

Steering Committee Co-chairmen: Andrew Heiskell / A. Philip Randolph

February 9, 1968

NATIONAL COORDINATOR'S WEEKLY REPORT

LOCAL COALITIONS

Associate National Coordinator Elbert Ransom, Jr. met this week with the newly-formed "Committee of Fifty" in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Committee is presently representative of all segments of the community except local government. After Ransom's explanation of the objectives and principles of The Urban Coalition, the Committee decided to issue an invitation to the Mayor to attend a special meeting to discuss the possibility of members of the city government joining the Committee to make it a true Urban Coalition.

The Boston Urban Coalition reports good progress. At a meeting last week, Robert Slater, president, John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company, was elected chairman. Three task forces were named--Employment and Entrepreneurship, Housing and Education--and asked to prepare action proposals at the earliest possible date. A committee was also named to recommend a permanent organizational structure.

LEGISLATION

At a meeting in Washington this week, the Legislative Task Force decided to urge the Coalition Executive Committee to authorize (1) moving ahead immediately to support the open housing legislation now in the Senate, and (2) mobilizing support for a supplemental appropriation to fund summer programs for the larger cities.

PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT

The third in the series of regional meetings on private employment will be held at the Hotel Muehlebach in Kansas City, Missouri, on February 21. Scheduled speakers include Kansas City Mayor Ilus W. Davis, William Flynn, director, STEP Program, National Association of Manufacturers, Rev. Thomas J. Ritter, executive director, Opportunities Industrialization Center, Philadelphia, J. A. Hosford, general manager, Western Electric Company, Lee's Summit, Missouri, Mayor Joseph H. McDowell of Kansas City, Kansas, and Francis Keppel, chairman of the board, General Learning Corporation and former U.S. Commissioner of Education.

Concurrent workshops will be held on Organizing Local Employment Campaigns, Recruiting, Training, and Placement of the Hard Core Unemployed, Job Development and Upward Mobility and Reassessing Underemployment.

STEERING COMMITTEE

James F. Oates, Jr., chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States has accepted an invitation to become a member of the Urban Coalition Steering Committee.

The press of other commitments has made necessary the resignation of Steering Committee member Gilbert W. Fitzhugh, president, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.