

Mr. V. MARTIN. This is as much of a mystery as the whole source of poverty.

Mr. NICHOLS. I think that is a good question, and it is something I am sure a number of people with whom I am associated in industry would like to have a private talk with the heads of the NAM and others at an appropriate time.

Mrs. GREEN. Does that appropriate time ever present itself?

Mr. NICHOLS. I think we had better make it so.

Mrs. GREEN. Have you gentlemen read the statement of the Chamber of Commerce which was presented to the committee?

Mr. V. MARTIN. I have not seen it.

Mr. BESSE. No.

Mrs. GREEN. I wonder if it would not be constructive for you and other business leaders to read it and perhaps get others to state that it does not necessarily represent your viewpoint?

Mr. V. MARTIN. I don't know whether Mayor Daley referred to this yesterday when he was here, but I think he probably did: The Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, which is the chamber of commerce in Chicago, and it covers not just Chicago but what we call the SMA, the Standard Metropolitan Area, that the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry as a body, with its individual members, has been very active in this whole job retraining program and has taken a very positive step, many positive steps to participate.

I think it must be understood that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, we belong to that as an individual company. We belong to the Chicago Association of Commerce as an individual company. I think our local chamber also belongs to the national chamber, but I think it would be almost impossible to get a poll or a sense of business leadership. I know, as a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, I was not asked what statement they should make. This I know; but I have not seen the statement.

Mr. BESSE. May I speak to your question, Mrs. Green?

Mrs. GREEN. Yes.

Mr. BESSE. I think that businessmen, as a whole, become successful because they have a well-developed talent in the particular business to which they apply it. This does not necessarily make them generalists in the affairs of the community or the affairs of the Nation. Most of them have not been trained as generalists. Therefore, to get the interest of a businessman, there has to be a communication to him in depth of the problem involved. By and large, where this has been done with businessmen they step aside from their speciality and acquire the general information that is needed to work on such problems.

It is a difficult thing to communicate to anyone as busy as a businessman because everybody everywhere is trying to do this and he already has a full-time job. Yet, in my community, and based on the comments that have been made by the gentlemen on either side of me and their communities, where a businessman does become involved in these things, he makes a great community contribution. For example, the United Appeal Funds that are solicited in many cities. Long ago the basic welfare needs of community institutions were presented to businessmen. Businessmen give great leadership to this movement. Without them, I am confident it would have failed everywhere.