

making one to the Senate Committee on Poverty and it is a very excellent brief.

Mr. MacLean deserves considerable credit for co-ordinating the brief which we have not had quite enough time to digest, but I assure you that the contents of the brief will be studied by the Committee and research staff and it may be necessary that we will approach you for some clarification. We will try to meet you today.

On behalf of the Committee I wish to thank you for the observations and the effectiveness of the brief. Like you we believe that the Canadian society has the will to eradicate poverty from the Canadian scene in the foreseeable future.

We are going to include the geographical details as part of the brief so that for all time it is recorded that these people participated.

We have Mr. Henson here who will be a witness and he will call other people to assist him if he needs any assistance. He will speak for about fifteen minutes.

The rules are very clear here. You will not be interrupted while you are speaking. After you have finished the Senators will indicate to me that they wish to question you and they will be given an uninterrupted five minutes each to begin with, and then we will come around to the second time and you may get a few interruptions at that time. By that time we will have the complete scene.

Mr. Guy Henson, Director, Institute of Public Affairs, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia: Honourable Chairman, and Members of the Special Senate Committee on Poverty. My name is Guy Henson and I will introduce first of all a number of my colleagues from the Institute of Public Affairs who have contributed spare time or overtime with little relief time and worked very hard during the past three months in the preparation of this brief and their names are given in the bibliographic summaries here.

Perhaps I will introduce them in turn. On my right Mr. Donald MacLean, Director and Co-ordinator of the brief and Mr. Byron A. Anthony, Mrs. Duncan, Mr. John Palmer, Mr. Andrew Harvey and Mr. Kell Antoft. There are two or three others who are detained. We hope to have them with us later. Their names are given here. Dr. Clairmont and Mr. Dennis Magill. Dr. Moffatt, I believe, for reasons of health was unable to attend this morning.

Pershaps, sir, I could pick up one of your most interesting and forceful comments. You

spoke of the need for identification. Who, where, how and why are people in poverty?

This brief is devoted primarily, not exclusively, to identification to an analytical description of poverty as it exists in Nova Scotia. Perhaps I might review in the briefest way (it may be quite unnecessary) to the circumstances leading to the preparation of this brief beginning with a telephone call and a visit from Mr. Lord and Mr. Claque in late June or early July and very stimulating discussions with them.

Official communications, of course, from Mr. Joyce following. Our undertaking as set forth by letter of transmittal to concentrate on the two areas as requested by the Special Senate Committee, namely and I quote Mr. Joyce's letter "Factual, descriptive information about poverty from your study or experience, together with specific recommendations for dealing with it; and earlier Mr. Lord had asked that perhaps you could emphasize in your brief"—I am quoting, of course—"the position of the blacks of Halifax as well as people in low income areas."

I would like to clarify a point made by yourself, Honourable Chairman, that the Institute of Public Affairs is a branch of Dalhousie University and Dalhousie University itself, to the best of my knowledge, normally does not engage in advocacy and issues of this kind.

Our role is in the area of research publication, art works, conference teaching, consultancy, but by authority of the President and the University authorities a staff group under individual responsibility undertook to prepare a brief which has been presented. We had a small grant or a helpful grant from the Nova Scotia Department of Public Welfare which meant that we retained complete independence. The Department retained also its complete independence and detachment from any findings or recommendations. This was most helpful.

We have not attempted a comprehensive study relative to the Special Senate Committee's biased and complex field of inquiry. Such a study is clearly beyond the terms of your Committee's request and of our capability under these circumstances at any rate. But we have undertaken to provide a body of descriptive information and observations.

We have responded eagerly to the request of your Committee to be here. We feel that you are concerned with the crucial problems of mankind in a new age of potential for all. The solution of poverty is the key to Canadi-