

Chairman PERKINS. Driving in through Maysville, Montgomery County, and Greenup County, through Portsmouth—in all directions.

Mayor DAWAHARE. That is right, and if it had not been for the vocational training that they got in our vocational schools, they would still be a tax burden or on public assistance at home.

Now in our town, it is growing, growing. We are opening a new supermarket that did open up last month—one of the chains—a big supermarket.

Chairman PERKINS. Which one?

Mayor DAWAHARE. Food Fair. We have a Sears, Roebuck store that is going to open in September, and we have a large new hardware and appliance store that will open up.

Continued funding of the poverty program for at least 3 more years is essential if we are to be completely successful in erasing poverty.

In closing, I want to thank you for the opportunity of presenting our story of successfully fighting poverty in eastern Kentucky. I shall be happy to try to answer any questions you desire to ask. Mail or communications in any form, telephone or telegraph, directed to Hazard, Ky., will reach me quickly. On any reasonable notice, I can be available to the committee for further discussion. Thank you.

Chairman PERKINS. I notice you have a statement from Sam L. Luttrell, who I have known since I have been a youngster. What is the purport of that statement?

Mayor DAWAHARE. I would like for my city manager to read this statement.

Mr. TOWNES (reading):

My name is Sam L. Luttrell, but I am known to friends and acquaintances and probably some who may be acquaintances, but not necessarily friends, as "Bud" Luttrell. I am chief of police of Hazard, Perry County, Ky., the town of which Mayor Willie Dawahare, who has just preceded me is mayor. A repetition of the conditions and surroundings of the Hazard area would be redundant.

I am convinced that the poverty programs, now operative in our area, have done more than anything else that has been done to simplify the task of law enforcement. If these programs are discontinued, it is almost certain that there would be a reversion to the troubles so prevalent a few years ago and much of the progress that we are making will be brought to a standstill.

The Neighborhood Youth Corps program and the work in the vocational schools are transferring many of the citizens of our community out of idleness and crime to a self-supporting status. I urge that every means of continuing these activities be taken. We have on our police force and in our fire department several young men who received their early training, notably, through the Neighborhood Youth Corps. An outstanding example started on this program and is now employed as a Kentucky State trooper.

All of the foregoing and much of what Mayor Dawahare has pointed out is verified in our current crime report to our board of commissioners. We have not had a major crime in this community during the first 6 months of this year. This contrasts with the comparable period before the beginning of these programs during one of which we had four murders. Break-ins, in fact all phases of crime and delinquency, are greatly reduced.

It is not generally appreciated, even by our local citizens, that Hazard has a law enforcement problem out of all proportion to its size. While the official population of Hazard is less than 10,000, we are the business and shopping center for a population of about 100,000. Even so, the foregoing figures and our experience verify our opinion that the amazing crime reduction is certainly in a large way attributable to the Federal programs now in operation. This notwithstanding that Perry County is the only wet county in southeastern Kentucky.

Chairman PERKINS. Identify yourself, Mr. Townes.