

make a strong plea for job opportunities for all Americans through a combination of private and public programs. We thought you would be interested in comparing the President's statement with the goal contained in the Urban Coalition's Statement of Principles adopted at the Emergency Convocation:

The President

There are some half million unemployed, hard-core unemployed, in our principal cities. We just have to go and find jobs for them. I am going to call in the businessmen of America and say one of two things have to happen: You have to help me go out and find jobs for these people, or we are going to have to find jobs in the Government for them and offer every one of them a job. I think that is one thing that could be done. I think that will have to be done, as expensive as it is.

Coalition Goal

Government and business must accept responsibility to provide all Americans with opportunity to earn an adequate income. Private industry must greatly accelerate its efforts to recruit, train, and hire the hard-core unemployed. When the private sector is unable to provide employment to those who are both able and willing to work, then in a free society the government must of necessity assume the responsibility and act as the employer of last resort or must assure adequate income for those who are unable to work.

The press interpreted the President's statement as an important new policy position on the government's responsibility. At a press conference the following day, Rep. Carl D. Perkins (Ky.), chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee said he would support whatever bill in the field of employment the President sends to Congress next year. Providing jobs for those who can't find private employment, he said, "is the proper role for government".

EDUCATIONAL DISPARITIES

Despite bad weather that closed the Detroit airport for several hours on December 18, seven members of the Educational Disparities Task Force were able to get together for a scheduled meeting. They held a spirited discussion of the problems which exist in this area and began concentration on those which they felt the Coalition could effectively combat. The Task Force will meet again at 2:30 p.m. on January 8 at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington.

LOCAL COALITIONS

Encouragement and assistance in the formation of local urban coalitions continues to receive high priority. During December Washington

D. C., Boston, Baltimore, Plainfield, N. J., Stanford and Bridgeport, Connecticut announced plans for local coalitions.

Washington Mayor Walter E. Washington said in a public announcement that citizens have called for the organization of a local coalition "in terms of urgency" generated by the August Emergency Convocation. He emphasized that the local effort must have the support and participation of the Virginia and Maryland suburbs.

The next regional mobilization conference will be held in New York City on January 12 -- at New York University's Loeb Center.

EQUAL HOUSING

Plans are in progress for a National Action Session on Equal Housing Opportunities to be held in Chicago at the Conrad Hilton Hotel on January 18. The Task Force has concentrated on the completion of program development papers.

COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC SUPPORT

Two well-illustrated publications are in the works and will soon be mailed to those interested in the work of the Coalition. The first is a report, including the texts of major addresses, on the Mobilization Conference held in Chicago on October 17. The second will be a similar publication reporting on the Private Employment Conference held in Atlanta on December 13.

HOUSING, RECONSTRUCTION AND INVESTMENT

Progress continued on the major working paper being prepared by the Task Force as a guide for the Coalition in the development of a long-range program.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Unavoidable scheduling problems for several of the principals on the Steering Committee resulted in a postponement of the meeting scheduled for December 18 in Detroit to January 8 in Washington, D. C. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Mayflower Hotel.