

- Expanded social welfare research commensurate in size and scope with the national investment in its programs.

In urging the Federal Government to set standards for the quality and administration of the programs, the report said, "Without strong Federal leadership and support, it is the opinion of the Advisory Council that present imbalances will continue and are likely to increase."

Summary of A PROPOSAL TO CURE THE SICKNESS OF BIGNESS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF PUBLIC WELFARE by John J. Keppler, Executive Vice President, Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, New York City.

In order to cut public welfare costs in half and relief rolls by one-third, Mr. Keppler proposed shifting one-third of the present population on welfare (those receiving OAA, Aid to the Blind and Aid to the Disabled) over to the Social Security system. The transfer of tax funds now fed through a costly and cumbersome welfare bureaucracy to the Social Security Trust Fund would not draw upon existing contributions to Old Age and Survivors Insurance from employers and employees.

Mr. Keppler estimated a saving of administrative costs of around \$1/4 billion which could help raise the amount of aid for those groups to higher Social Security levels.

The approximately 5-million people who would be left on the caseloads of local public welfare agencies, most of them receiving AFDC, would be better served by social workers relieved of excessive paper work. The costly and excessively high staff turnover now prevailing would be considerably reduced if social workers had increased opportunities to help the remaining caseload solve their problems and move towards self-support and self-respect.

Because many of those who would be shifted to the Social Security system would still need some social services as well as grants, Mr. Keppler proposed that voluntary health and welfare agencies supply such services through contractual arrangements with the Government.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS BEFORE SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT, MANPOWER AND POVERTY, MAY 8, 1967, made by Mitchell I. Ginsberg, Commissioner, New York City Department of Welfare (presently Human Resources Administrator).

According to Mr. Ginsberg, the present welfare system, is designed to save money rather than people and ends up doing neither. If changes are not made, welfare problems will grow and become harder to solve. He differentiated between short-range and long-range changes, anticipating that the latter will take years to accomplish, while the former are necessary to make existing programs more effective.

Proposals for changes in the existing program included:

- Substitution of a declaration approach to the means test.
- Employment incentive plan so that welfare recipients securing employment could retain a share of their earnings for a period of time.