

How much, you ask, of the community is a commercial bank tied up with? There is no doubt in my mind that it is tied up with the total community. If there is any banker who thought, 2 months ago, that this was not the case, I know that he thinks that it is tied up with the total community today as a result of the situation in Detroit and many other cities.

In the cities in which you have had significant and measurable progress and success in a very spotty program of urban renewal and urban redevelopment there have been some very bad experiences and there have been very good experiences.

I mentioned Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and I know the bankers personally that took leading roles in making these programs work. I have discussed with White House officials within the last few days ways and means for the American Bankers Association to pull the talent and know-how of these bankers from the city and from smaller communities where development has been pushed and discrimination has been reduced—how we can bring the ABA and the banking community more into this role. We have a number of things in mind.

We try to cooperate as best we can with such groups—they are in New York, they are in Watts, and other places where prosperous non-minority business people will work with minority groups, particularly small businessmen to try to get them on the right track and to get them credit worthy, which leads to the next point.

You say there will not be a problem when loans are made by the banks and others in the ghetto. This is correct. But let us not get cause and effect mixed up or the cart before the horse. The loans can be made in the ghetto only when the businessmen and the workers have the skill and the training and the work habits necessary to provide basically what we call a bankable type loan or a credit worthy type operation. So pulling together here, it is not just going down and making a bunch of loans. That is the worst thing you could do if people are not qualified to use the money. It is the total operation of improvement.

Now, Mr. Bailey has some personal experience as to what can and has been done, I presume, in his own area.

Mr. BAILEY. Two things that I would like to mention that the industry is doing in an effort to help people that are affected in this work.

Consumer counseling centers have been established in a number of cities around the country. Buffalo is one. There are several in California and throughout the Midwest. These are supported by the local lenders and department stores in their areas. Office space is rented and a professional counselor is hired and people are asked to come there that have financial problems and an effort is made to help them work it out for their budget.

In addition to that Columbia University conducted a consumer credit management program—they do this once a year and people who have been through that program have formed together in a committee called the Arden House Consumer Credit Committee which presently is working with Sargent Shriver in an effort to determine how we as an industry can be most helpful in areas with people who aren't sophisticated in the use of credit—who may not have the ability to even pay. The government in some way can help industry to provide credit to such people and teach them what to do with it once they have it.