

professional case worker of some of the paperwork and more routine tasks that there might be in his job. In this way, he would then be free to spend more of his time and work efforts on the more sophisticated and demanding aspects of his job of assisting people to solve their problems. It has been very rewarding for us to see the benefits that this case aide position have brought to our state-wide Public Welfare Program. Not only has this sub-professional position been of value to our social workers, but the job itself has been a very rewarding one to the case aide. The aide feels, and rightly so, that he is making a very worthwhile contribution to the Public Welfare Program and to assisting the clients of our agencies toward improved living.

In our program, however, the case aide position tends to be a "dead end" job. There are no progressive career possibilities for such a person as there are in the professional class. We feel much needs to be done in the way of experimentation and development of a formal educational program for this sub-professional group in addition to our own state-wide In-Service Training Program. We believe too, that more jobs could be developed of increasing complexity and still be outside the area of responsibility of the professional position. The result would be the development of a career line in the sub-professional area of work.

It is possible too, that many potential case aides exist within the present clientele of our agencies. If educational programs were available to assist them in developing their potential skills for work in this area, dividends would be received both in terms of additional helpful manpower for the agencies and, even more importantly, a sense of dignity acquired by an individual through the satisfactions obtained from performing a needed service.

It is my earnest hope that the Scheuer Amendment to the Economic Opportunity Act, namely the "New Careers" provision will be favorably acted upon.

Sincerely yours,

MORRIS HURSH,
Commissioner.

STATEMENT BY HON. DONALD M. FRASER, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
FROM THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

Much has been said and written about the lack of influence exerted by poor Americans in shaping the programs designed to help them. I want to recount, for the benefit of the Committee, an experience this Spring involving a group of poor people from my district in Minneapolis. The poor themselves are the most eloquent advocates of the War on Poverty. I have, from the beginning, been a supporter of the antipoverty program, and I want to go on record as supporting the Economic Opportunity Amendments of 1967. My support has been reinforced by the visit to Washington of the group from Minneapolis.

The 28 members of the group—all in the under-\$3,000 income bracket—were dubbed "poverty riders" by the newspapers. Their official name was the City-wide Resident Group for the Delegation to Washington. Their purpose for visiting the capital was to plead for continuation and expansion of the poverty and education programs enacted by the 89th Congress.

What these "poverty riders" lacked in money they made up in resourcefulness. Lacking funds to finance their journey, they raised about \$1,500 in Minneapolis by selling lapel buttons for 50 cents apiece. The message on the green and white buttons: "Escalate the War on Poverty." With the money raised from button sales, the delegation chartered a bus for the 1,200-mile, 24-hour ride to Washington. Sales of the buttons didn't stop with the group's arrival. Many more were sold here; one of the purchasers, whom the group came upon accidentally in the Capitol, was Sargent Shriver.

The delegation made good use of its limited time during its two-day stay. By dividing into sub-groups, members were able to hold conferences with the two Senators and eight Representatives in Minnesota's congressional delegation. They met with the distinguished chairman of the Committee, Mr. Perkins, and with officials of the Labor Department and the Office of Economic Opportunity. The response they received was, they reported, generally favorable.

In our consideration of the Economic Opportunity Amendments of 1967, legislation having a direct bearing on the lives of millions of Americans, it is easy for us to lose sight of the human beings involved as we weigh dispassionate facts and figures. The Minneapolis "poverty riders," each with a story of limited