

Assistance or Unemployment. To counteract this lack of work incentive we must take immediate studies in the following areas:

- (a) To have the minimum wage increased.
- (b) We must devise a new and more comprehensive system of service in the welfare program which will meet the needs of the working poor.
- (c) Provide adult education and technical training.
- (d) Provide a reasonable guarantee of medical care for all.
- (e) Improve the housing situation in both quality and quantity.
- (f) Devise a complete and comprehensive scheme to provide counselling by professionals in the areas of budgeting, family planning, and family living which would be readily available to all persons.

We feel that in attacking the problems in this area, we are waging the war on poverty on two fronts. First by upgrading the individuals in this area, we dispel any thoughts of relying on government services by creating an incentive to work and gain prosperity. Secondly, by increasing the employment quota we also invariably increase the tax dollars needed for more intensive programing in the more poverished areas of the community.

(3) Our Youth: Another area of vital concern in our present day society is that of today's youth, who in the majority of cases, are in some type of poverty when the term is taken in the context of our definition. In order to guarantee the continuation of our society we must assist these young persons to assume a productive and meaningful role within our society. To accomplish this a more concentrated approach must be taken in the following areas:—

- (a) Educational facilities
- (b) Counselling and guidance
- (c) Living accommodations for youth who cannot adapt to living in their own homes as well as transient youth
- (d) We must offer more assistance to the parents of our youth in helping to bridge the "generation gap" which often exhibits itself in family frustrations and family crisis situations. We feel that more active and concerned work in this area will help to alleviate some of the potential poverty cases in future years.

(4) The Elderly: In today's urban society we no longer find the strong large family unit that existed at the turn of the century. Today with people living in small homes or apartments the elderly person often finds themselves without true companionship when they need it most. Due to insufficient-fixed incomes their position in the community has become endangered. They encounter problems with housing, budgeting for vital necessities not to take into consideration entertainment or relaxation. The elderly citizen often finds himself alone and unable to make an adequate social adjustment to the new community role he must play. The senior citizens have bonded together to offer themselves some protection from the perils of the aged. However, those who are active and over 65 quite frequently refuse to accept their position and drift further away from their peers as their friends die thus finding themselves alone in a society foreign to them.

(5) Service: To provide the proper types of service to everyone we must discontinue to categorize these persons and their problems into little compartments, each of which is handled by a variety of agencies or organizations, but rather we must view our society and its problems as a whole. Our present day system allows us to freely shift the responsibilities of these persons from one agency to another, with no one agency willing to assist the family in all respects of their problems. We can no longer afford to tolerate the compounding of problems because we are too busy to provide the assistance needed immediately when the problem originates. We must attempt to locate the source of the problem, and not just patch it up.

If our goals are to be realized we must begin by integrating our services and coordinating our efforts at each of the various levels of government, and between the public and voluntary agencies within the community. A complete and thorough revamping of our outdated assistance service programs is needed to meet the requirements of our modern society. We must strive for more comprehensive service with the emphasis on prevention and promote the ideal of a better and just society for all.

(6) Cost Sharing: We feel the present system of federal assistance in the areas of Health and Welfare, known as the Cost Sharing Program, does have inequalities for economically deprived areas of this country. The present cost sharing program is not realistic to those