

Substituting Action for Oratory

THE \$14,000 contributed by Minneapolis area businesses to study the creation of an Urban Coalition shows a growing awareness that the total community, public and private, must become more involved in the effort to solve our problems of race and poverty.

Critics might say that the time for studies is past. In this case, however, there would be no point in forming a coalition if the members had little idea of what they could do or how they should do it. These are the questions that this study must answer. And at nine weeks, it is a short one as studies go.

Participants at the recent National Urban Coalition meeting in Washington, D.C., resolved boldly to push for a million more jobs, a million more homes for the poor, better schools and social conditions. Whether these goals can be attained will depend greatly on the grassroots pressure and contributions of key leaders at the local level.

This is where the Minneapolis coalition comes in. This is where the white community must show Negro critics at the national meeting that it is not attempting to substitute oratory for action.

Earl Ewald, president of Northern States Power Co. and temporary chairman of the contributing local businessmen, said that none of them sees merit in creating just another organization. "But maybe a *new kind* of organization like a genuine 'Urban Coalition' can help," he said. "We hope to find out."

We hope the findings are affirmative.

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URBAN COALITION MOVES ON SLUMS

Panel Set Up to Help Local
Leaders Form Groups

By SYDNEY H. SCHANBERG

The Urban Coalition, the recently formed prestigious national alliance of business, labor, municipal, religious and civil rights leaders, took a step here last night to help local communities fight a more organized battle against slum problems.

A three-member panel was set up by the nationwide coalition to help community leaders form local coalitions to press for solutions to crucial urban needs, particularly jobs, housing and education.

The panel was announced at a meeting of the Urban Coalition's 33-member steering committee in the Time & Life Building, at 50th Street and the Avenue of the Americas. It was the first gathering of the high-level committee, one of whose members is Mayor Lindsay, since the convocation of the organization on Aug. 24 in Washington.

The members of the local-coalition panel are Mayor Joseph M. Barr of Pittsburgh, Arnold Aronson, executive secretary of the National Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, and Charles P. Taft, Cincinnati lawyer.

The next step by the task force will be to hold a meeting of community leaders interested in forming local units. Leaders in about 50 cities have expressed interest in the idea and are expected to be at the meeting, scheduled for a week from today in Chicago.

Mayor Lindsay, one of the founders of the Urban Coalition, has already organized a local coalition for New York City and is expected to announce its chairman and other members very soon.

About 50 persons, many of them aides to members of the steering committee, attended last night's committee meeting.

In addition to Mr. Lindsay, the participants included Mayor Barr; Mayor Jerome P. Cavanagh of Detroit; Andrew Heiskell, board chairman of Time Inc.; Joseph D. Keenan, secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and David Sullivan, president of the Building Service Employees International Union.

Also, Frederick J. Close, board chairman of the Aluminum Company of America; Gerald Phillippe, board chairman of General Electric; Harold Fleming, president of the Potomac Institute in Washington, and A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.