

forts of one local citizen to help these people better their lot out at Resurrection City, like going out voluntarily, at no cost to the inhabitants, and digging a ditch to lay a sewer line which is necessary if they are to have showers in their community. He works all day in the hot broiling sun by himself, surrounded by able-bodied men, if we are to believe the newspaper reports, who absolutely refused to lend a hand, who in fact when he asked them why they will not help him, they say, "We came up here from Mississippi to stop digging ditches, we are not going to start digging ditches now."

Now, digging a ditch is not a glorified position like being a corporation executive, but I get the very distinct impression that the reason why so many of these poor will not dig a ditch is because they feel they are entitled to a desk and a white-collar job regardless of their equipment for it or their training for it or their ability.

Now, it does not take much training to dig a ditch. Yet these people who were in bad need of showers admittedly refused to aid this volunteer of their own race who was there trying to help them by even filling up the ditch behind him.

Now, I do not see how this is of any help in proving Mr. Dumpson's point at all. I think it in fact would tend to prove that my position, whether it is wrong or right, is the position of the American people and politically it has to be reckoned with.

Senator PERCY. First, on digging the ditch, I am happy to say that I was out one Sunday morning at Resurrection City and spent a couple of hours out there with my son-in-law who wanted to see the people from West Virginia. I was very happy to find a volunteer from Chicago digging that ditch. They were down about 5 feet at that point and he had five other associates from the camp working right there with him digging the ditch. Apparently, they must have been shamed or inspired to go back to work. So the experience that you have related is not totally true.

I have been very disappointed that the people in the campaign did not see fit to clean up Resurrection City themselves and it had to be done at public expense. I think this is a great mistake that they have made. But I am not free from mistakes in my life, either.

Did I infer from your statement that there is any modification in your figure of 99 percent or 1 percent? Do you want to change that in any way? We have agreed there are about 25 to 30 million impoverished people. Mr. Dumpson very clearly, through his research, says 99 percent are impoverished through inability to get work, from causes beyond their control. You have left the impression that it is 50-50. Do you want to change that in any way?

Mr. HICKS. I would like to change that in that I have stated that I feel many persons are included in the impoverished who do not feel themselves to be impoverished.

Senator PERCY. I thought you did concur finally that there are about 25 or 30 million.

Mr. HICKS. I just could not argue the point, sir. I do not know.

Senator PERCY. All right.

Mr. HICKS. But I am sure there is a great variation on this. So I would not want my feelings on the great number, the percentage, to be translated in terms of 15 million lazy people in this country. I would not want to stand on that.