

for your taking the time to come and present these very practical views and observations.

I wish that it were possible, under the Rules of the House of Representatives, to present you three gentlemen to the entire House of Representatives at a time when we may have this legislation under debate. I am sure that the performance there, such as you have given here this morning, would demonstrate to the entire House, as it has demonstrated to us, that the leaders in the business community are not only thoroughly aware of the problems which exist but are giving serious thought to the means and methods by which we must rid ourselves of this disease.

I think it would be unfair to these three gentlemen to say that we want to subject you to interrogation in the nature of cross-examination. The thoroughness with which each of you has presented your views on the problem simply eliminates any necessity for cross-examination, and, insofar as I am concerned, disarms me with respect to any questions which I might want to bring up.

I believe the three statements, or at least the ultimate goal of the three statements, could be summed up in what Mr. Besse brought out in the last paragraph when he said:

Few school systems are apt to take these steps except as an incident to a major overall program supported by substantial outside financing. Yet, the situation clearly indicates that present methods are inadequate.

There is a sobering suggestion, statement, that unless we as trustees, as Mr. Nichols labels us, and I am proud to be labeled as one, unless we as trustees give the same study and thought to these, similar study and thought to these problems that you gentlemen have and shake up our methods, try to provide new techniques toward a solution, that we may allow not only a business to die but we could very well allow a society to die in later years. For me, personally, I want to thank you.

I recognize Mrs. Green.

Mrs. GREEN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I join the chairman in expressing an attitude of great encouragement that three such outstanding business leaders have come before the committee and presented arguments for replacing poverty, or at least making an earnest attempt to replace poverty, with economic opportunity and to hear business leaders give all of the reasons why the war on poverty is a good investment from a business standpoint as well as from a social standpoint. I do not mean to be partisan or critical, but I am curious as to whether any one, or all three, of you gentlemen are members of the chamber of commerce or the National Association of Manufacturers?

Mr. NICHOLS. Not as an individual now. I have been associated with it. My associates are.

Mr. V. MARTIN. I am a director of the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, and it is a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. BESSE. I am a member of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. GREEN. We have heard the opposition of this organization. Why is it that such progressive leadership as reflected in your statement, is not reflected in the attitude or testimony of these organizations which represent the businessmen of the community or throughout the Nation?