

MR. BRUCE. I would like to direct a question to the gentleman from Cleveland. What is the per capita income of the people from Ohio?

MR. BESSE. I don't know that, sir, but in Cleveland I did study the poverty statistics on this basis.

MR. BRUCE. I am talking about your State.

MR. BESSE. It is pretty good.

MR. BRUCE. I believe you rate 14th in the Nation.

I would like to direct the question to the gentleman from New York. What is the per capita income of the people of the State of New York?

MR. NICHOLS. I have forgotten, frankly.

MR. BRUCE. You rate fourth in the Nation. So, we have the 4th ranked State, the 8th ranked State, and the 14th ranked State represented in you three gentlemen.

Are you telling us that your States are incapable of handling the problems of Ohio, of Illinois, and of New York with that kind of personal per capita income in these States?

MR. V. MARTIN. What State ranks first?

MR. BRUCE. Delaware ranks first.

MR. V. MARTIN. What State ranks last?

MR. BRUCE. Mississippi ranks last.

MR. V. MARTIN. I would say, just talking of Illinois, that our poverty problem is concentrated in two areas. One is St. Clair County, in which East St. Louis is located, and the other is Cook County. Now, in the southern belt surrounding St. Clair County, there are a number of counties that have been terribly depressed since coal mining disappeared. I would not say that the State, as a whole, probably lacked resources if it were able to keep its resources within the State, but I am also saying that within the State there is such disparity of poverty and wealth—

MR. BRUCE. Let us pause there for a moment—

MR. V. MARTIN. Well, the county which I came from was probably one of the wealthiest counties in the State. It is very difficult for a wealthy county—we are talking about the State problem—to vote with any great enthusiasm for a problem that is in St. Clair County and a problem that is in Cook County; whereas, on the Federal basis—incidentally, the St. Clair County problem is identical to our problem in Cook County—on the Federal basis, it seems to me, there is a possibility of returning to the States as the situation indicates some of the money which comes out of the general well-being of the total State.

MR. BRUCE. You made the comment that if you could keep the resources there. Where are these resources going?

MR. V. MARTIN. They are going many places. I think probably the biggest taxing unit is the Federal Government and the State of Illinois.

MR. BRUCE. Do you have any idea of the estimated projected cost of the program that you have endorsed?

MR. V. MARTIN. I think the figure I have read is in the neighborhood of \$900 million.

MR. BRUCE. The first year?

MR. V. MARTIN. Yes; I think that is appropriated the first year. In the State of Illinois now we are spending almost \$400 million a year on public welfare programs.