

Along with the model cities program, what you have here is the reflection of an aiming of the manpower program, a shooting with a rifle—or, I would like to think, with even heavier artillery—but not with a shotgun, as we were before.

There are other parts of those programs I would be delighted to talk about, but I do not want to intrude my particular interest on those of the committee.

There has been a good deal of talk, I should say, about the extent to which there has been a lack of consideration of priorities. I do not believe that is true as far as this area is concerned. I sense, in my official capacity—not sense, but know, in my official capacity—a complete acceptance of the priority of the manpower program. It is reflected in this fact—but only illustratively of the one fact—that in the budget which the President has transmitted to the Congress for fiscal year 1969, the total for the manpower programs—and I am taking a comparatively narrow definition of manpower programs—is to be \$2.1 billion. That compares with \$1.6 billion in 1968. It is a 20-percent increase. It will mean, in another way of suggesting its magnitude to you, that in fiscal 1969 there will be, in work and work training programs in this country, which include both allowances and partial wage payments to cover the training part—1,300,000 people involved in these programs, receiving not only training, but allowances or stipends of one kind or another. It becomes a much more sophisticated form of a public work and training program than the one most of us grew up with in the 1930's.

So there is a strong emphasis on it, a strong priority attached to it.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I have tried to suggest this. I think it is terribly important to recognize the unmet part of this problem. It is terribly important, too, to recognize, because it is so little noticed, it is so much overlooked, the fact of the gains that are already being made. I know it is not popular today to suggest the gains that are being made in any particular area. It is more sophisticated, it is more liberal, it is more newsworthy to talk about bad news. I do not mean to depart too much from that pattern of discussion and publicity. But, I would like to point this out: I believe it is true that every single group in this country, not just the country as a whole, but every single group in it, Negroes, youth, any group, is infinitely better off from the standpoint of employment opportunity than it was 5 years ago.

Now, you can take the other side of that case, or anyone can take the other side of the case. And if you do, it is to suggest, in my judgment, that a selected use of statistics can be used to support almost any proposition you want to. I hope it is not heresy to suggest that today the computers, like the Scriptures, can be quoted to support almost any proposition, if you take something out of context.

I believe the statement remains solid and true—that regardless of what is left to be done, every single group in the country is today better off from the standpoint of employment opportunity than it was 5 years ago.

That leads you to another development which I suppose is the most important development in the last 5 years.

Five years ago, I believe, we were still accepting in this country what was virtually a deterministic philosophy, and it was not very