

gets all medical care on Social Welfare, he is a fool if he does not take Social Welfare.

The Chairman: He is not a fool because for the last two days we have been listening to people here who have said constantly there is more to this whole business of life than a maintenance income and that sort of thing.

This man is fighting desperately to maintain the things that he values. On the other hand, we are to some extent responsible for putting him in that position. We can help him if we want to, and we do want to, and we ought to do it here in the Province.

Let me just ask you one more thing. In so far as services are concerned, which is a local matter, what have you people done in respect to improving the services to the people on welfare?

Mr. Smith: The latest thing that has come about, as I said, is the White Paper on the integration of services which is coming in in the fall. This is past the planning stage. It is ready to be implemented now. Through this we will be able to provide much more thorough service to welfare recipients as well as child welfare clients.

The Chairman: I think your supervisor indicated that there was some possible integration and improvement in services. I do not say this in a belittling way, but whenever we appear on the scene across the country we have good honest-to-goodness witnesses who come before us and say "Yes, we were just on the verge of doing this before you got here." We are getting that until it becomes a little uncomfortable. We do not like saying to people: "What did you do about this yesterday; what did you do about it the day before?" because that is not our approach. On the other hand it is bothering us.

Mr. Smith: Well, the thing is that there are so many different factors. One is that there is a new building going up and, therefore, we are going to be together. We have already introduced a new approach. We are drafting plans for this to finalize it. There is no use putting in something backwards. We are trying to make plans.

Instead of a family having possibly three workers, one is a Social Welfare worker, another one is the, another one handling a juvenile delinquent in the family and another one handling parents, we will have one worker handling all the problems within the area. Therefore you get to know the total family and the total problems of the family.

All these problems are related. The teenage delinquent as Senator Hastings mentioned—he may not be the cause of it but maybe his wife is the cause of it or the mother is the cause of it. All these things are inter-related.

Senator Hastings: I fully agree that the wife is the cause of all the trouble.

Mr. Smith, with respect to your previous remarks, we have had witness after witness from the Child Welfare group saying that time is running out for the studying of these problems, for White Papers and so forth; that we have got to start continuing research. We have got to start showing results.

I am saying "we", not "you", but they keep referring to the fact that time is running out. We just do not have it any longer.

Mr. Smith: Obviously it is, senator, when you see the drug abuse and student protests and the destruction of public properties. Obviously somebody is lacking something. There are no two ways about it.

Senator Hastings: You have been speaking about poverty and the poor. We have got to start showing results.

Mr. Smith: I agree.

The Chairman: Mr. Smith, you said something earlier. You are representing a social group here. The amount of subsidization in the Province of New Brunswick for the working poor is minimal, but some of it is being done. What I do not understand is why the social workers have not said to the authorities: Mr. Smith is earning \$200. He is working 48 hours a week. He has got a family of five. He just cannot get by. If he was on relief he would receive \$250. He is going to quit his job next week. We are going to have to pay him \$250. Why do we not give him \$50 in order to have him continue his job and perhaps help him upgrade himself?

I use those figures as an example. Why have not the social workers done that? Why have not the social workers gone to the authorities and said, "This will save you money".

Mr. Smith: The White Paper is the result of this. We have passed this information on, and it is recognized now. There is the matter of legislation too, of course.

The Chairman: Where is the particular reference in the White Paper? I have read it. I do not remember that but perhaps I missed something? Is it there some place?