

for advice and counsel and help, but I came as a student, trying to learn. I have gone around the country to other such people as yourself who have spent their lives in social work. I have been essentially an employer, 25 years in one company. We had 13,000 employees, and I employed great numbers of people from the west and the southside of Chicago. Thousands of people have come up from Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, who could not read or write, many of them with no training and no skills, into a highly sophisticated business. So I have had some experience.

My own impression is very much as yours: a very, very small number of people do not want to work. They do not want to work for many reasons. Maybe they are ill, maybe they have been malnourished as children. I am sure Mr. Hicks, if he has the flu, has a disinclination to want to go to work. Some of these people, I think, have the flu throughout their lives. They just do not seem to have the getup and go. It is not necessarily laziness. It is that they have been raised on beans and they have not had milk and they do not have resistance to disease. They get a cold and it lasts all winter.

We have tried as an industry to work with these people and have tried to overcome the curse of society on them that has created this condition.

I do not know if your figure of 1 in 99 is right or not, but I would say, even if it is 2 in 98 or 3 in 97, it is certainly not in the category of 50-50.

I would like to ask Mr. Hicks, who is here as our guest—and we appreciate his being here—if he wishes in any way to modify the impression that he left that maybe half of the impoverished are just lazy?

In what proportion, in your own experience, would you now put those whom we need to help and those for whom there is just not anything you can do to help because they are not going to work no matter what you do?

Mr. Hicks. Perhaps I suffer from the impressions of the average American voter, born through reading the newspapers and observations in my personal life rather than the great benefits that must accrue to someone who is in social welfare work and is able to observe these statistics from a much closer viewpoint.

No. 1. If we assume that Mr. Dumpson's figure is correct, then surely there could be no objection to including in any welfare or guaranteed income proposal an exclusion for those who are capable of working where jobs exist for them but they do not work. If they only constitute 1 percent, surely they would not harm the system by being excluded.

But I do not accept those figures, because, as I say, I suffer from the impressions that the average American voter gets from reading the newspapers and from my own personal observations. I could go on at great length with my own personal experiences with the poor people in this area, because I am an employer, have been for 10 years in this area. But I would just use one example.

We have had what purports to be a cross section of the poor come to Washington—women, children, able-bodied men of various races. I do not pretend that the problem of poverty or laziness is confined to one race. We see feature stories in the newspapers concerning the ef-