

a hundred years, we properly identify, I think, the relationship of the Government to the economic life of America. And we believe that it has been due to this relationship more than anything else that America has avoided the extremes of capitalism which has made it vulnerable to communism in other sections of the world.

Although we do not believe that all the answers to all of our problems must necessarily come from Government, we believe there are some answers to some problems that cannot come from anywhere else. We try to distinguish between the two.

It is the feeling of the Grange that this Economic Opportunity Act is probably the first time when we have taken a broad enough look at the whole problem of American poverty. This is a seamy side of our life that we have been reluctant to discuss. We have not been very happy about having to wash what appears to be a kind of dirty linen in public, yet we cannot avoid the responsibility of looking at the problems of our American life, and looking at them as objectively as possible.

We have supported the legislation such as area development, rural areas development, and all this other legislation in this general area to try to help solve some of these problems. But the problems cannot be solved quite this easily. I would point out for you that there are three types of poverty, in our judgment, which we have to deal with in our American life.

One of them is that which is incurable, the result of illness, disease, mental and physical, the problem of relief recipients of any country. We have made provision for those in our relief rolls. The others are the unfortunate. If you will pardon the personal reference, I remember this in my youth, when my own father was caught in the depression and lost his farm. We were impoverished, but we did not belong to the poverty group, and it wasn't too long before we began to work ourselves out of it.

This group, I think, today could be helped by both title III and to some extent by the programs that would help in retraining and relocation with new job opportunities.

There is another group which I would call those who are unnecessarily impoverished, who have been denied by circumstances far beyond their control the opportunity to get education, the opportunity to have capital background, the opportunity to take advantage of the general blessings of our American life. I think this legislation moves toward the answering of some of these problems. As it moves in those directions, it certainly has the unqualified support of the National Grange.

We think these problems are partly historical, in that this poverty to some extent is always with us, as our Lord said. But by the same token we do not believe that He intended that, because they are always with us, that we should sit complacently by and watch them suffer. We believe that this is probably the first time in history that a major nation, with the exception of the Socialists who have their own approaches to this—but certainly within a free society, when a great nation has made a studied attempt to come to grips with the pressing, eternal, historical problem of poverty.

The American people, I think, should be grateful to the leadership which has been given to bring this legislation properly before us.