

school, and I believe I do know a little bit about poverty, Mr. Pucinski.

I want to say to these gentlemen, in view of some of my previous questions, that I highly commend them and their companies for the programs that they have outlined which are already in existence without this Federal poverty package. You are to be highly commended. The very example of what you are now doing points up to me that there are other very more appropriate ways, in keeping with our constitutional system, which we could pursue in attacking this problem. Really, our disagreement, which is obvious here, is not over the end but, as it is so often the case, it is over the means or the ways of accomplishing an end. Really, our whole system of government, the reason we have our system of government, grows out of a deep concern about the means of accomplishing desirable ends.

I would suggest that your approach, as laudable as your motives are, in endorsing this kind of blank check authority to bureaucracy in Washington, and abandoning State and local responsibility, is the wrong way to go.

For example, would it not be well to have Federal tax incentives for business groups or business organizations to encourage the very things that you are doing? Would that not be another way of accomplishing, pursuing this type of goal? Have you thought about that?

Mr. BESSE. I don't understand the comment, what you mean by Federal tax incentives.

Mr. GRIFFIN. There are many ways that the Federal Government could provide tax incentives to business to do the very things you are doing without any special tax incentive; to encourage business to take a special interest and in providing apprenticeship training, for example.

We have a very serious lack of apprenticeship training in this country. Could we not encourage businesses to set up more apprenticeship training, other types of retraining programs, and so forth?

Mr. BESSE. I would like to speak to that, if I may.

Mr. GRIFFIN. Yes.

Mr. BESSE. I think those programs are excellent; they do a wonderful job for a very small selection of the people. But what is needed in the poverty areas of a city like mine, Cleveland, is a massive attack on the problem, not a program that reaches a relatively small percentage of the people. The people, for example, whose family incomes are less than \$3,000 in Cleveland, and that is 17 percent of the population, with over 20 percent of the children, no spot program by industry is going to do much more than select a few people, highly motivated normally, who will benefit from this. This can't be done as a program by private industry. It must be done as some kind of a public centered program.

What we would like to do, of course, is to incite the kind of individualism that brought Mr. Martin's grandfather from Ireland that has failed. What we would like to do, of course, is have local government support its schools on a kind of program that would do this job, itself. But the fact is that issue after issue presented to local voters has failed. We had to present the levy for the support of the city of Cleveland municipal government three times before it was passed in Cleveland.

Mr. GRIFFIN. Maybe they did not justify it the first time around. It is much easier to run to Washington, is it not?