

NOTES
VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY
THE BUSINESS COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D. C.
FEBRUARY 15, 1968

Mr. Ford and I are here today to talk to you about jobs -- jobs for the hard-core unemployed ... and summer jobs for disadvantaged American youngsters.

We are here to ask your help in taking the last difficult step toward true full employment -- and full productivity -- in America.

Mr. Ford, as you know, has agreed to lead a National Alliance of Businessmen in an all-out assault on hard-core unemployment, and he will be calling on you for support.

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or
the
committee*

When President Johnson presented his new manpower program, he turned to the private sector for leadership for several reasons:

First, six out of every seven jobs/in the private sector are

Second, private industry is the best judge of its own needs and can best provide training to suit them.

In the past, training programs in industry have proven the most effective, economical and efficient way to upgrade skills. Nine out of ten workers who have participated in privately operated, government -sponsored on-the-job training programs have subsequently found work.

Finally, we believe that in this prospering, free-enterprise economy there is no reason to settle for stop-gap, make-work employment programs.

The hard-core unemployed need and deserve the dignity and the advancement opportunities available only in private industry.

Today 75 million Americans are at work.

Less than 3 million are unemployed.

Our economy is creating more than one and a half million new jobs each year -- seven and a half million in the last four years.

In that context it should not be an unmanageable burden for this free enterprise economy to absorb half a million new workers over the next 3 years. -- President Johnson's target.

The economic return in new production and new purchasing power -- not to mention the social benefits in new security and new dignity for ^{thousands} of American families -- will quickly repay our investment.

It will not be easy to turn people who have known nothing but repeated failure -- people used to living in a culture of despair, beyond the fringe of American life -- into self-sufficient, self-confident, productive citizens.

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Success will require imagination in the board room, at the personnel desk, from the foreman and the shop steward.

It will require innovative training and testing techniques.

It will require a determination not just to try it ... but to do it.

The federal government will do its part -- not only by covering the additional costs of training the hard-core unemployed, but by cutting red tape and providing whatever back-up assistance you require.

As Chairman of the President's Council on Youth Opportunity, let me now say just a word about our campaign to provide ~~200,000~~ jobs for needy youngsters in the summer of 1968.

Last year we found jobs for about 1.2 million youngsters who would otherwise have spent a hot and idle summer on the streets. The largest share of those jobs came from the private sector.

This summer we hope to increase the number of job openings available to disadvantaged youngsters.

And we mean to make sure that those jobs offer significant training experiences and earning opportunities.

President Johnson has asked the National Alliance of Businessmen to set a target of 200 thousand private sector jobs which will be exclusively available for disadvantaged young people.

The federal government itself will almost double its hiring of disadvantaged young people -- from nearly 40 thousand last year to 70 thousand in 1968. This is in excess of our regular federal target of 2 special summer hires for every hundred regular employees.

But the critical factor in our ability to provide meaningful job opportunities for young and old alike will be the response of the private sector.

We can not ... we must not ... and with America's vital free enterprise institutions, we need not ... any longer tolerate the waste of human resources, the frustration, the injustice that hard-core unemployment implies.

I think the American business community is ready to meet this challenge.

And I know the Chairman of the National Alliance of Businessmen is ready for his job -- recognizing full well that it will be a difficult one.

It is a great privilege for me to introduce him to you this morning -- your colleague -- Henry Ford II, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Alliance of Businessmen and your fellow member of the Business Council.

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When President Johnson ^{presented his} offered this new manpower program,

he turned to the private sector for leadership for several reasons:

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Second, private industry is the best judge of its own ^{can best} needs and provide appropriate training ^{to suit them} programs. ^{these} For several reasons ^{On-the-job} ^{in the past}

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Finally, we believe that in this prospering, free-enterprise economy there is no reason to settle for stop-gap, make-work

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~~private industry,~~ ^{private industry,} ~~sector employment.~~

Is your figure off?

Today 75 million Americans are at work, *at /*.

Less than three million are unemployed.

Our economy is creating more than one and a half million new jobs each year -- seven and a half million in the last four years.

In that context it should not be an unmanageable burden for this free enterprise economy to absorb half a million new workers over the next three years, *-- President Johnson's target.*

^ The economic return in new production and new purchasing power -- not to mention the social benefits in new security and new dignity for millions of American families -- will quickly repay our investment.

^ It will not be easy to turn people who have known nothing but repeated failure -- people used to living beyond the fringe of

American life ~~in a culture of despair~~ -- into self-sufficient, *self-* proud

Confident, productive citizens.
and competent individuals.

Success will require imagination ~~from~~ⁱⁿ the board room, ~~from~~^{at}
~~the girl~~ at the personnel desk, ^{from the foreman} and ~~from~~ the shopsteward.

It will require innovative training and testing techniques.

~~It will require follow-up coaching.~~

~~It will require real determination.~~

It will require [^]determination not just to try it [^] but to do it.

The federal government will do its part -- not only by covering the additional costs of training the hard-core unemployed, but by cutting red-tape and providing whatever back-up assistance you require.

Let me Let me emphasize that the federal role in providing training and work opportunities for disadvantaged young people will expand in the months ahead.

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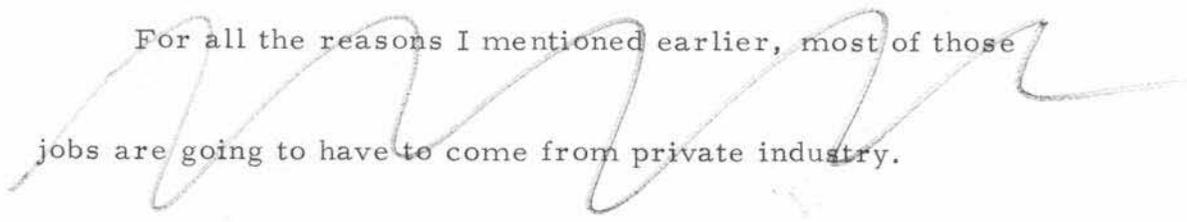
OK.
How many?

This summer we hope ~~radically~~ ^{dramatically} to increase the number of job openings available to disadvantaged youngsters. ~~President Johnson has given the Nat. Alliance~~

~~of 200,000 summer jobs that will be~~ ^{exclusively} And we also mean to make sure that those jobs offer

^{significant} meaningful training experiences and earning opportunities.

For all the reasons I mentioned earlier, most of those jobs are going to have to come from private industry.



President Johnson ^{asked the} ~~has given~~

to set ~~the~~ ^{signature} target of

The National Alliance for Businessmen has been asked

in addition to its responsibility for the older hard-core

unemployed, to locate 200 thousand private ^{sector} jobs

which ^{that will}

be ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~available~~ ^{available} for disadvantaged young people for young people this summer

~~This assignment is in addition to its responsibility for ^{hiring the} ~~providing~~ ^{hard-} ~~care~~ ^{unemployed}~~

Let me emphasize the federal role in providing training

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The federal government ^{itself} will almost double ^{its} ~~itself~~ ^{hiring}

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This is in excess of ^{our regular federal target of} ~~the~~ special ^{hundred} summer ^{hires} ~~hires~~ for every ~~two~~ ^{hundred} regular employees.

federal

While it is true that investment through the National Youth Corps and Job Corps are being reduced, we now estimate that these reductions will be more than offset funding for the Concentrated Employment Program, the New Careers Program, Special Impact programs, a new Veterans On-the-Job Training Program, and a new Work Incentive and Training Program -- all of which will serve disadvantaged young people.

But
LM The critical factor, ~~however,~~ *is* our ability to provide meaningful job opportunities for young and old alike will be the response of the private sector.

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