you start to
25 really realize what it is all about. And yet it is also very

1 encouraging, may I say, when you can find out what you can do
2 about it.

3 The Governor of South Carolina was telling the
4 President just the other day that, I think it was in one year's
5 time, in the Manpower training and development -- Mr. Battle,
6 you can correct me on this if I am in error, but this is
7 approximately the figure -- they trained approximately 7500
8 hard core unemployed; 7500 people who had been unemployed for
9 a long period of time, not just a week or two, or a year.
10 They retrained them, gave them new skills. And in that same
11 period of time they were training them, 5,000 of those 7,500
12 went on jobs, productive jobs. Tax eaters become taxpayers.
13 People who were doing little or nothing to contribute to
14 their community, maybe through no fault of their own, suddenly
15 become participants.

16 David, you heard up in Pittsburgh the other day --
17 Mr. Lawrence and I were in Pittsburgh -- about a Manpower
18 Training and Development Program where, in a very short period
19 of time, 2,000 workers were trained, and over 75 per cent of
20 them had been employed within 90 days after the training
21 period. These were people that were eating up the resources
22 of the community, and they were now productive people.

23 Actually, jobs are going begging in this country.
24 There are factories and establishments wanting workers and yet
25 you have 4,600,000 unemployed. Why?. Because most of those

1 that are unemployed -- there are several reasons. Sometimes
2 the man may not be close enough to the job to take it even if
3 he has the skill and he has reasons not to be able to move.
4 But in the main I think you could generalize to say that the
5 person just doesn't have it. He isn't equipped, he isn't
6 trained, he isn't educated. A reasonably simple kind of
7 employment is just working as a clerk or in a filling station.
8 It is very much needed, very important employment. But if a
9 person doesn't know how to write his name, if he doesn't know
10 how to add up the figures, he can't get a job.

11 It doesn't make any difference how healthy he looks
12 or how attractive he or she may be. We just have too many
13 people who can't add up the simple figures if you are coming
14 in to buy groceries, or run a cash register or be able to
15 take a credit card and put it on a slip at a filling station
16 and add it up.

17 So we are training people under the job development
18 program, about 10,000 between now and January, to just work
19 in service institutions such as a filling station or a laundry.
20 Really, our problem is training these human resources.

21 Where do we get the information about all this?
22 Here is what Sarge said one day when I was there -- I serve
23 on the Advisory Committee with Mr. Shriver on the Poverty
24 Program. He said, "Let's make this office here the Informa-
25 tion Office since this program cuts across many lines."

1 Sarge, maybe you would like to tell them a little
2 about what you have been doing about this.

3 MR. SHRIVER: Thank you, Mr. Vice President. We
4 have a first draft, at any rate, of a book which does itemize
5 every program the Federal Government is carrying on which
6 impinges on any of the work that you are involved with, and
7 then, page by page in this booklet, it will be possible, once
8 it is published, to find the name, address, telephone number,
9 et cetera, of the people in Washington you should be in touch
10 with about the provisions in that bill. It is a rather
11 interesting book. It has a master index which enables you
12 to look up any title in which you are interested and go back
13 to the book and find out those Federal programs available
14 for you.

15 I would also like to revert to the question Mr.
16 Bailey put, the question of social planning. I, for one,
17 believe that the War Against Poverty, if it hasn't done any-
18 thing else, has revealed to many Americans the fact that there
19 is a great deal of social planning, governmental planning,
20 and new thinking that has to be injected in the entire
21 Government structure of the United States.

22 We have estimated that there are approximately
23 10,000 Americans right now planning and working on Community
24 Action Programs throughout the United States. The largest
25 proportion of them are people who never got involved in this

1 type of structural planning, social planning, if you will,
2 before in their lives. For the first time in a large number
3 of communities, the political leadership is sitting down with
4 the private philanthropic leadership, and those two groups
5 are sitting down with the minority group leadership and sitting
6 down with people who have never been asked their opinion about
7 anything.

8 Now, that is a phenomenon. That is one of the
9 reasons why there is so much excitement about it and so much
10 agitation about it because it has never happened before, at
11 least not in recent years.

12 I don't know that there is anybody in America smart
13 enough to actually know what will be the proper design for
14 these programs in the future.

15 We have turned, Mr. Bailey, to a number of universi-
16 ties and said to them, "Will you do a research study for the
17 Office of Economic Opportunity on the program in New Haven
18 or Pittsburgh or Los Angeles or Detroit or Syracuse, get the
19 baseline data for that community today, study it as we
20 inject money into that community in accordance with a local
21 plan. Give us some calculated results after a year, after
22 two years. Ask 500 questions about the quality of life in
23 that community and see what results, if any, are being
24 obtained."

25 For example, let's say that the Federal Government

1 put \$50 million into Pittsburgh for social planning. How
2 would we know five years from now if that money had been in-
3 telligently spent? If you had a number of indices, such as
4 the obvious ones, delinquency rates, divorce rates, church
5 attendance, how many people actually vote, what is the birth
6 rate -- all the social indices in that community, and if after
7 five years if you could show, in a community like Pittsburgh
8 where a certain program had been conducted over a five-year
9 period, certain things had changed, you could then say "It
10 is worth \$10 million, \$20 million, \$100 million."

11 St. Louis might be running a program with the same
12 objectives and a survey of that program might reveal that
13 nothing had changed. Then you could compare the programs.
14 Today nobody can do this.

15 If you asked a group of experts today how to spend
16 a million dollars, whether on pre-school children, primary
17 school children, high school or college children, you could
18 not get a definitive answer to that. The experts on the pre-
19 school children would say, "Spend it there." The others
20 would say to spend it in their fields. But the person looking
21 at it wouldn't have any scientific evidence to prove where the
22 money should be spent.

23 That is true, I think, with respect to the whole
24 social spectrum. As the cities get bigger, as what happens
25 in Gary, Indiana affects what happens in Chicago, the

1 governmental structures are incapable of dealing with those
2 problems. We all know that. I repeat I don't think there is
3 anybody smart enough yet to know how this should be done.
4 I personally am enthusiastic because of the fact that ten
5 thousand intelligent Americans are working on this today who,
6 six months ago, were not working on it.

7 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Wilbur, do you have anything to
8 contribute to this?

9 MR. COHEN: I don't think so.

10 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Yes, sir.

11 A CONFEREE: I would like to thank Mr. Shriver's
12 Department for the \$800,000 we have already received which
13 has made it possible for these people to meet in our community.
14 We find we have good communication between the Negroes,
15 Indians and now the Eskimos we have in a small group. But
16 over-all city communication is still a problem.

17 I am just making this as a suggestion. Perhaps
18 somebody is doing something about it. But I think the FCC
19 could be of great help here in getting the radio and tele-
20 vision stations to give us a greater hand here in disseminat-
21 ing the information to the community as a whole. I don't know
22 how many cities have this problem. We do. Perhaps it is
23 a general one.

24 THE VICE PRESIDENT: May I respectfully suggest
25 that repeated requests -- maybe just a request -- to the local

1 radio and TV outlets might yield the results we want.

2 THE CONFEREES: We have been unsuccessful in this
3 respect.

4 THE VICE PRESIDENT: The stations have an obligation
5 for a certain amount of public service and if you don't get it
6 you can let your Senator know, or your vice president. They
7 are supposed to do that. They are not supposed to put you
8 on at 1:00 a.m., either. I want to be of help to you.

9 Yes, sir.

10 MR. TURNER: Mr. Vice President, I am Bob Turner
11 from Boulder, Colorado.

12 I first of all would like to say that I think I
13 speak for all of us in feeling that this Administration is
14 the first to recognize the problem of our cities and to
15 attack these problems vigorously. For this we are very grate-
16 ful because it has occurred to us in times past that the
17 Federal Government perhaps has been very much involved in
18 worrying about its problems and not so much about the problems
19 in the cities.

20 Secondly, we are concerned in attempting to improve
21 the prestige, the image, if you will, of local government or
22 of government per se, perhaps, and in terms of your commet's
23 initially about our failure to do what needs to be done in
24 cities I feel that we should somehow or other, on the Federal
25 level, in partnership with municipalities, work in research

1 towards means of stimulating the electorate to support and to
2 help in other ways improve the urban environment.

3 I would like to have specifically your comments
4 about the possibility of the utilization of Federal money for
5 technical scientific research as it pertains to the urban
6 environment and for research in various means of reaching the
7 electorate in line with Mr. Thompson's comments, the way in
8 which we can get to the public to have them support the pro-
9 grams which will be of great benefit to them in the urban
10 area.

11 THE VICE PRESIDENT: One of the reasons, sir, that
12 many of us have strongly advocated the establishment of the
13 Department of Urban Affairs and Housing, or Urban Affairs and
14 Community Development, whatever the name ends up in, is that
15 we thought this way: We could begin to coordinate the many
16 activities that relate to urban life in which the Federal
17 Government has a participating part, and also to concentrate
18 somewhat on the research angle that needs to be given some
19 priority attention.

20 You know, in our Defense Department -- I go back to
21 this again -- we have this year approximately \$6.5 billion
22 set aside out of a \$49 billion research budget, for research
23 and development. That budget has increased \$4.5 billion from
24 1961 even though the total Defense budget has come down
25 somewhat in that period of time.

1 The reason for the research is because by research
2 we can do a better job with our weapons systems at less cost
3 and still have more fire power and more defensive strength.

4 In fact you have here in your folders, which I was
5 going to mention a little later, the Department of Defense
6 analysis of its budget, where the dollar goes and what it has
7 done for you as Americans in terms of the strength of the
8 country. And research is the answer. When you slow down on
9 the research part, you start to lose the war if you are in a
10 war, and you weaken your defense and your security.

11 Now, I made a speech in California two or three
12 years ago under the auspices of what they call the Center for
13 Democratic Institutions. And I spoke about the organizational
14 structure of the Congress and the relationship of the Federal
15 Government and the Congress to the local government. One
16 of the great needs up here in Congress is for thinking ahead.
17 Every one of us public officials -- I am sure this is true of
18 yourselves in the main -- we are so busy taking care of current
19 affairs and the day-by-day crises or crisis that we just don't
20 have enough time to think ahead until Tuesday, much less five
21 years. Frankly, I am about up to Monday of this week -- I am
22 still not up to Thursday.

23 It seems to me there should be two levels in the
24 research field: One of applied research, and then some people
25 stashed away back here just looking ahead. They are not

1 necessarily supposed to come up with the most practical answer
2 for today because what is practical for today may be obsolete
3 four years from now, and something you dream about five years
4 ahead which may be practical may look like a far-out idea
5 today. So you need to have this kind of research that looks
6 far into the future.

7 I thought we could do this through a system which
8 I would like to call a Congressional institute, where we would
9 bring in true scholars on sabbaticals or fellowships and
10 really tie them in with the Library of Congress or some insti-
11 tution of our Congressional establishment to give us the
12 long-term research. The Executive Branch has some of it in
13 its establishment but the Congress has none of it, regrettably.
14 Its research staffs are limited to the immediate day-by-day
15 problems.

16 Getting to our cities, I suggested at this same
17 meeting we should start to apply what we call systems analysis,
18 the systems system, to our problems -- getting the best brains
19 we have. Take the Rand Corporation or any one of the big
20 companies that is actually manufacturing. They tie in a whole
21 series, a galaxie of scientific endeavor and minds to work on
22 a problem. They don't just have one man that does it, or
23 two men. There is a multiplicity of disciplines that is
24 brought to bear upon this particular problem.

25 And the Federal Government has a role in this. I

1 will be very frank with you. I think if all the Federal
2 Government does is dish out money for grants-in-aid to
3 municipalities over a period of time and doesn't start to
4 back this up by a cooperative system of research, working
5 with your associations, working with your cities, working
6 with your counties and with your state governments and with
7 the people in public administration, people that have some
8 long-term vision on this thing -- if we don't tie the grants-
9 in-aid up with basic research and applied research we will
10 just be draining the money out, and you are going to get
11 about 35 cents on the dollar or 25 cents on the dollar of
12 value.

13 This is my own personal view and one of the reasons
14 we are holding these meetings is to stimulate a little more
15 interest.

16 Where are we going to be ten years from now? Has
17 anybody thought about where their city is going to be ten or
18 20 years from now? Time runs -- I shudder to think about it.
19 I keep thinking I was just Mayor of Minneapolis and it was 20
20 years ago. These cities are growing so fast. When I go along
21 the West Coast or in the Southwest, places where you see what
22 is happening in terms of in-migration as well as the birth
23 rate -- let's just quit kidding ourselves. The population
24 explosions are staggering. I just had this information brought
25 to my attention:

1 In America in terms of geography we are getting to
2 be like a Mediterranean society where the people will live
3 along the coasts and the Great Lakes and the vast hinterlands
4 will stay relatively static -- not grow in proportion.

5 That also means you have to have policies of econ-
6 omics and planning that attract the people into the hinter-
7 lands so you don't literally make the country topsy-turvy.
8 We have been thinking of that in terms of government research
9 money, Space money, Institutes of Health, because the population
10 follows the brain power. The industry follows the brain
11 power. You get a big university going in Kansas and another
12 one going in Nebraska that gets vast amounts of Federal funds
13 and you will have industry there. You will either have industry
14 in there or industry will come in and bid for the brains and
15 draw them out.

16 So you have a number of policies of government that
17 will affect what happens to areas of the country.

18 So to button it down -- and this is, I guess, one
19 of my labors of love -- I personally feel we poured hundreds
20 of millions into agriculture research and we today have the
21 most efficient, productive agriculture that anybody has known.
22 We can out-produce anybody in the world blindfolded. We can
23 sell American food and fiber cheaper than anybody in the world,
24 even with their slave labor. We can produce a bushel of wheat
25 for less than any producer in the world. We can produce a bale

1 of cotton cheaper than any producer in the world. We can
2 produce a bale of soybeans cheaper than any producer in the
3 world.

4 And do you know how we did it? Through research --
5 through research plus a system of ownership, a system of
6 incentives, the cooperative, the private ownership, et
7 cetera. But it didn't happen by accident. You have Belts-
8 ville out there, and you have experiment stations all over
9 the country.

10 Where is your experiment station, Mr. City Manager?
11 Where is your pilot city? All over America you have hundreds
12 of millions expended every year -- and it has been that way
13 since 1862 -- to find out how you can make a little better
14 living out on that farm or produce a little better product
15 or have the use of scientific information made available to
16 that farmer through the county agent.

17 But the cities just grew. They were like Topsy and
18 just happened. And finally somebody came around and said,
19 "Maybe we ought to plan a little bit," and somebody came
20 around and said, "Maybe we should have a park." Fortunately,
21 somebody did have some insight. But I want to repeat that
22 in government, you know, you don't get things done just
23 through being sweet and lovely. It is nice and it helps,
24 providing you are sufficiently effective. But you get it
25 done when you insist on it. There are people who are crying

1 every day in the ears of the people here in Washington -- and
2 this is a mighty noisy town and if you don't speak up you
3 might just as well not have arrived. So you are going to have
4 to really work on this one now.

5 There are, in the Urban Act that the President sent
6 to the Congress, research funds. The beginning of this is
7 right in the Act. And you know that is what has made it the
8 most unpopular feature of it up in Congress -- and I have been
9 in Congress for a long time and am very respectful of it.
10 The reason it is unpopular is because nobody says anything
11 about it. The first time that Mayor says, "You get busy,
12 Mr. Congressman, and get me that research money or you will
13 lose the 13th District" -- you would be surprised how intel-
14 ligent a man can get very quickly.

15 (Laughter.)

16 All at once it is like heaven-sent education. It
17 is one of the great experiences of the world. It is a great
18 education and I have had some of it myself.

19 MR. COOP: Mr. Vice President, my name is Robert
20 Coop. I am the City Manager of Phoenix, Arizona.

21 It may interest you and please you to know that
22 Phoenix is most interested in extending its partnership with
23 the Federal Government in solving the problems of Phoenix.

24 THE VICE PRESIDENT: That is very consoling to me.

25 (Laughter.)

1 MR. COOP: Sir, those who oppose that partnership
2 always raise the spectre of Federal control, as you well know.
3 I think I can certainly support Federal standards in connec-
4 tion with grants, in connection with allocations of funds,
5 whether it is for poverty or whether it is for any other
6 program. I can certainly understand the need for compliance
7 with Congressional intent.

8 I think, however, that we do need the maximum
9 freedom possible to implement these programs. A partnership
10 involves both sides and we are anxious, not only to defend
11 but also to implement these programs. There are times, how-
12 ever, when it would appear that there are controls or perhaps
13 conditions which to us seem, if not needless, at least not
14 necessary. We wish to defend the program to those people
15 who oppose this whole concept of Federal-local relationships.
16 And we can defend it if we have the broadest possible oppor-
17 tunity to do so with a minimum amount of control or conditions
18 attached to grants, consistent with good, high standards which
19 we believe in.

20 Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

21 THE VICE PRESIDENT: I am going to ask Elmer Staats
22 to make a comment on that because he is from the Bureau of
23 the Budget. They don't impose the controls because they like
24 to impose controls, but the Congress and process of legisla-
25 tion ultimately set up these controls. I think you know why.

1 The long background of it is there is apparently supposed to be
2 something wrong about government, and it is much more wrong
3 if you are not constantly checking and double-checking on
4 everybody.

5 If we could be as honest in our thinking about
6 social and economic programs of government as we are about
7 Defense programs, we wouldn't have this trouble. You know
8 every so often in the Defense Department you buy something
9 that isn't worth a hoot. I know of airplane engines that
10 have never been in an airplane, hundreds of millions of dollars
11 of them. I know of research moneys that run into the hundreds
12 of millions, yea billions, that, as far as the product was
13 concerned, never saw the light of day. And we say, "It was
14 necessary. It was critical."

15 I am chairman of the Space Council and I must con-
16 fess to you that I think the Space program is an absolute
17 national necessity. I don't want to be misunderstood. I
18 think it would be criminal if we did less. I think I would
19 be a traitor to my country if I urged people to do less. But
20 I want to tell you something. If you think every research
21 project we have got is yielding results you are really off
22 the beam; you are really in orbit. We have research projects
23 going on that aren't going to yield anything but a headache
24 and expense but you have to try it out. You don't know. You
25 can't come up to a fellow and say, "You're nuts," because he

1 may go to another country and work, and that work isn't nuts
2 and yields something for them.

3 But when it comes to a program in health or commun-
4 ity facilities or sewage or pollution, there is always someone
5 ready to write an editorial or a column and someone ready to
6 point out the Community Action Program didn't do what it was
7 really supposed to do. You would think the people were all
8 graduates of the Harvard School of Business or Syracuse School
9 of Public Administration. They are not. You know who they
10 are? The lady around the corner and the man that runs the
11 grocery store -- just good citizens and they are trying to
12 see what they can do to make their town better.

13 And you know what? They occasionally fail, just
14 like kids do in school, but you don't drown the kids and you
15 don't run them out of the house.

16 But the minute that happens in government, as you
17 fellows know, you have to find the fellow that was guilty of
18 poor management, bad administration, and most likely slightly
19 crooked. There is a little smell of that, you know, right
20 off the bat. They have to get two lines in the fourth para-
21 graph, "Someone feels there may have been a misappropriation
22 or misuse of those funds," and we spend two years looking for
23 that fellow while the crime wave goes up in the rest of the
24 town. This is our problem.

25 But I agree with you, sir, that the standards ought

1 to be guidelines. And the President feels that way. This
2 "War on Waste" book you got will show you we are trying to
3 eliminate some of these triplicated, quadruplicated copies
4 of everything we have. There will be a real problem in this
5 country some day; where will we store all the paper or micro-
6 film. And why do we have this? Somebody failed along the
7 way and you have 7 people checking where there used to be 4.

8 But fortunately, in many cases this is not injurious.
9 It is bothersome but not injurious. It slows down the pro-
10 gram but it doesn't stop it. And our task is to build a kind
11 of corps of public administrators like ourselves that really
12 have great competence and we are dealing at the Federal level
13 then with trained civil servants who have, by the way, a record
14 of integrity and honesty second to none. I think that should
15 be put on the record. Believe me, you show me any human
16 institution from a church to a bank that has a better record
17 of integrity and honesty in terms of the moneys of the people,
18 considering the hundreds of billions of dollars expended,
19 than the Federal civil servant -- and they handle a lot of it.

20 And I think when we get to the point where we have
21 a good respect for that civil servant, plus respect for the
22 local administration, I think we will be able to get rid of
23 some of these crazy patchwork quilt restrictions and limita-
24 tions we have on the use of funds and leave it up to you to
25 know how to best use it.

1 I don't think anybody in Washington is smart enough
2 to tell you how to do it in Phoenix. I know they aren't
3 about Minneapolis. I was there.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. KEANE: Mr. Vice President, I am from Tucson,
6 Arizona and Phoenix is a suburb of Tucson. We also are show-
7 ing a renewed interest in Federal programs.

8 I speak not as city manager of Tucson but as presi-
9 dent of our International City Managers Association, and I
10 have in hand a letter signed by the president of the National
11 League of Cities, by the president of the National Association
12 of Counties, by the president of the U.S. Conference of
13 Mayors, and by myself as president of the International City
14 Managers Association. Briefly, it says, not as well as you,
15 what you have said about the necessity for a coordinated
16 Federal research program.

17 It started essentially over a year ago at Dunsmuir
18 House in Oakland, California, the manager of which is sitting
19 over there, Mr. Wayne Thompson. At Dunsmuir House in Oakland
20 a special conference was held devoted to the application of
21 space technology to the problems of our urban communities.
22 Following from that has come a close coordination of the
23 National League of Cities and the National Association of
24 County Officials, and the City Managers Association. We have
25 studied further the possibilities and the best approach. We

1 have worked with industrial leaders. We have worked with NASA
2 and we now have this letter to present to you, urging your
3 support of it.

4 Having heard you today, there is nothing new for
5 you in this letter. It simply underlines, emphasizes, en-
6 dorses what you have already said about the importance of
7 research. And I want you to know that our Association stands
8 ready to support you in every way we can, and the National
9 League of Cities and the National Association of Counties
10 will give strong support to what we think is one of our
11 strongest needs in attacking the problems of our cities.

12 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Have I received that letter?
13 I am a little behind in mail these days.

14 MR. KEANE: The delivery will be at your convenience

15 THE VICE PRESIDENT: May I have permission to make
16 copies of it to distribute among some of my friends in Congress
17 and in the Executive Branch?

18 MR. KEANE: Certainly.

19 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Elmer. I am a friend of the
20 Bureau of the Budget now. You ought to have seen me when I
21 was a Senator. I used to feel there were two or three enemies
22 a man ought to recognize on sight as a member of Congress.
23 Number one was the Executive Branch; Number two was the
24 Bureau of the Budget, which was always in there agitating
25 the Executive Branch; and third was our foreign enemies --

1 and I put them in the proper relationship.

2 (Laughter.)

3 MR. STAATS: Mr. Vice President, I can't help but
4 remark after that that you are the best example I know of the
5 adage that where you stand is where you sit. I think you
6 are not the first example of this situation.

7 Seriously, I would like to say a few things before
8 I deal precisely with this point of research and appraisal.
9 You have had before you today individuals who are responsible
10 for programs. You have before you a chart which I think sum-
11 marizes in succinct form what the changes in the 1966 Budget
12 reflect in terms of this emphasis upon human resources and
13 upon state and local government requirements.

14 Just to highlight one point, the total budget for
15 1966 is up roughly \$2 billion, but the amount that has in-
16 creased for human resources, principally in education, in
17 health, in economic recovery, and in the poverty program, is
18 approximately \$4 billion. So, in spite of the fact that the
19 budget has held approximately stable, there is in the 1966
20 Budget an over-all increase in this area which is of very
21 great proportion.

22 That leads me to the real point I want to make. That
23 is, that the test here in this area is frequently not what
24 money is available but whether we can effectively spend it,
25 whether we know about what we will spend it on, and what the

1 plans are that will be made with respect to how that money is
2 spent.

3 Wilbur Cohen, Sargent Shriver and others here know
4 this story very well.

5 And this is not only our problem, but it is a
6 problem of the Congress.

7 So I want to stress as strongly as I can what Bob
8 Weaver said earlier, and that is the need for better and more
9 urban planning -- not just physical planning but planning of
10 the total community's resources and what they can put into
11 it. And this means trained personnel. The Municipal Man-
12 power Commission of the Ford Foundation had a great deal to
13 do with this provision of the Housing Act Bob Weaver indicates
14 he is having trouble with and I think the City Managers and
15 Mayors are going to have to get behind that if we are to get
16 the kind of trained personnel to run these programs that we
17 have to have.

18 You know this story much better than I do.

19 But on the matter of program appraisal we know far
20 too little about how we can make these investments -- and
21 there is no doubt that they are investments just as much as
22 if we were building dams and reclamation projects. But the
23 real problem here is we don't have the same kind of tests of
24 what will work and where this money should go. We have been
25 working with the Small Business Administration, the Office of

1 Economic Opportunity, and Housing and other agencies in an
2 effort to try to develop a better research model as to what
3 kind of information we are going to need as to when we make
4 loans, where our best efforts can be made in the technical
5 assistance field, and so on.

6 To turn, finally, to this question of local autonomy,
7 if you will, how you can place the responsibility for the pro-
8 gram where it should rest -- that is at the community level --
9 one area here is your grant-in-aid programs. This is not an
10 accident because in many cases a member of Congress gets a
11 grant-in-aid program started because it is a separate program
12 and he won't have the problem of saying this will wash out into
13 a general effort at the community level. He wants it that way
14 because some group in the community is supporting it in terms
15 of a grant-in-aid program.

16 We need more flexibility in the grant-in-aid program
17 in all of these areas, and this is what we are trying to do.

18 I would like to say just one final thing, particu-
19 larly with this group which represents state and local people,
20 and that is that there needs to be a great deal more communica-
21 tion from you to us as to where these problems rest. We think
22 we have good liaison with the Governors' Conference, and so
23 forth, but one new development is the Federal Executive Board.
24 In some 12 regions around the country we have established
25 Federal Executive Boards made up of regional heads of all the

1 principal agencies concerned with state and local problems. I
2 think here is another way in which you can express your views
3 with respect to the kinds of problems of administration of
4 these programs that I am sure all of you have.

5 Thank you very much.

6 (Applause.)

7 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

8 May I say if at any time you feel you need advice or
9 counsel on matters relating to upcoming programs, I consider
10 Mr. Staats to be the most able man in our government in this
11 whole field of fiscal management and government as well as
12 public administration, and I do 't want to encourage unneces-
13 sary correspondence with him but he might be of some real
14 help to you. And if you have regional institutes, which I
15 hope we will be able to encourage in due time -- I think we
16 have to break this Washington thing down and get out in the
17 northeast and southwest and Rocky Mountain area, and so on --
18 what did you call those?

19 MR. STAATS: Federal Executive Boards.

20 THE VICE PRESIDENT: We need to have a little inte-
21 gration of the local and state government people so we are
22 talking with each other and not at each other. And I hope
23 by the end of this year -- we are going to get these mayors
24 in here; you have 2,000 members in your Association and we
25 are going to try to get a substantial number of them, and then

1 we will come back on the re-play. It won't be a flash-in-the
2 pan where you come to Washington for one day and you see me
3 and I see you, but we are really going to work together on
4 this thing.

5 MR. STALLINGS: Stallings, from San Mateo County,
6 California.

7 I am reluctant to interrupt this subject matter
8 which is of vital importance to us, but I would like to get
9 back to the war on poverty program. I might say of Mr. Cohen's
10 organization, as was so rightfully said about Mr. Weaver's,
11 they have been most cooperative in approving Demonstration
12 projects in our county -- almost too cooperative, I might say.

13 My concern about the poverty program stems from
14 the fact that the recipient of almost any activity of the
15 poverty program is from a family that is already receiving
16 some form of public assistance. What will be the effect of,
17 for example, a 16-year old in an ADC family who works on a
18 Neighborhood Youth Project and receives income? Is this
19 going to have to be deducted from the grant? What is going
20 to happen when some of these services are to the recipient?
21 Do we have to change their grant allocations every time this
22 happens?

23 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Wilbur.

24 MR. COHEN: There is a provision in the Economic
25 Opportunity Act that provides for the exemption of income

1 received by those people in some of the projects.

2 And I think it also deals specifically with the
3 particular program you mentioned.

4 Section 701 of the Economic Opportunity Act provides
5 that there shall be exempt, for instance, in the Aid-to-
6 Dependent-Children's program, the first \$85 plus one-half of
7 the excess over \$85 of payments made to or on behalf of any
8 person with respect to the Titles 1 and 2 in this Act.

9 So I think you will find --

10 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Job Corps and Neighborhood
11 work?

12 MR. COHEN: Yes, those are exempt in so far as the
13 first \$85 plus half the excess over the first \$85.

14 That was a very definite intent on the part of the
15 Congressional Committees to see to it that this just didn't
16 subtract income from the individual but to give him some
17 motivation to improve his family status.

18 Might I comment generally on your question because
19 I think it is directed to a key point.

20 More and more, as I think those of us who have worked
21 on these poverty programs recognize, the problem that you find
22 in the local communities is going to be the problem of what
23 we sometimes call the multiple-problem family or the dis-
24 organized family.

25 During the last 30 years we have done a great deal

1 in the expansion of social security and public assistance to
2 meet certain of the income needs of individuals. Certainly we
3 would all say we still have a long road to go in completing
4 that particular area of responsibility. There still are a
5 lot of people in the United States who need some additional
6 income to bring them up to a minimum standard.

7 I am sure that we are going to be doing more in that
8 area all the time. The Social Security amendments that are
9 before the Congress increase benefits 7 per cent and will
10 involve the nature of a half-billion-dollar increase in the
11 pocketbooks of the aged and children of the country.

12 But my point is I think in terms of the problems you
13 were discussing earlier, the research problems that you are
14 talking about, the kind of problem Steve Bailey brought up,
15 in every metropolitan and suburban area all over this country
16 you are going to find the problem of these disoriented, dis-
17 organized multiple-problem families. A very extensive series
18 of projects of analysis were taken in St. Paul a number of
19 years ago, which indicated that, as I best recall the figure,
20 Mr. Vice President, about 6 per cent of the families were
21 using about 50 per cent of the community services. And I
22 think you would even know a particular family in every one
23 of your communities where you find the father may be an
24 alcoholic and the children may be drop-outs in school -- the
25 same family -- and ten years later someone in the family is

1 a social problem. This isn't the whole question but I think it
2 does present the problem that in local communities we must
3 begin to pull together.

4 That is really one essence of the Community Action
5 Program, to try to pull together all these various threads,
6 the income maintenance program, the social services, the con-
7 sideration of the relationship of all sorts of programs, urban
8 renewal and housing, and all of the programs that affect human
9 beings, and then see how we can avoid some of the social and
10 economic dislocation that occurs in these small number of
11 families which don't find themselves able to handle all of
12 their problems.

13 As the Vice President and Mr. Shriver both said, I
14 don't think you have the answer to that question yet. We
15 don't have a blueprint we can give you that you can apply in
16 every community in exactly the same way. But I think that
17 the essence of Title 2 of the Poverty Program, which is to
18 bring these various forces in the community together, to make
19 a common attack on them and then utilize all the other re-
20 sources of the Federal Government and state and locality in
21 a common attack on the problem, is really important.

22 Thirty years ago when I first started working on
23 these problems of poverty we had, I would say, about one-
24 third of the nation who were poor. By 1937 we had gotten to
25 the point where there were only about 20 per cent of the

1 people who were poor. I think now, by any system of classifi-
2 cation, it is maybe 15 to 20 per cent who are in a poverty
3 classification. We are going to go down. This attack on
4 poverty will bring that percentage down. But here is the
5 point: As you bring that percentage down you get more and
6 more into the problem of the real tough, hard-core families
7 that need a great many other things than just income.

8 They need counseling. And one of the great things
9 in education is to bring counseling in the public schools
10 right down to the elementary school. It is no good to start
11 counseling some of these families when the children are 16,
12 17, or 18, if you haven't been able to do things at an earlier
13 age. You need extensive counseling services in the community
14 to help these kinds of families. We need, as we are asking
15 in the Head Start Program, to get at some of these families
16 who have cultural deprivation right in the pre-school program,
17 to try to deal with some of the difficult problems the family
18 has.

19 So I hope you will see that the various programs we
20 are developing are brought together in your community in the
21 local community action.

22 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Mr. Bookbinder, I think, would
23 like to make a comment. I just wanted to add this comment:
24 On the community action level you bring together public and
25 private. One of the real coordination tasks we have here is

1 not to run over each other.

2 The other day at a meeting -- I don't know if you
3 were there, Wilbur, but Sarge was there -- we had a meeting
4 of the Ford Foundation, top personnel. They have a tremendous
5 program, as you know, in this whole field of human resources
6 and social welfare, and we brought them in to meet with some
7 of us who have some responsibility here to find out how we can
8 work together, because I happen to believe a great deal in
9 the private activities. I don't want to see these things
10 washed out. But I don't think we ought to be walking over
11 each other, layer on top of layer. It is a matter of how you
12 divide up the field and coordinate activities and, as Sargent
13 Shriver said, we are just beginning to work on this.

14 All right, Bookie.

15 This is Hyman Bookbinder, Assistant Director of the
16 Office of Economic Opportunity.

17 MR. BOOKBINDER: The comment really goes to the heart
18 of one of our basic objectives here. The fact is we have per-
19 mitted millions of families to become chronic relief clients.
20 Millions of American families are third-generation public
21 relief recipients, and they have developed an attitude which
22 makes it difficult to take them from relief and ask them to
23 go to a job where the job doesn't pay more than the relief.

24 But even that can be done. In Chicago we had a
25 wonderful example of men taken out of public assistance and

1 trained to be taxi drivers and elevator operators and by the
2 third year the county was able to count savings of \$27 million
3 for a total cost of \$6 million in training these people.

4 I think it is important to point out to you that
5 the objective is to prevent the formation of millions of
6 poor families, so we are trying to reach the kids before they
7 go to school or before they drop out of school, or in the
8 Job Corps, so they don't start new poor families with that
9 attitude and psychology.

10 So in a very real sense of the word this is a pre-
11 ventive war against poverty.

12 THE VICE PRESIDENT: May I urge you good men, if
13 there is a Neighborhood Youth Corps project in your community,
14 to go see it. Give them a little inspiration. Find the Job
15 Corps program and go give them a little inspiration.

16 The other day we had about 65 top business people,
17 colored, Negro, that had gone into the biggest corporations,
18 sales managers, executive vice presidents, advertising managers
19 and so on -- real top-grade men, and I had a visit with them.
20 And we have sent them out to all the schools and colleges
21 where there is a heavy concentration of Negro students -- high
22 schools and colleges. And I asked them to go out and talk
23 to the students, to encourage them, to see them. Here is a
24 man who is a top executive of a company like General Motors
25 or Coca Cola or Pepsi-Cola, and making \$100,000 a year or

1 \$50,000 or \$40,000 or \$75,000 a year -- and he made it.

2 The reason we want to do this is there is a whole
3 new era of opportunity. This is an era of opportunity and a
4 lot of people don't know it. If you have told a fellow to
5 stay in the back of the bus for 100 years, when the word
6 comes out he doesn't have to be there, he doesn't believe it.
7 You have to go out and encourage people to take advantage of
8 the opportunities that are here. So we have a program going
9 on in about ten different wave lengths and it is the most
10 exciting thing in my life.

11 If there is a Job Corps camp in your area, go there
12 and you will be stone-hearted if you don't come out with
13 tears in your eyes. When you have a fellow 17 years old come
14 up and tell you that for the first time in his life he feels
15 somebody cares about him, for the first time in his life he
16 feels he amounts to something, for the first time in his life
17 he feels that he is clean, for the first time in his life he has
18 learned how to read -- and there are thousands of them that
19 don't even know how to read in this country of ours. You and
20 I are so lucky we just forget how the other fellow lives. If
21 you want to put it on cold-blooded economics, you can't afford
22 to have these kinds of conditions. You just can't afford it.

23 When I was Mayor of Minneapolis, I would find out
24 where the fire department and police department calls and
25 social welfare calls were. And if I could have eliminated

1 from my city the people living in the 15 per cent areas of the
2 city that were broken-down slum areas where conditions were
3 poor, I could have reduced taxes for the rest of the city by
4 10 per cent.

5 So the only people who can afford to have poor around
6 are people so rich they don't know what to do with their money.
7 We don't just want people at the lunch counter. We want
8 people to work behind the lunch counter and then be able to
9 buy their own lunch. And we are going to train them to do
10 that with your help.

11 MR. THOMPSON: Charles Thompson, Springfield,
12 Missouri. I would like to say perhaps if there is some way
13 of getting a city manager in Minneapolis, maybe they would get
14 that bridge now.

15 THE VICE PRESIDENT: I think they are making it now.
16 They have got a new mayor.

17 (Laughter.)

18 MR. THOMPSON: In this Economic Opportunity Act
19 one of the big problems we run into on the local level -- for
20 example, in Springfield we have some 76 organizations, I
21 believe, that are devoted in some small respect, at least,
22 to this particular problem. This is a tremendous problem on
23 a local level as far as the direction of this effort. And I
24 think this applies as well to a number of the other fields
25 of endeavor where there are so many organizations and clubs,

1 auxiliaries, and so forth, working in the same field. I think
2 many would share with me the thought that if there were addi-
3 tional emphasis -- there is some now -- on the fact of placing
4 on the eligibility for these grants a better coordination,
5 bringing it into the local structure more, that this would
6 help. As I say, there is emphasis on that now and there
7 should be more emphasis upon it.

8 It applies equally in some of the other grant pro-
9 grams.. If there is further consolidation so the local commun-
10 ities can be a better instrument for economic and social
11 improvement, the matter of coordination and direction on the
12 local level can play a better role in that field.

13 I think this is one of the areas where eligibility
14 for grants can play a big part by requiring more of this con-
15 solidation under a consolidated leadership locally.

16 THE VICE PRESIDENT: I think your point is well
17 taken.

18 Mr. Bookbinder.

19 MR. BOOKBINDER: In thousands of communities we
20 are stumbling into organizations who are writing nasty edi-
21 torials about us and we are having to live through this period.
22 The very concept of community action is just what your
23 question suggests -- the need for all the resources of the
24 community -- not just the Federal grants that go into the
25 community, but the state grants, the city programs, the

1 private actions. Ultimately we hope they can all be part of
2 a real umbrella operation.

3 But we are realistic and first things come first.
4 And the first need has been to create an agency, create an
5 umbrella, get going, get some of the programs under way.

6 But already remarkable progress has been made. As
7 indicated here, the segments of the community are meeting
8 together and evaluating programs. That is a good sign.

9 There is in the Act, moreover, a provision in Title
10 612 that goes very far in trying to reach this objective. It
11 hasn't yet had much implementation but under Title 612 the
12 Congress has said that the community that organizes a CAP
13 vehicle --

14 THE VICE PRESIDENT: What is that?

15 MR. BOOKBINDER: Community Action Plan -- that
16 really means to do something significant for the community --
17 that community can invoke a priority. So if the community
18 is organized and says, "In order for us to meet this objective
19 for the community we need not only those ten programs spelled
20 out in the Act but we need a housing action, a health action,"
21 that community can invoke a priority and get attention by
22 every other Federal program. But it is going to take some
23 time to give this full meaning and full implementation.

24 MR. THOMPSON: One of the problems is where you
25 already have an active community planning agency and they are

1 already in the field -- and this has happened in many cases.
2 Then you have a city administration and you can't coordinate
3 all these activities because one part doesn't know exactly
4 what the other part is doing.

5 I wanted to say, too, that I am sure all of us here
6 would voice this opinion that if we can in any way come to
7 meet with any of the Departments or any of the regional
8 offices in just brain-storming sessions or what not, I am
9 sure all of us would be very happy to do that.

10 One other question I would like to ask while I do
11 have a moment here is a question with regard to the accelerated
12 Public Works program, and that is in regard to the eligibility
13 requirements based upon the unemployment rate -- based upon,
14 I believe, a year's unemployment figure. The experience I
15 have had in this regard in two different communities is that
16 the community that was better off, in my opinion, moneywise,
17 was eligible for the program, and the community less able to
18 cope with some of its problems was not able to be eligible
19 because of the unemployment figures.

20 I think something could be added that would make it
21 more realistic from the standpoint of the community's real
22 need.

23 THE VICE PRESIDENT: May I say that the new Act,
24 S. 648, which has just been reported, will combine are re-
25 development and what we call accelerated public works in a

1 much better framework of administration, and it also provides,
2 as you know, for these economic development districts.

3 For example, you have Appalachia. We are learning
4 from that type of regional need how to apply those same stand-
5 ards to other areas of the country where those needs may
6 prevail. The needs for area eligibility are spelled out so
7 some of the problems you have brought to our attention, where
8 if a community could float its bond issue a little easier
9 than the other, it got priority -- there is some consideration
10 given to the needy and distressed to compensate for the
11 community that can readily put up its proper share and move
12 ahead quickly. I think you will find the new Act will be
13 better on that. I don't have all the details but we had some
14 discussion on that from Mr. Bill Batt at the last meeting and
15 he answered the question that you posed in the sense of the
16 problem of the needy community getting more or less second-
17 class treatment -- that it will be moved on up to where it
18 gets at least B-plus treatment.

19 It is getting late, but I know some of you have
20 another question or two here. I just want to make it clear --
21 what is the room? It is the Delaware Room. We are going to
22 have it here in this hotel and Mr. George Ball, the Under
23 Secretary of State, is the co-host with me for this little
24 gathering, and I think you will find Mr. Ball's presentation,
25 which will not be long -- but I want him to speak to you a

1 little bit about the international situation because I thought
2 you might be interested in that -- and he will be there to
3 give you as much time as you need within reason.

4 Is there any other question here?

5 We will take this one, and this one, and this one,
6 and then we have to break it up.

7 MR. FARGO: Mr. Vice President, I am Frank Fargo
8 from the City of Stockton, a city of 95,000 population in
9 California. My question has to do with the Office of Economic
10 Opportunity and the question of who they wish to deal with at
11 the local level. I say this for the reason that the men in
12 this room -- I am one of them -- serve elected officials at
13 the local level. Our Community Action Council is a county-
14 wide group who have been appointed by elected officials. If
15 this group suddenly should become the focal point for all
16 applications for Federal loans within the county, or grants
17 or other programs, it brings in a new area of negotiations
18 and a new area of relationships by appointed people as com-
19 pared with elected. And, as one who is very sensitive to the
20 elected person's attitudes, as I must be, I notice here today
21 we have someone like Wayne Thompson from the City of Oakland
22 who has an Office of Economic Opportunity contract through
23 the city government, itself. In our city the leadership,
24 which is on the Community Action Council, are people who are
25 related in that poverty group as we understood the program was

1 to go. These people do not have the same degree of leadership
2 because they just have not been exposed to it over the history
3 of their lifetimes as the people in the elected positions.

4 I wonder if some comment could be made on how we
5 are to deal with this and how we should look upon it. Should
6 we look upon the cities as being the focal point or should we
7 do it on the county level?

8 In our particular instance, the school district
9 went ahead with the Youth Corps before the Council was con-
10 cerned.

11 THE VICE PRESIDENT: I am going to let Mr. Book-
12 binder answer that. I was on of the floor managers of this
13 poverty bill and I believe in general you have some option.
14 This has caused some confusion and frankly some of the elected
15 officials say they don't like it that way. We have had our
16 problems with it. But there is another side to the coin and
17 I would like to have Mr. Bookbinder speak to the other side
18 of the coin.

19 MR. BOOKBINDER: I will try to be very brief. It
20 is a most complicated problem. As you know, the law is very
21 flexible and Mr. Humphrey contributed to that flexibility.
22 We leave it to the communities to be as inventive and creative
23 as they can be. There can be a greater emphasis or lesser
24 emphasis on elected officials. All the law says is that
25 that agency which properly comes to us has to meet certain

1 criteria. They are these things: That the agency shall be
2 representative of the major segment of the community, and
3 secondly, that there shall be the maximum feasible involvement
4 of the poor, themselves.

5 The first one means if you have a city with a labor
6 movement, there ought to be a labor member involved in the
7 operation. Every city has an educational community. There
8 ought to be someone from that community. You might choose to
9 have a church action community. You have to have that.

10 Secondly, we are not kidding ourselves or anybody
11 else. This is a complicated concept, not simple. It is a
12 difficult thing. Who does speak for the poor? Who is poor?
13 How do you get to the poor? But the fact is many communities
14 have solved this problem.

15 But finally, in no vehicle, in no agency that is
16 created, do we expect that there will not be a firm participa-
17 tion on the part of the elected administration of the city.
18 It would be self-defeating not to have that. But the law is
19 so flexible that in the event that in some cities -- and we
20 have to speak frankly -- there will be some cities where the
21 elected people don't care to participate.

22 MR. FARGO: Will you accept more than one Council?

23 MR. BOOKBINDER: Only one umbrella council, but it
24 is possible to recognize a single group for a specific project.

25 MR. FARGO: Then you could have a county-wide

1 council?

2 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Any group in the city could
3 come in and get its approval under the county-wide council.

4 I have a note or two here that we are going to
5 have to close up shop, but I didn't want to cut off this
6 gentleman on the question.

7 Yes, sir, go right ahead.

8 MR. GUNTER: Elder Gunter, City Manager of Pasadena,
9 California.

10 I think we have touched briefly on the creation of
11 a Department of Urban Affairs. I would be very much inter-
12 ested in the status of it. Is the Administration pushing it
13 and will this bring some of these things together? I will
14 be very interested to hear.

15 THE VICE PRESIDENT: The Administration strongly
16 supports it. It was reported favorably from the House Com-
17 mittee on Government Operations. It is presently in the
18 Senate Committee. It looks as if there will be a favorable
19 report there. I frankly predict before the Fourth of July
20 you will have an action by the Congress that establishes that
21 Department. Finally, the Department will bring together,
22 group together, the scattered agencies and instrumentalities
23 of the government that relate to urban affairs and to housing
24 development. It will take a little doing.

25 One of the things I found out in government is it

1 is one thing to come up and give you the razzle-dazzle talk
2 about how we are going to do it, and another thing to get it
3 done. It takes a little longer than the talk and doesn't
4 always come out so smooth, either.

5 Now, I want to personally thank you for coming. I
6 hope that these meetings are worthwhile.

7 Secondly, I want you to know that much of this,
8 what we are doing here, is experimental and these programs that
9 we are talking about are somewhat experimental. Particularly
10 is this true under the Economic Opportunity Program. We are
11 not at all sure that all these things are going to work out
12 well. But we are going to try. And as the President said
13 one time -- he said, "We are going to try and if we fall on
14 our face we will get up on our feet again and if we fall we
15 will get up on our knees and legs and try again."

16 Because if you don't try, it won't get done. You
17 don't always have to be popular. You can go ahead and try
18 and occasionally catch a few brickbats. And we will catch
19 some.

20 Mr. Bookbinder will tell you when we get these
21 editorials I get all the comments, the bad commentary on all
22 these programs, too. I have the job of being monitor -- I
23 have never figured out quite what a Vice President is supposed
24 to do, but I know I have all these things to read. I get all
25 these reports and the President asks me to take a hand in

1 some of these things and I sit down and say, "There is an
2 editorial from here and here, and five more like it. And if
3 there is that much smoke, what are we doing about it? Don't
4 give me that sweet talk."

5 We are having some problems in the rural poverty
6 program, and we are having some meetings next week and have
7 had a couple already. We are working together and we are
8 friends, and I work with Mr. Shriver and Mr. Bookbinder and
9 the Secretary of Labor, and we are trying to work it out.
10 Because we have a little pride. We would like to see these
11 programs succeed, just as you would. And frankly, we need
12 your constructive criticism and help. If you think something
13 has really gone wrong on one of your programs back home, call
14 me. I will answer. I may not get back to you the first day
15 but we will get back. Sargent Shriver and the Secretary of
16 Labor will answer you. I'll tell you why. Because the
17 President has instructed every Cabinet officer to work with
18 all governors and local officials on this because he says he
19 wants to get the job done. And believe me, if you don't think
20 he knows how to get things done, you're wrong.

21 I thank you very much for your letter on research.
22 I just read it. We are going to follow up on this matter of
23 urban research.

24 We are going to ask you to do a few other things.
25 I want you, when you go home, to go to your state employment

1 office or talk to your mayor or your city commissioners, what-
2 ever form of city government you have -- you go over to that-
3 state employment office and ask this simple question, "Do you
4 have a special section in this office for youth employment?
5 Or are you just going to sit around here and let this town
6 blow up?"

7 Because there are going to be 2,200,000 young people
8 between the ages of 16 and 20 without jobs in America on
9 June 15th.

10 And we are working on jobs. I am in charge of the
11 President's Cabinet Committee on Employment for Youth, youth
12 opportunities. And we are trying our best -- believe me,
13 this is an 18-hour-a-day job, I can tell you that -- to try
14 to find ways and means to get young people at work. We are
15 meeting with employers by the hundreds, with the trade unions,
16 with the government. We are asking every department of govern-
17 ment to try to find a way to encourage its constituency to
18 help put somebody on that payroll during the summer, to
19 train them -- not just to give them a job, but a training-
20 type job.

21 I can tell you, my dear friends, that if we can
22 employ 750,000 or 800,000 of these young people we may well
23 avoid demonstrations and a few other things. Besides that,
24 it will be good for the youngsters and the economy and the
25 town.

1 Talk to that employment center and say, "What are
2 you doing about it?" Because you don't answer these problems
3 with the police and the national guard and all that when
4 these things break loose.

5 We have a certain number of target cities in America
6 that we think have explosive factors in them of human rela-
7 tions and racial tensions and other things, and we are trying
8 to prevent that from happening. It is a mighty sad thing when
9 it happens and explodes. Let me say it doesn't make any
10 difference where you come from -- north, south, east, or
11 west. It can happen to you, too. And every time you see
12 something go wrong somewhere else you say, "There, but for
13 the grace of God go I."

14 Because it can happen.

15 We want to work with you. If you have some ideas
16 of how to ease the tension, how to help alleviate the pressure,
17 please let us know because we don't want to have a bad summer.
18 We want to have a good summer. We want to have young people
19 feeling wanted and getting the spirit in them of doing some-
20 thing for their community.

21 Then, there is beautification. About four or five
22 years ago I got up in the Senate and made a rip-snorting
23 speech about the Capitol grounds up there. I had a rough
24 time that day -- I had several take me on. But we have some
25 flowers up there. I believe in flowers. As I told my

1 colleagues, "It is funny the flowers will grow in the rose
2 garden, but let's get some flowers out here."

3 We are beautifying Washington. Mrs. Johnson is
4 taking a hand in it and she has a little something to say
5 about things around here. She is in charge of the Washington
6 beautification program. And my goodness, what's been done.

7 Do that in your city.

8 Listen, if you find a Federal establishment in your
9 city that isn't doing something about beautifying its grounds,
10 write to me and I will guarantee that fellow will hear about
11 it.

12 (Laughter.)

13 I know I am going to get some letters and they are
14 going to get something in return, because I am going to take
15 that letter right over to Mr. Johnson, the President of the
16 United States, and I can just hear that telephone ringing,
17 because believe me, we want post offices and courthouses --
18 Federal properties -- we want those places cleaned up and
19 spruced up. We want the Government of the United States to
20 look like America the Beautiful because that is what it is;
21 not America, the Dump or America, the Used Car Lot.

22 You can do something about that. When you drive
23 along the highways, you see the mass of metal out there.
24 There is nothing wrong with planting trees to hide it -- it
25 is good for the nurseries, too.

(Laughter.)

1 If we don't do something about this, there won't be
2 enough ditches for the beer cans.

3 (Applause.)

4 So work on beautification. Get those garden clubs
5 organized. I'll tell you, the women scare the living daylights
6 out of some public officials. I always felt that way. Get
7 them organized, make a little speech. You can always be for
8 beautification. Nobody can be against that.

9 (Laughter.)

10 Finally, I want to say we want you to take these
11 books home with you now and look them over and see if you can
12 give us some more ideas a little bit later. We think there
13 is a new emphasis in government now. I want you to know full
14 well I don't believe we can do it in Washington. The best we
15 can do is help. If I thought we could do it in Washington I
16 would resign because it would be too much work. But we need
17 you and you need us and anybody that preaches this doctrine
18 about dividing us up is our enemy. We have a job to do. And
19 if you succeed in your job, we are happy. And if we succeed
20 in our job, you will be happy because our job is to help you
21 do your job better. That is what the Federal Government has
22 in these programs.

23 So together, if we just pledge ourselves to this,
24 we can make it go.

25 Well, gentlemen, take all the literature, read it

1 up, and we will see you later.

2 (Standing ovation.)

3 (Whereupon, at 5:00 p.m., the meeting was adjourned,
4 to reconvene at 9:30 a.m., Friday, May 21, 1965.)
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STENOGRAPHIC TRANSCRIPT

PRESS CONFERENCE

of the

VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

- - -

Washington, D. C.

20 May 1965

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NATION-WIDE COVERAGE

1 PRESS CONFERENCE

2 of the

3 VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

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6 COTILLION ROOM, SHERATON PARK HOTEL

7 5:00 P.M., May 20, 1965

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(The record was started at 5:05 p.m., the press conference having begun at 5:00 p.m.)

QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, I know you have been trying to work on a "See America First" program. Would you give us a run-down on how that is done?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Our country has a growing population, and while we are definitely urging Americans to travel and see their country and make their cities beautiful, and to provide tourist information services in each of these cities, we also recognize that a substantial number of our Americans will travel abroad. So the "See America" program is a positive program to encourage more Americans that have never traveled particularly, to travel and see their country.

I doubt this will substantially reduce any travel overseas. In fact, travel may be larger. But we will also have a larger number of foreigners come to America. Thus, our effort of "See America" will produce good economic results. I think our balance of payments gap on travel will be reduced. Last year it was \$600 million. I predict it will be less this year. In the meantime, tourism in the United States will grow. This is a big industry and we are just now really beginning to sense the importance of this industry. I predict a considerable growth in tourism in the next few years.

1 QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, some of us, although
2 this was a closed meeting, heard the final words you said to
3 the City Managers. Do you recall about what you said and how
4 you said it?

5 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Well, it was an extemporaneous
6 remark. I had a note or two, sir. I pointed out to our city
7 managers here that many of the programs that we now have
8 relating to Federal and city cooperation are experimental,
9 that we will undoubtedly make some mistakes, but we are going
10 to pick ourselves up and try again. I asked them for their
11 constructive criticism of how the Federal-local programs
12 operated, really requesting that they give us information.

13 I urged upon each of these city officials to go
14 back to their respective communities and put emphasis on
15 youth employment, that there is a great potential social
16 explosion in our cities unless we can provide greater out-
17 lets for youth in constructive employment. I asked them to
18 ask their employment offices to set up a special division
19 youth employment.

20 Then I told them, "Let's make our cities beautiful.
21 If you go and find a Federal establishment in your city where
22 there is no beautification, where the management of that
23 establishment hasn't attempted to spruce it up and make the
24 grounds a little prettier with shrubbery and flowers, you
25 go and tell them that the President of the United States

4
1 wants it done and the Vice President of the United States
2 wants it done and Mrs. Johnson wants it done and, if they
3 don't do it, write to me and I'll see the President hears
4 about it."

5 We want the Federal buildings to set the pattern.

6 I also pointed out we can do a great deal by working
7 with the governments and the people, particularly the women,
8 to get the garden clubs and P-TA's and other organizations
9 to work on beautification.

10 I have said very candidly that our youth could be
11 of great help in this. You can tie in your youth programs
12 with beautification. You can tie in youth employment with
13 cleaning up your cities and beautifying your cities, and you
14 can tie it in by stopping the litter of our streets -- I
15 believe that was essentially what was said, among other things.

16 QUESTION: I did recall hearing something about
17 beer cans.

18 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Well, I said if we don't do
19 something to prevent the littering of our streets and roads
20 we wouldn't have enough ditches for the empty beer cans. I
21 just felt the time was here for Americans to be a little more
22 tidy. We sing the song, "America the Beautiful," as I told
23 them. Let's make it that way. Let's make it beautiful in
24 terms of human resources and the natural resources.

25 QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, is your expectation

5
1 of the explosiveness of the youth unemployment situation
2 greater this summer?

3 THE VICE PRESIDENT: All I can tell you is there
4 will be more young people without work this summer because
5 there is a larger number of young people this summer than ever
6 before. The post-war baby crop, so to speak, in 1945 and
7 '46 and '47 -- the youngsters born in those years are now in
8 adolescence and coming into their late teens.

9 The number will be over two million, and that is a
10 substantial figure. They are filled with energy and it seems
11 to me that what is needed are job opportunities. And we are
12 asking every merchant, every businessman in America to bend
13 over just a little extra to bring employment opportunities
14 to young people and to train them. We are going to increase
15 the size of our Job Corps; we are going to increase the size
16 of our Neighborhood Youth Corps. We are going to ask local
17 and state governments, if they possibly can, to find a place
18 where a young high school graduate or college student or
19 maybe someone who doesn't have a high school diploma can go.
20 We will redouble our efforts. We want to have a target of
21 150,000 young people in training.

22 QUESTION: Mr. Vice President, there has been a
23 lot of reaction on youth training and the poverty program.
24 Can you give us a general reaction on how these programs are
25 working out?

1 THE VICE PRESIDENT: Yes, I might say in the main
2 they are working quite well. But with equal candor there are
3 spots where there are differences between local government
4 people and Community Action people. But as I pointed out,
5 this is all pioneering. We are trying to bring under one
6 umbrella in each community the private and public resources
7 in the field of education and welfare and health and community
8 planning so that the Federal funds that come into these areas
9 will be wisely used and prudently used.

10 We are asking them to think out their own problems
11 at home, to think out their own plans. We don't want, in
12 Washington, to plan the community development in the local
13 community. It is wrong. Therefore, we have to expect there
14 will be a little commotion at the local level while people
15 decide how they are going to do thing. There will be some
16 jealousies among agencies. This is inevitable. This is just
17 life. We are learning. But I think, by and large, we are
18 making considerable progress. We will have 10,000 people
19 who have never before participated in community development
20 or community planning and community organization, 10,000
21 adults that will be on the job this year working free,
22 volunteers, giving of their time, effort and ability to
23 make their communities just a little better place in which
24 to live.

25 I believe that is about it.

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Thank you.

(Whereupon, at 5:15 p.m., the press conference was
concluded.)



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