

A year ago I was in Newark, New Jersey. One of the daily papers carried two stories of great significance to me. One story said that the Employment Service had more jobs than it could fill. The other story said that unemployment among colored people was about three times as high as unemployment among white people. Ever since I read those stories I have been trying to get an answer to this question, "How can we get the unemployed into the available jobs?"

Perhaps we shall never find the complete answer, but we have a better chance to find it if we continue to try new ideas and pioneer in the manner that is possible under the O.E.O. programs.

During the March, 1967, hearings conducted by the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Subcommittee on Employment, Manpower and Poverty, we heard the voices of the poor who were urging greater expenditures to meet the problems of their communities. We also heard mayors testify on the needs of their cities. Perhaps some of the most poignant words uttered during those hearings were spoken by a witness who said, "These problems seem like nothing to you. But they're mountains to the people." Perhaps the most helpful words came from Mayor Jerome P. Cavanaugh of Detroit. Representing the United States Conference of Mayors he said that at least \$3 billion was needed for the war on poverty during fiscal 1968.

At mid-point in 1967 we are confronted with massive destruction and the loss of human life in our cities. Yet there are those who seem to think that we can continue to pinch pennies and practice false economy while our fellow Americans are in want or are denied opportunity. No one can say that we did not have ample warning that during the summer of 1967 the demagogues would do all in their power to promote friction and discord. Yet we also had great opportunity to deprive them of a platform by vastly expanding and rapidly implementing the programs that will better the lot of the common man.

Instead of seizing the chance to begin fulfillment of the dreams and aspirations of the poor, we have consigned them to uninhabitable housing by killing the rent supplement program. We have laughed at their plight while refusing to make war on the rats that infest their neighborhoods and bite their children. Now there are those who would make further inroads upon the hopes of the deprived by emasculating the program of the O.E.O. We must not let that happen.

The NAACP urges that this committee and the whole Congress support the concepts of self help and community organization that are a part of the philosophy of the O.E.O. We urge that you continue the independence of the agency and that you give it adequate funds to do the job that the times demand.

Mr. MITCHELL. I would like to associate myself with the positions of my longtime friends, Mr. Andrew Biemiller and Dr. Flemming. We have had many years of experience together in Washington, and I think their views represented the usual good commonsense they express.

It is very comforting to know that while Mr. Biemiller has a record of having been elected to the Congress as a Democrat, and Dr. Flemming is clearly a Republican, and has always been, as far as I know, they both have a common point of view on this problem.

I think it is important to note that, because it is my judgment that what we are faced here with is the problem that Mr. Gibbons mentions earlier in this hearing, and he said that we are in a situation where we are down to 166 to 199 votes as possible votes from the House in getting this program through, which means the only way we are going to get it through is that there is going to have to be substantial support from the Republican Party.

I have a voting residence, and at that meeting—at that voting residence I am registered as an Independent, but I have tried through the years to be fair to members of both parties, so much so, that a lot of my Democratic friends think I am a Republican, and which I am not, but I would like to say for the record and for the Republicans that the future of OEO is really in the hands of the Republican Party.

We have had some unfortunate experiences in this session of the