

When we announced, last September, these grants and the establishment of this fund, I was asked by the newspaper to make a concise statement as to what the North Carolina Fund was. Another way: What is North Carolina's interest in doing something about poverty?

So I wrote a few lines that I would like to read now, because I think they apply to what you are doing. I said:

This is a time of plenty in North Carolina, and we are thankful. There are surpluses and profits and monetary gains. We have never known such prosperity, and we have never enjoyed such leisure and recreation and the pleasures of the good life. Our schools have never been better supported and more effective. But all is not well amid the pleasures, the plenty, and the progress. In North Carolina there remain tens of thousands whose family income is so low that daily subsistence is always in doubt. There are tens of thousands who go to bed hungry and get up hungry and go to school hungry. There are tens of thousands of young people who have no skills and no present likelihood to get a skill. There are tens of thousands who live in houses, a blight on the landscape, and indecent for humanity. There are tens of thousands drawn into schools from homes where school is not understood and not encouraged. There are tens of thousands who will never find encouragement to finish school. There are tens of thousands whose dreams will die. Some of their poverty is self-imposed and some of it is undeserved. All of it withers the spirit of children who neither imposed it nor deserve it. These are the children of poverty who, tomorrow, will become the parents of poverty. We hope to break this cycle of poverty. We will experiment and seek to draw together the forces of organization, government, education; to find the causes and provide the new opportunities and to make North Carolina the place where the strong help the weak and the weak grow strong. That is what the North Carolina Fund is about and that is what the President's poverty program is about.

Thank you very much.

Mr. PERKINS. Since you came in, Governor Sanford—and I introduced you—two distinguished representatives from your great State have come in. An individual who can get to the committee room at 8:45, as you did this morning, likes to work, and I think that is an outstanding attribute.

We have with us here my good North Carolina friend on the subcommittee when last year we wrote the Vocational Education Act. He made a significant contribution. I refer to Representative Ralph Scott from your great State. Another distinguished member of the North Carolina delegation is a chairman of a committee, Congressman Bonner, chairman of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. Governor, I know these gentlemen want to welcome you here.

I first call on Mr. Scott.

STATEMENT OF HON. RALPH J. SCOTT, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Mr. SCOTT. Governor Sanford, I am sorry that I was unavoidably delayed to the extent that I could not get here at the beginning of your fine statement. I want to join other members of the committee and our entire delegation in welcoming you to Washington to testify before this committee.

I want to congratulate and commend you, too, for your interest in this particular legislation and for the fine contributions you have made in North Carolina to the beginning of such a program as is contemplated by part of this act. I believe you have probably made more progress—if I may brag a little on our State—than any Gover-