

reports—from Bill D. Moyers, special assistant to the President, who told the task force that the study was providing “many extremely useful insights into the problems of poverty,” to Governor Hughes, of New Jersey, who told the task force that “an effort such as yours—a serious, independent and extended study of poverty—will be very significant in carrying out the war against poverty,” to Daniel P. Moynihan, former Assistant Secretary for Policy Planning and Research, U.S. Department of Labor, and now a member of the faculty of Wesleyan University, who recently wrote in an academic journal that the first report “is perhaps the most competent commentary on the Government’s antipoverty program yet to appear.”

The national chamber’s task force has now begun a similar study of America’s cities. The study will look at the causes of urban problems in a methodical and scholarly approach. The economic potential of cities will be analyzed. Major problem areas, such as housing, transportation, environmental pollution, fiscal and governmental arrangements, will be studied.

A research advisory committee of 14 outstanding experts on urban issues has been formed to help the task force. These experts are:

William G. Coleman, executive director, Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations; Thomas Coulter, chief executive officer, Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry; John W. Dyckman, chairman, Center for Planning and Development Research, University of California at Berkeley; C. Lowell Harriss, Department of Economics, Columbia University; Walter E. Hoadley, vice president and treasurer, Armstrong Cork Co.; Norton E. Long, Joint Center for Urban Studies, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University; W. Thatcher Longstreth, executive vice president, Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce; Arthur J. Lumsden, executive vice president, Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce; Jerome P. Pickard, research director, Urban Land Institute; John W. Riley, Jr., vice president, the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States; John T. Howard, head of the department, the Department of City and Regional Planning, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Saul B. Klamman, director of research, National Association of Mutual Savings Banks; Arthur M. Weimer, special assistant to the president, Indiana University; and Arch M. Woodruff, provost, University of Harvard.

Arrangements are being made with leading universities to gather information and to tap the country’s best brainpower. The task force has begun to commission additional experts to develop background papers and to serve on advisory panels. Field trips are being planned. Further, the task force members themselves will bring to the study the rich background each has in economics and institutional organization; in the practical solution of problems.

As an introduction to the urban study, the task force recently held a symposium in which over 20 noted urban experts participated. The proceedings of that symposium will soon be published. Following this, the task force will issue reports dealing with various aspects of the urban scene. These reports will be released one at a time as soon as they are completed. As in the case of the poverty study, the reports will be made available to the President and his Cabinet, to the Members of Congress, to the Governors of the States, to leading colleges