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WILKINS DEPLORES ANY URBAN AID CUT Problems of U.S. Cities Viewed

Tells Senators Such Savings Would Be 'Criminal'

Ribicoff Hearing

Special to The New York Times
WASHINGTON, Nov. 30
—Roy Wilkins asserted before a Senate subcommittee today that it would be "criminal" for either Congress or the Administration to cut back budget expenditures on social and urban programs.

The executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People made this point a day after President Johnson announced, at a news conference in Texas, that he was canceling or deferring \$5.3-billion worth of Federal programs in the current fiscal year.

The President insisted that none of the cuts would "short-change the young, or the needy, the ill or the old." Sources here confirmed today that the cuts would not require elimination of key Great Society programs but would delay the award of some grants and require some belt-tightening as well.

Mr. Wilkins said after the hearing that although he was disturbed by the possible consequences of some of the cuts—he did not specify them—he had intended his remarks largely as a "warning to the new Congress," which, he feared, might interpret Mr. Johnson's action as a "mandate" to begin making further slashes.

The Negro leader was one of four witnesses who appeared before hearing of the Senate Government Operations subcommittee on urban problems. In other points, he:

• Described the "black power" movement of some young Negro activists as "too dangerous, too amateurish, too teen-agerish, too much like a student prank," adding: "It isn't as bad as it sounds, but it's mischievous."

• Charged that Federal job-training programs had in some cases helped perpetuate racial discrimination.

• "Existing Government programs," Mr. Wilkins said in a statement, "have fallen far short of providing any sub-



United Press International Telephotos

Harry Golden, left, the writer, and Roy Wilkins, executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, testifying yesterday at hearing of a Senate subcommittee on problems of American cities.

stantial cure for Negro unemployment."

"Unfortunately," he went on, the administration of Federal manpower development and employment programs "has often been marked by outright racial discrimination and by pre-conceived, stereotyped ideas of what jobs Negroes can and should hold. When colored applicants have been accepted, they have often found themselves being trained for blue-collar, service employment, frequently in dying industries."

The three other witnesses were Harry Golden, author and publisher of The Carolina Israelite; Dr. Robert Coles, Harvard research psychiatrist, and Judge George Edwards of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Mr. Golden proposed that the Negro be given a 10-year, \$100-billion "indemnity"—in the form of welfare, housing, and education programs—to pay for his confinement "during the greatest wealth-producing period in the history of the world."

The Negro's struggle for justice, he said, "has not been to alter a single institution. He did not want to burn the bastille, or get rid of the tax on tea, nor did he demand a new parliament, or a new Constitution." "What he has been telling us is that the American institu-

tions are so desirable that he wants in on them," he said.

Judge Edwards struck a responsive chord in the subcommittee when he called for more and better-trained policemen in urban areas and suggested establishment of a national police academy similar to the service institutions at West Point and Annapolis.

The subcommittee chairman, Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff, Democrat of Connecticut, called for vastly improved police protection last August following the panel's first round of hearings on city problems.

Dr. Coles, a child psychiatrist, reviewed his experience with poor children and their parents in Southern towns and Northern ghettos and said that in many cases he had found "strength" and "vitality" despite huge obstacles.

He said, moreover, that he had become less "convinced" that racial prejudice "is the decisive issue confronting our cities."

Whites and Negroes, he said, share the same basic fears of unemployment, high prices, illness, and the like.

"There is nothing in the minds of any group of Americans," he concluded, "that necessarily compels our present problems to continue."