

I think in terms of perspective it is important to note the absolute magnitude that we are talking about. Even with the high rates the total number of unemployed Negro teenagers averaged about 200,000 in 1968. Furthermore, over one-third were seeking only part-time work, mainly because they are still in school.

There is another aspect of this diversity that is brought out in a new survey that is being conducted in the Department of Labor by the BLS, the Manpower Administration, and with the Census Bureau doing the data collection. This new survey is aimed at finding out more about what is happening in the slum areas and will be a useful addition to our flow of information about employment and unemployment. The first report is being released today and I want to call attention to three of its findings.

Senator PROXMIRE. I would like to interrupt for a moment, Mr. Secretary, to suggest that you are referring to the release of this morning, Thursday, February 20, on the "Employment Situation Surveyed in Slum Areas of Six Large Cities?"

Secretary SHULTZ. That is right, sir.

Senator PROXMIRE (presiding). I ask unanimous consent that that statement, which is brief, a little over four pages, be printed in the record right after your remarks. (See p. 453.)

Secretary SHULTZ. Fine. Thank you.

First, and I wouldn't say these findings are surprising, we see that high unemployment rates and low earnings characterize the employment situation of residents in these six slum areas.

Second, that the jobless rate for Negro workers in these areas is higher than in other areas, 10.4 percent. But it is interesting to note that it is also higher for other groups in those areas, such as Mexican-Americans and Puerto Ricans. This tends to reinforce the point of view that the difficulties shared by those living in these neighborhoods affect more than a single racial or ethnic group.

It is also an interesting fact that while low incomes characterize these residents, a sizable proportion reported earnings well above the poverty level. This suggests to us that there is success as well as problems in those areas. We want to ask ourselves, can we learn anything from the success that would be applicable to situations where we have more problems.

The current low national unemployment rates, while really encouraging, thus do not permit complacency. Instead they point to the need for a variety of manpower programs to create work opportunities, specially in an economy that might be growing at a slower pace than that of recent years.

I will skip through the material on wage, price, and productivity changes, noting, first, that the average hourly compensation of all persons in the private economy rose by 7.5 percent in 1968, compared to 6.1 percent the previous year, and an average from 1947 to 1966 of 5 percent. This is a measure of the inflation on the other side. I think it is important to note that this is not simply a collective bargaining development, but that you see this increase broadly in the economy in nonunion as well as union establishments. To put it another way, it is essentially a labor market phenomenon rather than a collective bargaining phenomenon.