

is not aware of the breadth and existence of poverty in our midst, because they do not get into the ghettos, and they do not get into Appalachia, and into poor rural areas.

I think part of it is a matter of education. Until you show that this type of activity exists, and it is a serious matter, then you do not get action. So that is the first step.

Now, recognizing the need for education as a part of the support for any program, what do you specifically recommend to combat organized crime?

Mr. RUTH. Senator, I agree partially with you on the education point. But I use the word "tolerate" rather than "welcome" because so many millions of Americans patronize the services of organized crime, others are willing victims of organized crime, others, such as business and labor, cooperate with organized crime. And when I say so many people are willing to tolerate it, I am speaking of people in a position of power, either from the standpoint of being in the business or labor world, or from the standpoint of being a customer who, if he went to law enforcement, could successfully participate in a prosecution having organized crime implications. This just does not happen. If law enforcement just were to sit back and wait for complaints about the activities of organized crime which involve so many diversified kinds of crime, there would never be a prosecution. And that is why I use the word "tolerate," Senator. I do not mean to indict all of America. But I use that word because I think people in power that have some connection with it or know about it in one way or another, could do something about it. Others with a certain degree of naivete still must have read of the organized crime problem and yet remain passive about pursuing its possible presence in one's own sphere of activity. I think that is where I would start. I would start with the business world, and the labor world. I would try to get them concerned. There is no reason in loan sharking, for instance, why the president of a company, or every large industrial establishment in Philadelphia, should want loan sharks operating in his plant, so that any employee can obtain a loan.

I think he could cut that off almost immediately.

I think the unions could help along the waterfront in Philadelphia, and shut off the gambling and loan sharking, if they wanted to. And that is conducted in the open every morning between 6 and 6:30 on the waterfront—you just have to go down there to see it.

From a law enforcement standpoint, I think the Federal Government has done the most of any level of government. I think their effort is inadequate, however. I cited the low percentage of the Department of Justice budget devoted to that.

On a city level, I think there are only two or three large cities that have any law enforcement program which is directed exclusively to organized crime—rather than being a part of the general enforcement activities of the police.

On the State level, there is no great history in a lot of States of attorneys general becoming interested or having power in crime jurisdiction at all. I think there is some hope, at least in the New England area, where the six attorneys general have pooled their interests and their personnel to try to develop a joint regional organized crime enforcement program.