

Democratic Platform Committee, 1976

Folder Citation: Collection: Records of the 1976 Campaign Committee to Elect Jimmy Carter;
Series: Noel Sterrett Subject File; Folder: Democratic Platform Committee, 1976; Container 81

To See Complete Finding Aid:

http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov/library/findingaids/Carter-Mondale%20Campaign_1976.pdf

1976 DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM COMMITTEE

HEARING SUMMARY

Southern Regional Hearing

Atlanta, Georgia

April 17, 1976

STATEMENT NO. 1: GEORGE BUSBEE, GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA

A. The Republican platform of 1972 promised welfare reform, governmental re-organization, improved health services, and many key environmental initiatives.

1. As the Democratic congress was about to perfect the President's own welfare reform proposal, he withdrew Republican support and effectively killed the measure.
2. Instead of reorganizing and simplifying our Federal government, the already massive Washington bureaucracy has further multiplied.
3. Instead of making it easier for people to get adequate health care, the cost of hospital and doctor care has skyrocketed to the point that the average American family cannot afford sufficient health services.
4. With respect to the environment, instead of proposing bold and new initiatives, the Republican President impounded over nine billion dollars in funds appropriated by Congress for the existing water and sewerage treatment facility program.
5. Republican policies in the economy have not only increased our high rate of inflation, but have also resulted in an unemployment rate of around 10%.

B. There are a few principles that I believe Georgians would hope would guide the Democratic Platform Committee and deliberations on the role of government in devising programs to meet human needs.

1. Government should live within its means.
2. Georgians don't want promises that cannot be fulfilled.
3. People want programs they can understand and which do not impend on personal rights.
4. Southerners want their tax dollars spent on programs that put government to work for the people rather than programs that put people to work for the government.

I believe the Democratic platform should possess the following characteristics:

1. It should be broad enough to embrace the concerns of the vast majority of Americans. On the other hand, it should be definitive enough to establish clear goals and objectives for which we as Democrats can be held accountable.
2. It should be politically realistic and achievable in terms of what is promised and particularly within our physical means to achieve.
3. It should be responsive to the needs and concerns of the American people and not to a few selfish interests.
4. It should be easy to understand.
5. It should be unifying rather than divisive.
6. It should be clear on the roles of our various levels of government.
7. It should be expressive of the views of those who are less fortunate or who have a special need in a manner that is acceptable to the majority.
8. It should be positive and forward looking in its outlook rather than defensive and reactive.

STATEMENT NO. 2: MAYNARD JACKSON, MAYOR of ATLANTA

A. Federal assistance to states and localities for improving the criminal justice system is an important element in fighting crime. LEAA must be refunded by Congress. The social and cultural conditions that cause crime must be removed, and the detection and punishment of law breakers must be reformed. This must be accomplished in light of the following facts:

1. Since 1968, America's population has increased by 6.2%, yet crime has risen 38%.
2. Plea bargaining has become the major tool of justice in our society.
3. Young people are the largest contributors to crime.
4. There are over forty million hand guns in the United States, which are used in more than half of all murders.

B. The consistent points which have been made by several federal commissions on crime (the Katzenbach Report in 1967, the Wickersham Crime Commission in 1931, the Kerner Commission in 1968, and the Milton Eisenhower Commission in 1969) are as follows:

1. Crime is connected with other social problems and particularly unemployment.
2. Crime is deterred not by the severity of justice but by the certainty of justice.
3. High crime statistics are definitely correlated to a high rate of firearm distribution.
4. Crime can be reduced through costly social programs, which would vastly improve the quality of American life.
5. Fighting poverty, poor housing, and unemployment fights crime; so does educational funding and health services funding.

C. The National Council of Democratic Mayors recommends the following solutions:

1. Innovative reforms for criminal justice system.
2. Decriminalization of victimless crimes.
3. Refunding of LEAA and allowing cities to control their own planning and funding priorities.
4. Ending abuses of plea bargaining; abolishing indeterminate sentences for certain violent crimes.
5. Separation of juveniles from adult offenders; ending of juvenile status offenses.
6. Establishment of group homes to substitute for prisons for juveniles and qualified adults.
7. Funding Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Act of 1974.
8. Prohibiting manufacture, importation, sale and possession of hand guns except for law enforcement officers, the military and regulated sportsmen facilities.
9. State purchase of voluntarily surrendered hand guns.
10. Minimum prison sentences for the crimes with firearms.
11. A national study of root causes of crime.

STATEMENT NO. 3: WILLIAM LUCY, SECRETARY-TREASURER
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY and MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

A. The nation's economic problems are seen as including the following:

1. Seven million Americans are out of work, and another five million are involuntarily working in part-time jobs or have given up search for work.
2. Among blacks, "official" unemployment rates have hovered around 15%, and an estimated 70% of inner-city teenagers are out of work.
3. President Ford has succeeded in disguising the real economic problem of unemployment by presenting the entire debate in terms of the size of the federal budget deficit. The Democratic controlled congressional budget committees have passed budget resolutions that are ten million dollars below what is needed to maintain existing programs (but one item in the budget is apparently considered sacred by Congress -- defense spending).
4. Large areas are immune from economic "recovery", most notably major industrial centers such as New York and Detroit and also southern cities like Atlanta and border state cities like St. Louis. These communities have the greatest public service needs and the most limited fiscal capacity. These cities exhibited demographic characteristics that were atypical of the nation as a whole. They are disproportionately peopled with the very young, the very old, and the very poor. All of these groups need more social services than other groups. The spending responsibilities of these local governments outstrip the capacities of their local tax systems to support the necessary level of social spending.

B. The following solutions are seen to the economic problems discussed above:

1. Federal government must be the primary source of funding for health, welfare and social services for the economically disadvantaged.
2. The federal government should finance Medicaid completely.
3. The federal government should provide "counter-cyclical" assistance to state and local governments with the highest unemployment in their areas.
4. Revenue sharing should be re-enacted, with improvements in the allocation formula and a strengthened civil rights enforcement mechanism.
5. In keeping with the spirit of the Humphrey-Hawkins full employment legislation, Congress should pass the appropriate budget resolutions and support social programs to reduce joblessness.

C. The priorities of urban America are jobs, welfare reform, meaningful tax reform, and a national health insurance program.

STATEMENT NO. 4: C. ARDEN MILLER, M.D., PAST PRESIDENT
AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

A. The problem with our health policy of recent years is that it has not sufficiently served the interests of powerless people -- those who cannot serve as their own advocates. Poor people and especially children have suffered under these policies. A growing share of the federal health outlay goes to the non-poor, especially to older people. New initiatives are required. The following solutions are recommended:

1. National Health Insurance that guarantees delivery of specified services to specified people. Kennedy-Corman for children under eighteen years of age and catastrophic health assurance for others would be an advantageous formula from which to begin.

2. Guidelines for the National Health Planning and Resources Development Act of 1974 should require affirmative planning on behalf of populations who are neglected by conventional patterns of health service; planning should be obligated to meet uniform national principles and goals of health service.

3. Revenue sharing should be regulated to improve and expand social services including health care. Uniform national standards of performance for local health departments should be adopted, and revenue sharing should be committed in part to meet those standards.

4. Annual health impact studies should be required of employers of more than a dozen people. Governmental contracts and supports should be denied employers who fail to meet national standards that are protective of employee health. Health impact reports should incorporate assurances concerning product and environmental safety.

STATEMENT NO. 5: WILLIAM W. JOHNSON, PRESIDENT
BANKERS TRUST OF SOUTH CAROLINA

SUBJECT: Concern of businessmen and consumers with extent of government agency regulation.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

Government agency regulation has gone far beyond that which was intended by Congress. Excessive regulation has caused duplication and waste; it has hampered commerce and industry, and has encroached upon individual freedoms. Businessmen, political leaders and now individual consumers have become concerned with the excesses. Although solutions will not be easy and some regulations of the private sector is necessary and desirable, the current groundswell indicates it is time to take an avowed position against over-regulation.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FOLLOWING TESTIMONY:

Statement that 130 billion goes to regulatory red tape was Mr. Johnson's own estimate.

The improved safety standards and other benefits of regulation are worth the cost (committee member).

Agency personnel are not elected.

STATEMENT NO. 6: MAYA MILLER and RUBY DUNCAN
NATIONAL WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS
WOMEN'S LOBBY, INC.

1. Women are the poor in our society.
2. Want to push for full employment.
3. The family unit is still the structural strength of America.

PROGRAMS ADVOCATED OR NEEDING IMPROVEMENT:

- A. Welfare (1) unfair, inequitable and demeaning to women trying to care for children; (2) benefits vary between states.
- B. Food Stamps - imperative supplement now to inadequate AFDC cash grants.
- C. Shelter - Need more access to public housing. Vital to women who have primary care for children.
- D. Health Care - Women and their children need more health care. Support National Health Insurance if it includes preventive health care and pre- and post-natal care.
- E. Birth Control - Women should be insured reproductive freedom; contraceptives, abortions and pre- and post-natal care.
- F. Child Care - Support Child Care and Family Services Act. Pay mothers or fathers a wage to care for children inside the home (children are a resource); then generate jobs which will allow mothers/fathers to enjoy work outside home, with pay sufficient to provide for child care during work hours.
- G. Jobs - Women want to work and benefit from programs like Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1976.
- H. National Budget Priorities - Government spends too much for protection and not enough for promoting home environment.

STATEMENT NO. 7: RUBY DUNCAN
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, WELFARE RIGHTS GROUP
CLARK COUNTY, DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIRWOMAN

Want full employment. Jobs with sufficient compensation to allow welfare families to provide adequate day care and other care for children.

Questions and Answers:

1. Wage for women who have working husbands and who stay home and care for children. WAGE for caring for children - call it wage rather than welfare
2. Social Security for women who decide to stay in home. They should get a Social Security credit from portion of wages earned by husband. If divorce results, this Social Security credit would remain in wife's name.

STATEMENT NO. 8: GOVERNOR LEROY COLLINS
Former Governor of Florida
Council for Power Systems Co., of Westinghouse Electric Corp.,
in association with Smith, Young, and Blue, attorneys at
law, Tallahassee, Florida.

SUBJECT: Significance of nuclear power as energy source and need for development
of nuclear power sources.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

The South has been in the vanguard of the Nation's nuclear development programs. A substantial percentage of the Nation's and the region's electric power is now being produced by nuclear fission. This has been critically important especially in view of current and future energy shortages. Unemployment based upon energy shortages can be devastating. The National Administration is now paying only lip service to a goal of self-sufficiency.

Our Domestic supplies of oil and gas, which are finite, can now be assured of being augmented only by nuclear fission and coal for electric power generation. Electric power needs in the U.S. will double in the next twenty-five years.

The Nation needs to increase its electric power from nuclear fission 5% each year to meet the increase in energy demand. For our long range needs, we must also holdly develop our research for additional energy sources by improved solar, geothermal, and nuclear fusion technology.

Nuclear development is being challenged by some people who are fearful of inadequate safety. These fears are not soundly based. The record of safety in nuclear operations is an extraordinarily good one, and there is every reason to expect this to continue.

STATEMENT NO. 9: MAX HELLER, MAYOR
GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

SUBJECT: Government and Human Needs

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY: Programs must be shaped to provide incentive, not to diminish it.

PROGRAMS DISCUSSED:

A. Health

1. Must emphasize preventive health care, accessible to all in strong platform plank dealing with health needs of all Americans.
 - a. Preventive care beginning at pre-natal stage and continuing through life for all ages and all social and economic walks of life.
 - b. Para-medical personnel

B. Education

1. Wrong to finance education solely through property taxes. Federal government should take responsibility of assuring equal education opportunities and devising a program that would make it possible for those living in less wealthy communities to have available the same standard of education others enjoy.
2. Technical school improvement.
3. Government grants to colleges and universities, tax breaks to contributors.

C. Welfare

1. Program should be designed to provide incentives for people to be self-supporting.

D. Elderly

1. On fixed incomes, willing and able to work and should use their talents and potential without penalizing their benefits.

E. Housing

1. Need to make home ownership and decent housing available to all citizens. Environment of the individual and conditions in which they live is important. Strong commitment to a good, sound housing program is imperative.

Future programs should be designed in such a way that they can be administered by local governments.

STATEMENT NO. 10: WILLIAM R. HUTTON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SENIOR CITIZENS

SUBJECT: Study of President's budget proposals, proposal coming out of the Congress, and suggested programs.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET:

- A. Adequate income for elderly
 - 1. Adequate cost-of-living increase mechanism.
 - 2. Social Security Trust Fund not public money, is a fund established as part of "social contract" with contributors to pay their benefits.
 - 3. S. 388 - supports this bill by Church.
 - 4. Death benefits under Social Security too low.
- B. Health
 - Need comprehensive health care plan for all citizens.
- C. Housing
 - Need financing for housing for the elderly.
- D. Meaningful retirement
 - Employment opportunities for the elderly.

STATEMENT NO. 11: HERBERT H. MABRY, PRESIDENT
GEORGIA STATE AFL-CIO

SUBJECT: Need for National Health Care program including National Health Insurance

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

Problems of access, cost, waste, duplication, and poor quality.

National Health Plan must provide for universal coverage in order to keep administrative costs to a minimum.

\$100 billion is now being spent on health care in U.S. and the same amount would be spent under a national Health Security plan -- not an additional \$100 billion.

National Health Insurance program should include nine factors:

1. A single standard of comprehensive benefits.
2. Universal coverage.
3. Access to health care as a matter of right.
4. Strong cost controls.
5. Built-in quality controls.
6. Incentives for reform of the health care delivery system.
7. Minimum administrative overhead cost.
8. Equitable financing - would be financed by a payroll tax matched by general revenues.
9. Substantive consumer representation.

National Health Security - H.R. 21 - includes these nine essentials.

STATEMENT NO. 12: JUDITH S. HELMS
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ORGANIZATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
DEMOCRATIC TASK FORCE OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS

SUBJECT: Need for comprehensive quality child care.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY:

Children and child care are being neglected. Facts on the status of children in America today are:

1. There are today in America 66 million children under age eighteen -- one out of every four lives in poverty.
2. America lags behind sixteen other countries in the rate of infant mortality.
3. In a land of plenty, millions of children go to bed hungry each night.
4. Twenty-nine percent of all children in our inner cities do not see a doctor during a given year.
5. One out of nine youths will be in juvenile court by age eighteen.
6. There are hundreds of thousands of handicapped children in America receiving no services.
7. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for young Americans between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four.
8. Teenage alcoholism and drug abuse are growing problems.

The present approach to child services has been treating problems after they arise. We need to provide pre-natal nutritional care and emphasize learning during the first five years.

Quality child care means providing the assurance that a child is being well cared for. It includes:

1. Early intervention, diagnosis and treatment of disease and disability before treatment becomes impossible or expensive.
2. Insuring a balanced diet for children where malnourishment can cause permanent physical and mental damage.
3. Nutritional counseling for mothers to prevent a host of birth defects through proper diet.
4. Providing an educational experience during crucial learning years.
5. The assurance to a family that needs help - that help is available.
6. Prevention; and, from a purely economic standpoint, prevention is the best medicine against inflation.

There is a need for child care as more women enter the work force or would like to. Child care services need be provided for children from deprived homes.

-From 1948 to 1973, there was an increase in the percentage of mothers working from 18% to 44% -- today there are 14 million women with children under eighteen in the labor force.

-27.6 million children in this country have working mothers -- 6.5 million are under six years of age.

-Over 10 million children live with one parent -- one out of every six children under eighteen. Most of these single parent families are headed by women and the number is growing at a staggering rate - it more than doubled from 1960-1974.

-Of all children living in families headed by women in 1974, more than half were poor.

Need full employment, back-up income support system and altered work practices along with expansion and upgrading of child care arrangements. In response to President Ford's statement that we cannot afford new social programs, I would say that the Democratic Party cannot afford not to provide child care services for our nation's most valuable resource - our children.

(Statements attached (2) on Abortion, and Social Security and Women.)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

1. Would decriminalization of marijuana and prostitution have adverse effect on children and child care?

- Juvenile status offenses should be eliminated, e.g. "incorrigible", "unruly". These are offenses that would not be crimes if committed by an adult.

- Correlation between learning disability, juvenile delinquency, and later crime, so there is a need for more funds at early learning stage as a measure; early childhood screening.

Child care is full services providing health and education for children.

STATEMENT NO. 13: NAT LACOUR, VICE-PRESIDENT
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS
AFL-CIO

A. Nixon-Ford Administration's Anti-Education Policy

1. "...[E]ducation has been the subject of a concerted attack by the Nixon-Ford administrations."
2. The particular focus of Republican attacks has been the federal aid programs enacted during the Johnson administration.
3. There have been five vetoes of education appropriations bills during the last eight years of Republican rule, prior to which there had never been a veto of a federal education funding bill.
4. Federal support for education rose from 2% to 10% of total amount spent nationally for education under President Johnson, but has fallen back to 7-1/2% today.
5. President Ford has proposed slicing more than one billion dollars from the amount appropriated to education during the past fiscal year (i.e. to cut \$647 million from higher education and \$417 million from elementary and secondary education). This represents a 15% cut in federal education funds at the very time when revenue shortfalls at the state and local levels make it impossible for the state and local governments to take up the slack in the education budget.

B. AFT Proposals for Education Plank

1. Increasing of federal share of national education expenditures from 7-1/2% to 33-1/3%.
2. Full funding of existing categorical programs such as aid to the disadvantaged, education for all handicapped children, impact aid, vocational education, bilingual education, and higher education programs such as student and institutional assistance.
3. New initiatives including:
 - a. Emergency federal aid to school districts which have lost significant state and local funding because of revenue shortfalls from the recession;
 - b. Pre-school programs of child development and day care services.

STATEMENT NO. 14: SISTER CAROL COSTON
BREAD FOR THE WORLD

Right-to-Food Resolution now before Congress would acknowledge the right of every person to a nutritionally adequate diet.

Sister Coston asks that the Democratic Party incorporate this right-to-food principle into its platform.

Foremost among the certain inalienable rights of every human being is the right to human life itself which includes a right to food.

Bread for the World does not propose a global food give-away program, and recognizes that the United States does not have sufficient financial or agricultural resources to feed the world.

Rather, a self-help development program is advocated, whereby U.S. agricultural technology and expertise are applied toward goal of leading the world to self-sufficiency in food.

Beyond the technological assistance, the U.S. must exert its economic influence on the international level to secure stable and fair prices for the agricultural products, raw materials and other products of the poorer developing nations in order to enable such nations to feed themselves.

QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE:

What does Bread for Life think of the use of our nation's food supplies for diplomatic leverage in foreign affairs?

Response: Use of food for diplomatic blackmail is deplorable. Humanitarian principles should dictate food policy and not diplomatic goals.

What about the withholding of food from non-democratic, nonhumanitarian nations which are openly hostile to the United States.

Response: Sister Coston found the idea of starving people into ideological submission ludicrous.

STATEMENT NO. 15: HARVEY I. SLOANE, M.D.
MAYOR, LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
REPRESENTATIVE, U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES

- A. Theme: The Time Has Come for National Health Insurance
1. American politicians have talked about National Health Insurance (hereinafter called "NHI") for forty years without results. A crisis exists in our nation's health care today. Federal response has been amazingly inadequate.
 2. In the midst of spiralling costs for medical care which render most of the nation's population (140 million Americans) medically indigent, President Ford has declined to act, stating: "We cannot realistically afford a program of National Health Insurance at this time."
 3. The United States is the only industrialized nation in the world without NHI.
 4. The lack of an adequate system of health care delivery in the United States can be seen from the fact that we rank 12th among the nations of the world in infant mortality rate.
 5. Medical expenses have risen 14% over the last three years due to inflation.
- B. Principle Defects in National Health Care Delivery System
1. Shortage and Maldistribution of Medical Personnel
 - a. Acute shortage of doctors, dentists, and nurses in inner city areas of large cities and in smaller communities and outlying rural areas;
 - b. Sixty-six per cent of qualified applicants do not get into medical schools;
 - c. Government subsidies to medical education encourage specialization by medical personnel and, hence, concentration of such personnel in specialty practices revolve around large medical education centers.
 2. Lack of Controls, Regulation or Any Policy at all Concerning Rising Medical Costs
 - a. Astronomical rise in health care costs have jeopardized budgets of local and state governments and led to cost-cutting at federal level;
 - b. Elderly and poor have consequently been forced to reassume an increased share of their medical expenses;
 - c. Inequities among private beneficiaries and public or private insurers.
- C. PROPOSED NHI PROGRAM: Supported by National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, U.S. Conference of City Health Officers, National Association of Counties and National Governors Conference
1. Universal Eligibility - Every citizen should be eligible for benefits.
 2. Comprehensive Coverage - Outpatient care and preventive medical education and treatment should be provided in addition to hospitalization.
 3. Removal of Financial Barriers - Deductibles and coinsurance should be eliminated so that cost is no longer a consideration before obtaining medical treatment.
 4. Tax-Financed - NHI should be totally financed through general revenues, rather than by payroll deduction which is regressive in its impact.
 5. Strong Cost Controls - including:
 - a. Regional Reimbursement - Health care funds should be allocated to a regional body on a per capita basis and such regional bodies would control funding of medical facilities by prospective budgeting. Such regional supervisory boards would be composed of medical professionals and medical consumers (with 51% consumers).
 - b. These regional bodies would set rates and regulate costs of treatment.
 - c. Emphasis should be placed upon preventive care and ambulatory or outpatient treatment rather than hospitalization.
 6. Quality Controls - National standards should be established regarding the caliber of medical care and the educational training of health care providers.
 7. Maintenance of Freedom of Choice - Patients should retain freedom to choose among which health care facilities or providers they desire to avail themselves.

8. Government Funding of Medical Training - As a means of managing the nation's human medical resources, the federal government should increase and expand its financing of medical education for all medical personnel from paramedics to physicians. The government should also establish medical education policies which encourage location of medical personnel in rural and inner city areas. Such policies might include the diversion of funds away from specialization programs and the selective service for physicians and nurses to serve in certain areas where no doctors or nurses are located.
9. Categorical Programs - NHI must not dump present categorical programs such as drug abuse, alcoholism, mental health and emergency medical services onto local budgets.

D. Questions from Platform Committee:

1. Is there any reliable cost estimate available regarding NHI?

Mayor Sloane: Congressional budget analysis of Senator Kennedy's plan indicates that the cost would be \$181 billion annually. Present cost of health insurance is more than \$120 billion annually, when medicare and medicaid are combined with private insurance.

2. How can we say that federal government can finance health insurance cheaper than local governments?

Mayor Sloane: NHI is government insurance and not "socialized medicine". The government will not own hospitals or employ all doctors and nurses under NHI, but NHI will allow centralized nationwide regulation of medical costs. In fact, NHI is the only feasible means of controlling rising health care costs.

3. How can we best deliver health care to the people?

Mayor Sloane: The focus of our present medical system is on the ability of the patient to pay, and medical treatment is consequently crisis-oriented, because people only see doctors when they are sick. NHI will remove the financial barriers to the availability of health care and enable medical care providers to focus on preventive medicine.

4. How much of a tax increase would be necessary to fund NHI?

Mayor Sloane: The present \$41 million now spent on medicaid and medicare would have to be absorbed, but revenues would have to be found to fund the rest. General revenue funding is probably unrealistic, and reliance on payroll deduction would still be necessary. Actually, the question of funding is one of priorities as to what programs of the federal government are most important.

5. You mentioned the Kaiser Plan as an example of a private prepaid insurance plan whereby choice of health care personnel is left to the patient, but is choice really available under prepaid plans?

Mayor Sloane: Not altogether. Patient choice is limited in prepaid group practice associations and under other popular prepaid insurance plans. But, the success of the Kaiser Plan indicates that the choice need not be limited, and NHI supporters have no desire to limit the patient's choice.

6. How do you get doctors, dentists, and nurses to rural areas?
Through scholarship incentives?

Mayor Sloane: The Kentucky loan grant programs for medical education whereby repayment could be made by service in rural areas have met with mixed success. Also, it seems wrong to depend on poor students in need of scholarships as the source of supply for medical personnel in rural areas. Rather, it might be better to require all doctors to serve a certain amount of time in rural areas. A long-range solution would seem to involve shifting the emphasis of medical education from specialization to general practice by increasing the number of medical schools and students and by shifting federal funds from specialist to general practice programs.

STATEMENT NO. 16: HONORABLE RAY BLANTON
GOVERNOR OF TENNESSEE

Five major areas of concern were raised by Governor Blanton:

Economy

"We must get the national economy back on course through Democratic leadership with major thrusts aimed at increasing productivity and attaining full employment."

"These objectives can be reached in part by government spending in a broad public works program."

"Public works investments in public buildings, energy and health facilities, correctional institutions and research centers would have dual benefits."

"They would provide employment opportunities for our citizens, and they would fill the urgent need for facilities which cannot be built today because of money shortages."

"Public works also generates direct employment in the private sector. These projects would put people to work and would also have a stimulating effect on production by using materials."

"...[T]he national platform should be committed to expand the proven methods of the Appalachian Regional Commissions to the Title V Regions with adequate funding."

"Ways should be found to help state leaders increase international business."

"Major policy areas, such as trade regulations, tax structures and incentives and direct state assistance from departments of the Federal Government should be promoted in our platform as positive economic development tools for the States."

Energy

"A national policy must be developed to assure that our nation and its people have enough energy now and in the future."

"We must encourage and support the available sources of energy that can meet our needs for the next quarter century. These are coal and nuclear power. We also must emphasize conservation."

"Coal is our country's greatest natural resource, and yet it supplies less than 20% of our energy needs. This important and abundant resource has been neglected too long. We need a national commitment to increased coal production and spur its consumption. This should include support for research for finding better, more efficient, more flexible ways to use coal."

"We also have nuclear power standing ready to produce large supplies of electrical energy. As other energy sources decrease, electrical use will increase dramatically throughout the country. But it takes eight to nine years to build a nuclear facility. We can't afford to delay. We must commit ourselves today to nuclear energy so the electricity we need will be available."

"I am not opposed to safe nuclear expansion, and we are pleased that the first large scale breeder facility will be constructed in East Tennessee with assurances that adequate safety measures will be included. Continued support of breeder demonstration and development is essential to meet our national nuclear and electricity needs."

"We must assure that true costs of energy are spread out through the economy so no one segment is overburdened. We must develop programs to assure that in cold weather no American has to decide between heating the home or feeding the family. Coal, nuclear power and conservation can supply our energy needs today, but we still must look to the future for new sources of energy."

Environment

"Hard decisions will have to be made about energy and environment trade-offs. We must keep in mind that our citizens are caught in the middle of this problem. We will have to decide how much all of us can afford to give up to pay for a clean environment. We won't run out of air or water, but we can run out of energy."

cont.

"Tennesseans are committed to a long-range planning in the area of state and national environmental concerns. Progress has been made in cleaning up and preventing future degradation. We are discouraged, however, when we see the tremendous amount of duplication between our programs and federal programs and between the federal programs themselves. For example, in the near future, if a person wants to use the water from a stream in Tennessee, he will have to obtain a permit from our Water Quality Office, from the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Corps of Engineers, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Many times we have no control over the causes of pollution in our own state. It is estimated that 80% of the air pollution is put there by federal power facilities. In addition, the new Federal Air Quality Guidelines over-ride our own adequate air quality regulations. They determine where we can allow new industry to locate or expand in Tennessee. That is an unfortunate situation."

"We also object to a new set of Strip Mining Reclamation Guidelines. The Federal Guidelines would over-ride our own regulations, which we feel are adequate to clean up the past strip mining degradations and keep new mine reclamation at an acceptable level. A new set of rules would simply confuse the picture."

"One of our environmental problems has flown away temporarily -- the blackbirds have left for the summer. But, this is a problem that costs Tennesseans and adjoining states billions of dollars annually in crop and feed damage. Even more important, the blackbirds pose a health hazard. We are going to have to face the problem all over again next fall. We need federal help in planning for the best way to control these destructive pests."

"In our platform considerations, I submit that we have enough laws, rules, and regulations from Washington, but what we need is adequate funds for environmental purposes."

Human Needs

"In my opinion, the policy of the present federal administration regarding human resources programming and service delivery is out of touch with the actual needs of the American people."

"We should be implementing the following objectives today and not just discussing them:

- 1) Reduce the management role of the federal government in federally-supported programs through a partnership role with the states and local governments.
- 2) Provide greater flexibility in making decisions and setting priorities by state and local governments and individuals of our communities.
- 3) Reduce or eliminate the matching requirements on funds by state and local communities.
- 4) Concentrate our resources on severely disadvantaged and unemployed citizens, but not lose sight of providing an adequate standard of living for all our citizens."

"There is an overwhelming need for greater access to health care in rural and inner city areas. There is need for a national policy on preventive health services."

"In reference to 'block grants', the basic law regarding Title XX should remain the same, except that guidelines and regulations should be more flexible. Matching requirements should be removed."

"As I have said before, the 'block grant' concept is in keeping with my feelings toward the return of more authority and responsibility to the states and the citizens of our communities. However, first and foremost is the question of adequate funding for vital programs. One area of improvement that doesn't require additional funding would be establishment of standard criteria for eligibility in all human services programs. This could reduce duplication of service and administrative costs and could establish needed continuity in the delivery of services to those most in need of them."

General Revenue Sharing

"Finally, I strongly submit that legislation providing for continuation of the general revenue sharing program must be a solid part of our Party's platform. This vital program at present has a determination date of December 31, 1976. Our state and local governments can't afford to lose the \$120 million which comes to us annually under this program."

"Congressional opposition to revenue sharing has developed because some members of Congress do not like the idea of removing the 'spending authority' over federal dollars from those who have the responsibility of collecting those dollars. I do not agree with this agreement. The federal government must realize that state and local governments are willing and capable when it comes to identifying their own needs and establishing their own system of priorities designed to meet those needs effectively and efficiently."

"We must not...allow this program which now provides for an efficient system of direct payments to state and local governments to be subjected to unnecessary bureaucratic red tape."

The present Republican Administration's economic policies aimed at controlling inflation are an abomination in that the Administration has consciously and deliberately induced an economic recession with attendant reduction of economic output and of the number of available jobs.

Elderly are Hurt Most by Unemployment and Inflation

"...[A]pproximately 35% of the elderly are labor-market dependent for income supplementation. In 1975, while the overall unemployment rate rose by 50%, the elderly unemployment rate rose by 56% and the rate among elderly men rose by 63%."

Because the elderly are disproportionately large consumers of goods and services such as medical care and rental housing which experienced the greatest increase in prices over the past year, the elderly cost-of-living index increased by 7.9% over the 12-month period from first quarter 1974 to first quarter 1975, while the Consumer Price Index increased by only 7.4% during the same period.

"...[A] recent Defense Manpower Commission study has concluded that the methodology used to update Social Security benefits results in a consistent and significant undercompensation for the purchasing power losses resulting from inflation."

"...[R]ecent economic fluctuations have placed a great deal of pressure upon the cornerstone of elderly welfare, the Social Security system. On the revenue side, a recent study has concluded that if the unemployment rate in 1975 had averaged 5% instead of 8.5%, the system would have generated a \$2 - \$3 billion surplus. Instead, the same Administration policy that will produce a \$74 billion federal budget deficit for this fiscal year, will also produce a nearly \$3 billion deficit in the Social Security cash benefit programs."

Recommendation for Strengthening Social Security Financing and Improving Social Security Benefits and Tax Equity

"To deal with the short-term Social Security deficit, general revenues should be used on a limited and temporary basis to defray the 'net' benefit cost of automatic benefit increases to the extent that those increases exceed 3% per year."

"To deal with the long-term deficit, and stabilize future earnings replacement ratios, the cost indexing of benefits paid to retirees should be decoupled from the cost-indexing of the earnings/contributions records of workers in the computation of these workers' future benefit awards."

"The formula used to compute future benefit awards under a decoupled system should replace not less than 55% of a worker's average monthly indexed earnings and the formula should be weighted less heavily than the present one in order to deemphasize the 'minimum floor of protection' function and emphasize the 'earnings replacement' function. To achieve better benefit equity, the Social Security benefit structure should be changed to provide increased recognition of the contributions made by working women and double-earner families."

"Additional general revenue financing for the system should be introduced in the future either directly or indirectly in order to lessen the regressivity of the payroll taxes and to provide the additional long-term financing that will be needed to accommodate demographic trends and to achieve an acceptable ratio of benefits to preretirement earnings."

"The Supplemental Security Income Program for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled should be augmented so as to assume more fully the 'minimum floor of protection function' with respect to the aged, blind, and disabled poor and the benefit levels guaranteed by SSI should be set at not less than the amount determined as the index of poverty by the Community Services Administration."

Question

What should be done about wealthy elderly persons drawing Social Security payments they do not need?

Mr. Jinks

Perhaps payments should be restricted to those needing Social Security income, although care should be exercised in determining when a person is well-to-do enough so as not to need Social Security income.

STATEMENT NO. 18: Proposal for a Long Range National Food and Fiber Policy, by MR. EDWARD F. MAULDIN, a farmer-businessman, banker, and long-time Democrat from Leighton, Alabama, who served as a member of the National Agricultural Advisory Committee from 1961 through 1965 by the appointment of President Kennedy, and as a member of the National Food and Fiber Commission from 1965 to 1967 by appointment of President Johnson.

THEME: A Comprehensive, Long-Range National Food and Fiber Policy is Necessary in order to Stabilize Agricultural Production and Insure Adequate Supplies of Food and Fiber at Reasonable Prices.

A. During the past seven years of Republican Administration, commodity prices have fluctuated widely in the marketplace to the distress of farmer and consumer and to the profit of a few speculators and giant trading corporations. "During this boom or bust climate, created by a roller-coaster atmosphere of so-called 'free markets', the Republicans have allowed unconscionable profiteering on food and fiber while letting prices to farmers rise at planting time and fall during the harvest season."

In the absence of a long-range national food and fiber policy for the future, farm production will decline because of the farmer's lack of assurance of fair prices for their commodities, that is, prices commensurate with their costs of production. Inadequate farm production will in turn bring about a national crisis when consumers are faced with inadequate supplies of food and fiber at exorbitant prices.

B. Uncertainties in Farming Necessitate Governmental Incentives to Achieve Adequate Production Levels

1. Gross returns, unit prices and harvested acreage vary from year to year and from commodity to commodity.

2. Per acre yields vary widely from commodity to commodity.

3. Cost of production and problems of marketing vary widely for different agricultural products in different parts of the country.

a. "No farmer ever knows at planting time what his cost of production for a bushel of soybeans, a bushel of wheat, a pound of beef or a bale of cotton will be."

b. Variations in weather, yields and prices for non-farm inputs such as fuel and fertilizer can cause drastic variations in the unit cost of production.

C. No American farmer received prices sufficient to cover his cost of production for soybeans, wheat, beef, or cotton during 1975, and the Republican Administration promises no better for this year.

D. Our consumers rightfully expect an adequate and uninterrupted supply of all their food and fiber needs, and they should not have to depend on luck for such necessities.

E. To insure adequate farm production and adequate food and fiber supplies at reasonable prices this nation must implement a long-range national food and fiber policy immediately.

1. "Such a policy must embrace a coordinated approach utilizing all the appropriate tools unique to each important food and fiber commodity, including but not limited to, production goals, acreage targets, price supports, marketing orders, international agreements, export marketing, and above all, adequate strategic reserves to assure a safeguard against any shortage or disaster."

2. "Just as the consumer has been 'ripped-off' in recent months and years by high retail prices resulting from commodity market gyrations, so has the producing farmer been 'ripped-off' when prices fell at harvest time to levels far below his cost of production due to mismanagement of government policy, the mishandling of export markets and this Administration's inconsistent and unpredictable actions regarding agricultural trade. The result has been serious economic losses to our producers, unnecessary inflation on retail food prices and a breach of faith along with the loss of foreign customers for our surplus commodities."

F. Recommendations

1. The Democratic Party should commit itself as one of its highest priorities to the development of a comprehensive long-range national food and fiber policy.
2. Consumers should be protected by the establishment of strategic reserves as necessary to cover any emergencies and all contingencies, including national and even international disasters.
3. Public policy must provide for stable and fair commodity price levels to producers with long-range provisions that can be clearly defined and easily understood and upon which the farmer can once again rely. In order to reestablish the faith of farmers in their government, the next Democratic Administration must:
 - a. Implement support prices reflecting a specific percentage of parity or at least the normal cost of production of sound farmers who energetically employ their laborers and prudently manage their resources;
 - b. Establish target prices at a higher level in order to provide profit incentives and opportunities so the enterprising farmer could expect to be rewarded for his production efforts.
 - c. Provide for release prices which would be tied to, but higher than, the parity price and which would protect the consumer by triggering the release of strategic reserves at any time that the normal supply of a given commodity was demonstrated to be inadequate to meet this nation's needs at reasonable prices.

Health Care and the Elderly

A. Medicare

"Thousands of citizens who campaigned from 1961 to 1965 saw a dream come true. It was a dream for a health bill to cover the elderly. Many remember the day President Johnson signed the bill into law, and we now have Medicare. What a relief it would be for the families of older Americans. They would be relieved of the burden of paying hospital and medical bills for their parents. The elderly would not live in fear that illness might use up their life's savings. Now they would use some of their savings for other things, like clothes, housing or an evening at a concert or two."

Medicare has succeeded in providing medical care for the aged during long, drawn-out illnesses without the necessity for huge personal financial expenditures as a result of hospitalization. However, Medicare has failed to stop the escalation in costs of medical services, to improve the quality of medical care and to pay special attention to the elderly who are chronically ill, but do not require long-term hospitalization.

Many elderly people cannot afford the \$60 deductible and, therefore, lose the benefits of Medicare.

"Medicare did nothing to stimulate an increase in the supply of health services."

B. Recommendations

1. "Deductibles which we have seen act as a deterrent in obtaining medical services by the poor must be eliminated from any future national health plan."
2. Co-insurance likewise deters the poor from obtaining medical care and should be eliminated from any future national health plan.
3. "The insurance industry should play no role in our health system."
 - a. Health care is a right, not a privilege, and private insurance companies can only increase the cost of delivering medical services.
 - b. Profiteering by the private insurance industry in the medical care field has become a national scandal.
4. "...the role of the consumer must be established in any health care plan that covers every American."
 - a. Only National Health Security (S. 3 - H.R. 21) encompasses cost controls, quality controls and direct consumer participation.
5. The cost of health care should be administered as prepaid social insurance, paid for by payroll taxes and general revenues.
6. Effective governmental controls over the expenditure of funds, including the costs of medical care facilities, is essential in order to make a national health plan feasible.

STATEMENT NO. 20: JAMES R. SUGG
COUNTY ATTORNEY, CRAVEN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
CHAIRMAN, NORTH CAROLINA STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY
on behalf of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

The National Association of Counties sought to focus the attention of the Platform Committee on two issues:

HEALTH CARE

County elected officials are concerned with health care because, when no one else can or will, local governments end up providing health care services. It is precisely as a result of the failure of existing public and private insurance programs, including Medicare and Medicaid, to address health care needs that counties have become responsible for programs in alcoholism, drug abuse, mental health, emergency care and preventive health services.

Over 75% of the nation's counties are administratively responsible for providing community health services (68% provide medical assistance, 60% provide mental health services, 30% operate hospitals, 38% provide emergency medical services, and 26% operate long-term facilities). Counties are also charged with providing "traditional" public health services such as immunization programs, sanitation services, home health services, school health services, VD clinics, well-baby clinics, alcoholism and drug abuse prevention and treatment services, dental clinics, family planning, speech clinics, etc. TO A LARGE EXTENT, THESE SERVICES ARE FINANCED BY LOCAL FUNDS.

"The rapid escalation of health care (or rather, illness care) costs in the past few years, means that counties, the providers of last resort, must allocate an increasingly large portion of their scarce property tax dollars to health care. We are accountable but we are impotent. We cannot control health care costs from 3,000 different counties, even though we must foot the bills. In most states counties have no influence at all in determining eligibility standards or benefit levels. And yet, whatever the Federal and State Governments choose not to pay for, we end up subsidizing. If we cannot afford it, people in need go without service. This adds to dependency, death or disability."

"Since counties cannot, by themselves, be expected to provide medical care to all or control costs, and since we provide care to all those who are not covered by a State or Federal Program or private insurance, we urge you to give serious attention to the following recommendation:

1. Complete Overhaul of Eligibility Process

The present process is much too complex, involving at least four categories of eligibility in most states. The costs of administration are far too high, with millions of dollars expended annually to process eligibles. Even so, eligibility errors are numerous, and the sole function of eligibility criteria seems to be in determining which level of government (i.e., federal-state-local) must pay for the care of the medically indigent.

"There is a need to standardize and simplify the eligibility process. The cost of weeding out a small percentage of people who are marginally ineligible probably far exceeds the cost of provision of care to them. The diversion of financial resources from fruitless, expensive repetitive processing could augment money needed to provide essential services."

2. Revise Cost-Sharing Approach to Funding of Medicaid

"The existing system of federal-state-local sharing under Medicaid is both unreasonable and inequitable. People in need of medical services who cannot afford to pay for them must either do without -- with an increase in morbidity and mortality -- or have their care subsidized in whole or in part by local government."

"Failure to cover preventive and early diagnostic care and treatment, in the long run, boosts the cost of medical care -- which becomes the

STATEMENT NO. 21: DAVE M. DAVIS, M.D.
PRESIDENT-ELECT, GEORGIA PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION
Representing, AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

SCOPE OF MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM

"Mental and emotional illnesses constitute a major national problem. One of every three hospital beds in the United States is filled with a mental patient, and one out of every ten in this country will experience mental illness sometime during his or her lifetime. No fewer than twenty million Americans presently suffer from mental and emotional illness, and countless others are directly or indirectly affected."

Although great progress has been made in the methods and capabilities for effectively treating mental and emotional illnesses and in society's attitudes toward the mentally ill, "...[T]here has been a trend toward the closing down of state mental hospitals that have not been able to meet improved standards and staffing ratios for the treatment of mental patients. In many instances, this has created shortages of mental facilities and is directly responsible for the 'dumping' of mental patients into deplorable boarding rooms or hotels. In many areas, community mental health centers are either non-existent, do not reach the mentally ill population, nor provide a high quality of service."

"The problem lies in the continuing discrimination that exists against the mentally ill in public policy; the lack of funding and paucity of benefits for the mentally ill in federal programs such as Medicare and Medicaid; and similar deficiencies in many state programs. The prospect of continuation of this deplorable and intolerable situation in proposed programs for national health insurance has only further accentuated the low priority we continue to perpetuate in America for the treatment of the mentally ill."

FIVE POINT PLAN FOR MENTAL HEALTH

1. Equalize benefits for the mentally ill in state and federal programs to those provided the physically ill, including any proposed program or national health insurance, and the place of treatment for the mentally ill should not be mandated.
2. Provide for our society an adequate number of mental health professionals and institutions to treat the mentally ill.
3. Appropriate sufficient funds for mental health research to uncover more of the fundamental questions underlying the causes of and cures for mental illness.
4. Stimulate the private insurance sector to cover the treatment of mental and emotional illness on the same basis that the coverage of other illnesses is provided.
5. End the discrimination against the mentally ill.

Question: What is the situation with regard to private health insurance coverage for mental illness?

Dr. Davis: Although there has been progress in the private insurance industry regarding broader coverage for mental health in recent years, private insurance treatment of mental illness is still not equivalent to that afforded physical illnesses. The American Psychiatric Association, of course, maintains that such inequality in treatment is another example of discrimination against the mentally ill and that the private insurance industry should treat physical illness and mental illness the same way.

Cont.

Question: Is better care for the mentally ill afforded by private or public mental health institutions?

Dr. Davis: The best treatment generally available today is found in private institutions, and such treatment is available at reasonable costs. However, this is probably because of the lack of attention given to mental health institutions by the federal and state governments. Public mental institutions inevitably are underfunded.

STATEMENT NO. 22: DON L. BREWER
on behalf of THE AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION
(The nation's largest nursing home association)

A. Health Care for the Elderly, Disabled, or Chronically Ill

"Older Americans, and particularly the very old, are apt to experience their most severe health problems (and therefore financial problems) on account of conditions which do not respond in a curative sense to hospital and medical intervention. Lingering chronic ailments are the frequent companions of old age. In advanced stages, these impairments create dependence on others for help in carrying out the activities of daily living."

"Medical technology has prolonged our lifespan by overcoming many diseases which in times past resulted in death. But, a consequence of old age is the accumulation of a variety of physical problems which cripple rather than kill."

"Medicare is, for all practical purposes, irrelevant to millions of older Americans who suffer crippling physical and mental impairments. One in every twenty persons over the age of 65 are [sic] sufficiently incapacitated to require fulltime institutionalization."

"The point is that Medicare does not provide coverage of nursing home care apart from short periods of convalescence following a stay in the hospital. Home health services are similarly restricted under Medicare."

"In addition, there are a number of other important health-related items and services commonly needed by the elderly which Medicare does not reimburse for -- a fact that in my opinion contributes substantially to deteriorating health and the greater use of more intensive and expensive forms of health and medical care. Chief among these are out-of-hospital prescription drugs, dental care and dentures, optometric services and eyeglasses, and hearing aids."

"Many of those in need of nursing home care have had to embrace the indignities of the welfare system out of desperation. Therefore, over half of the nation's \$8 billion annual expenditure for nursing home care is made through the Medicaid program in the states. Routine dental, vision, and hearing care is not available at all in about half the states. As a nursing home administrator, I can tell you that nothing is more devastating to the very old, regardless of where they live, than the loss of basic senses and the inability to eat normal foods."

"The facts are very clear. America does not yet have a comprehensive strategy to care for its very old, notwithstanding the fact that our 'very old' will be sharply increasing in numbers over the coming decade."

"No amount of wishful thinking, no amount of accusations hurled at family members who cannot or will not care for their aged, and no amount of scorn heaped on nursing homes will create a public policy toward the infirm elderly which this nation can be proud of."

B. Recommendations

1. Improved Long-Term Care Benefits

Medicare/Medicaid or a new national health insurance program should be broad enough to include coverage of preventive health care measures (including outpatient and prescription drugs, routine dental, vision, and hearing care which includes eyeglasses, dentures, and hearing aids, podiatrists' services and liberalization of home health services) and long-term institutional care for the elderly, disabled, and chronically ill.

a. Such a preventive and long-term care benefit should be available universally to the aged and disabled population (i.e., universal eligibility).

Cont.

2. Reform of Provider Payment Methods

- a. Current methods of payment in Medicare and Medicaid have neither provided incentives for quality care nor protected the government from unreasonable costs, nor assured providers of fair compensation for their services.
- b. "We believe that institutional providers should be paid for their services on the basis of pre-determined rates which are based on budgets which anticipate all reasonable and legitimate costs necessary to assure quality service and return a fair yield on investments. Providers could then work within a realistic budget and would have the opportunity to obtain rewards through restraining increased expenditures. **Prospective payment methods of this type are crucial if we are to handle escalating health care costs."

3. Cost-Sharing by Beneficiaries

- a. Health care for older Americans should not be tied to welfare programs, and there should be no income tests for program eligibility.
- b. "However, we believe that equitable cost-sharing requirements provide an important element of discipline and consumer choice which should be part of any insurance program which extends universal eligibility. Graduated co-payments based on ability-to-pay would provide this necessary discipline without discouraging individuals from seeking needed care and services."

4. Non-discrimination Among Providers

- a. "Participation in public programs must be open to all providers to demonstrate the capability to deliver covered services of a high quality at a reasonable price. Artificial restrictions which limit the types of services which certain entities are allowed to provide should be abolished."
- b. "...[I]n the area of long-term health care, nursing homes are generally excluded by licensure and/or federal regulations from delivering nursing, therapy, and dietary services to elderly persons in their own homes, even though there is a shortage of qualified home health agencies in most areas of the country."

5. Reform of Federal Regulatory Actions

- a. Dictatorial regulation with unnecessary administrative paperwork and considerable confusion overlapping federal, state, and local requirements has proven less than successful.
- b. Substantial simplification of regulations and enforcement procedures should be a number one priority, and Congress should institute Congressional oversight of federal agency rulemaking.

6. Emphasis on Training in Geriatrics and Gerontology

The federal government should, by financial assistance and other methods, stimulate new directions in medical education toward care for the elderly.

Question: What is the average Medicaid/Medicare payment for nursing home patients?

Mr. Brewer: Thirteen to sixty-five dollars per day.

Question: What has been the annual increase in Medicaid/Medicare payments to nursing homes over the last five years?

Mr. Brewer: Approximately 8% per year.

Question: Do you think private, charitable or public nursing homes provide the best quality care?

Mr. Brewer: The health care needs of the elderly have been served by the co-existence of all three types of institutions. Having private, charitable, and public nursing homes catering to the health needs of the elderly creates no incompatibility, but rather makes for a more flexible and dynamic health delivery system for the aged. Recent studies have shown that there is basically no variance in the cost or quality of care provided in any of these institutions.

STATEMENT NO. 23: SISTER REGINA F. FOPPE
DIRECTOR, SOCIAL ACTION SERVICES FOR THE DIOCESE OF
AMARILLO, TEXAS
Representing THE TEXAS COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL HEALTH SECURITY

Medical Needs of the Mexican Americans
And Working Poor of Texas

With other studies showing that 2,239,370 Texans out of the total Texas population of 11,196,730 people have no form of health insurance whatsoever, Sister Foppe undertook a study in October, 1975, of six parishes in West Texas to determine the prevalence of health insurance among Spanish-surnamed families.

"The study revealed that 52.5% of the 3,391 persons and 47.5% of the 694 families have no health insurance. The remaining 47.5% of the population had coverage ranging from 10% to 80% with the median coverage nearer to 40%."

"Many West Texans are denied preventive health care services because of their inability to pay."

"Our present health care services are 'illness oriented' and is [sic] anchored primarily 'on the ability to pay' as a result excluding a minimum of 35 million persons who scarcely have the means to meet the basic costs of food and shelter."

Approximately 50% of the Texas elderly, age 65 and over, have Medicare or Medicaid, but the other 50% are without either because of ignorance or denial.

"Today, all socio-economic groups in our nation are experiencing the rising costs due to inflation and health bills are appearing in Congress reflecting the needs. We cannot allow the 'working poor' to be overlooked. All Americans deserve 'first class health care'. Co-insurance and deductibles will keep the 'working poor' completely out of the 'health care system'."

"In the legislation before the present Congress, the Health Security Act (S. 3 - H.R. 21) is the only bill that subscribes to 'health care as a right for every American' based on medical need, which if passed, can be implemented within a reasonable period of time."

"'Benign neglect', and its various disguises, is undoubtedly the most fashionable political notion of recent years. Solemn appeals to 'regionalization', 'decentralization', and 'deregulations' of federal programs are now part of our everyday political language. More importantly, like all politically symbolic slogans, the phrases have become legitimized by use -- as if repetition could substitute for reasoned argument."

"The predictable result is a melancholy mood. Underfunded programs are identified as failed programs and used to inveigle against a federal presence and against proposals to meet basic human needs. Now, a new form of neglect, 'block grants', threatens our people. Whatever its form, there can be no uncertainty as to its meaning: It does not speak to the neglected needs of our people."

The clear course toward responsible action is through sound public programs - adequately funded, serving the total community and publicly accountable.

A. The Role of Government

"The unique role of the federal government is in its ability to perceive the common bits and pieces of the larger exigencies of the people and devise a unified and universal response."

"Who will argue for 50 separate civil rights policies? Who will dismiss considerations of citizen participation in local decision-making? Who will encourage the maze of 50 national standards in social services programming? Our answer is, no rational person. Yet, in general revenue sharing, we have such a system. The reality is that every monitoring group has found fault in the arrangement of general revenue sharing."

"We recognize that today there is much discussion of the idea of states' rights and local control. These principles have merit. It is important to encourage the further transformation of state government into a solid instrument for meeting the complex needs of American society today. The question to us, is whether this means that the federal government shall abdicate its role in domestic policy. We think not. We believe it is possible to tailor, for example, a service plan for each locality and still protect equal access for all Americans with national standards and enforcement. The result can be a better federal partnership with states and localities; each meeting its share of responsibility."

B. Four Program Proposals to Meet Fundamental Human Needs

1. The implementation of a full employment policy is a paramount national goal.

"...[S]ocially productive jobs fulfill a principle human need for which no amount of social services can ever substitute. The question of employment is particularly critical at a time of continued high unemployment and the current failures of the economic system. **We must understand that full employment is a public investment in the economy and people of the United States."

2. Concomitant to a full employment goal must be an adequate income maintenance program for those persons too old, too sick, or otherwise unable to work.

"If the money needs of people are no better met than at present there is little prospect that social services can be any more effective. **A minimum income should be guaranteed to all families and individuals ensuring them of an adequate standard of living."

"As social workers, we must assert our rights not to be held responsible or accountable by politicians or the general public for failures in social services if the basic survival needs of people have not been met."

3. A National Health Insurance Program should be organized to meet all the health care needs of all Americans.

"Health care as a right can be a reality. We are well aware of the argument that a National Health Insurance Plan would be prohibitively expensive. We believe this contention to be a gross exaggeration stemming from concealment of present costs and misuse of data projections."

"The bits and pieces of 228 health programs yield inefficiency and waste. It is wrong. It is a malignancy which eats at the faith of the people in the government. This time, there can be no simplistic response. For once, advocates of a nationalized medical system including the present Administration have one thing in common -- they agree that private medical systems have failed and the Medicare/Medicaid program is out of control."

"Now the choice is clear: One national health care program for all Americans."

4. There must be a clear national plan for, and commitment to, the importance of comprehensive social services in the United States.

"Programs with dissimilar standards cannot be compared. Income maintenance should not be confused with social services. It isn't easy to coordinate 156 federally-funded income security and social service programs with conflicting eligibility standards. It is a mistake to spend a lot of money on paperwork in welfare programs -- money which could be freed up to create jobs. No wonder the states, counties, and cities cry for respite from federal mismanagement."

"Still, there are programs like Title XX, the Social Services Act, which allow the states broad latitude with federal standards and guidelines. Title XX includes national financing with a state and local matching share. There are national standards but with states providing administration and priority-setting. And, there is designed flexibility for localities. Some programs like protective services -- even have a universal eligibility. With all its imperfections, we endorse this program model:

- National standards combined with a services plan tailored for each locality;
- Program and fiscal accountability to the general public and potential consumers at every level of government;
- An equal local commitment to the equitable treatment of citizens in similar circumstances and needs;
- A matching system of funding which identifies the local share;
- State administration of programs rather than the management of paperwork through minimal regulations."

"It is said that the money-well for federal programs is dry, that the people and their representatives are not inclined toward large spending. Yet, the cost of unemployment last year is estimated at \$40 billion. A Congressional Budget Office tax expenditures book targets more than \$100 billion in tax loophole losses to the U.S. Treasury."

"There is money, the question is for whom? If budget control, costs efficiency and fiscal management are so important a consideration, let me suggest that the recently published tax expenditures book provides basic information on where substantial dollars savings can be made. It points out, for example, that 2/3 of the tax savings from capital gains treatment goes to individuals with adjusted gross incomes of \$50,00 or more per year. And, that 88% of tax savings resulting from exemptions for state and local government bond interest goes to this income group. Perhaps we need a fifth national goal - tax reform."

STATEMENT NO. 25: FRED R. HIGGINBOTHAM, PRESIDENT
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF GEORGIA/ATLANTA, INC.

"In Georgia, over one million persons, about 22% of the state's population, are enrolled in Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans in Atlanta and Columbus."

"In perspective, today's debate is not so much about the nation's health as it is with the pressing common denominator of that health care component -- namely, cost-containment. Few other issues in the health care sector have provoked as much sustained public interest and contention. Yet, at the same time there are constant public pressures for increased medical personnel, broader health benefit insurance packages, a redistribution of health manpower, more sophisticated medical technology, and a myriad of other cost inflating health care improvements."

"To ease this impasse, at least with respect to health care financing, some have proposed to set aside our existing health insurance institutions and substitute in their place a wholly tax-supported program run by the federal government. That action -- indeed, that kind of platform plank -- would be ill-advised for two fundamental reasons:

"First, the public is, in very large measure, already served quite well by existing pluralistic health care financing systems. To be sure, there are shortcomings here and there, but we in Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans are working on many of them. In our opinion, legislative action should focus on the shortcomings and deficiencies, but it should not tear down the existing system of health care delivery and financing.

"Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans have strongly supported improvements in quality and access to health care while working to slow the rate of increasing costs. In cooperation with health care providers and related health care agencies, the Plans have done more than anyone else to accomplish these goals,

"We are strong advocates of the free enterprise system and believe that such competition, with the public as judge, creates an environment which brings about innovative improvements in our health care system.

"We have an interest in the manner in which health care is delivered. It is important to us that the appropriate service is rendered in the appropriate setting. It is no less important that charges are justified and that payment is made accurately, promptly and without duplication.

"We are staunch supporters of utilization review committees in hospitals to assure that the right amount of quality care is delivered. We believe that under-utilization of services is as undesirable as over-utilization."

"Secondly, although no one is satisfied with recent health care cost inflation -- least of all the public -- the promise of a monolithic governmental solution is a glib and superficial appeal at best. To appreciate this point, consider that the Congressional Budget Office -- which recently probed the budgetary implications of universal, tax-supported health insurance -- allowed no less than \$60 billion margin of error in 1981 cost projections if such legislation were enacted next year. Thus, as the Congress has been warned, if the cost-containment promise of the Health Security Act were not fully realized, a 'tax-financed public plan could be far more inflationary than the present mixed system'. That is the risk this nation can ill-afford to take, not only on economic grounds, but also because -- as the Congressional Budget Office pointed out -- total government assumption of health care financing sectors could influence the very delivery of services in complex, imponderable ways."

Question: What has been the response of the private insurance industry regarding such health problems as alcoholism, drug abuse, etc?

Mr. Higginbotham: The health insurance industry is responding, or attempting to respond, to such problems with increased research regarding treatment and new insurance plans, but we have no illusions that alcoholism or drug abuse will be easily or quickly eradicated by our efforts or by those of the federal government.

Cont.

"I hope members of the Democratic Platform Committee recognize the significance of the need for uniform policy and processes in negotiations in the public sector. I am aware of the publicity given to disruptions and how this is used as an argument against collective bargaining, but investigation will bear out that these bitter struggles have taken place where guidelines were arbitrarily drawn up or where there were none in existence. Your obligation, then, not only to the public workers but to the general public as well, is to recognize and deal with the problem and to support preparation of a fair and orderly procedure or process which reflects the needs of today and which will prevent needless conflict and ill will."

STATEMENT NO. 27: CHARLES YATES, PRESIDENT
ATLANTA ARTS ALLIANCE

Various surveys reflect that the American people place importance upon the arts and cultural facilities. Eighty-five per cent of the American people feel that museums, theaters, and concert halls are important to the business and economy of the community, and 68% report that they are engaged in some arts and crafts activity such as painting, drawing, playing a musical instrument. Additionally, Americans' attendance at live theater performances and to art museums is steadily increasing. With an increase in interest in the arts and demand for the arts comes a widening income gap, which in Atlanta was 2.3 million last year and which is projected to be as high as 3.9 million in 1980. This deficit is the result of increased demand, higher labor and utility cost and in general the accelerated cost of doing business.

Also of importance are the artists. Unemployment and low incomes are both prevalent among artists, most of whom are well educated professionals who are married and have families to support.

The economic woes of art organizations and artists are acute; however, in recent years new sources of funds have been obtained. Funding from state legislatures have quadrupled in five years, and private sector giving is on the increase. The federal government must now step forward and assist the arts. The following measures would be a step in this direction:

- (1) The growth and development of the national endowment for the arts, with funding that would begin at the level of 200 million dollars.
 - (2) Recognition of unemployment among artists with 30 million dollars in employment development funds to be administered by the national endowment for the arts when national unemployment levels reach 6.5%.
 - (3) A portion of funds for construction of public buildings be used to incorporate art works.
 - (4) Tax incentives to encourage the preservation of landmark buildings and their renovation for uses which would benefit both historic preservation and the economy of the community.
-

STATEMENT NO. 28: R.M. KOSTER, COMMITTEEMAN
DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE, CANAL ZONE

The importance of the Panama Canal is worldwide in that 1/5 of the world's trade passes through the Panama Canal. One of the obligations of the administration will be to insure that the Panama Canal continues to operate efficiently. An MIT report published last year, "Maritime Commerce and the Future of the Panama Canal," credited the quality of the personnel and the high morale of personnel with the efficient operation of the Canal.

The Panama Canal Company is a dependent of the federal government whose board and chief administrative officers are appointed by the President, and being situated overseas, it is affected by our foreign policy. A new treaty with Panama hopefully is being, and definitely should be, negotiated. Due to the policy of secrecy of Henry Kissinger, the substance of negotiations on the new treaty is not known. For example, what are the negotiations intended to achieve and what do they presage for the Canal work force? The 1976 Democratic platform should contain a statement of principle to the effect that no one who labors loyally in the operation of the Panama Canal will be unjustly deprived of rights or benefits by the policies of a Democratic administration.

Further, the 1976 Democratic platform should contain a statement of principle to the effect that the party favors the appointment of a member of the Canal work force to the board of the Panama Canal Company. Presently, the Board of the Canal Company includes no one who resides permanently in the canal region or who has any first-hand knowledge of work force sentiments, or who has any particular concern for work force well-being. Thus earlier this year, the Board arbitrarily proposed to curtail promotions and strip employees of benefits guaranteed to them when they were hired; the reason being that canal revenue had fallen off.

The adoption of these two statements of principle will insure that the Panama Canal will continue to operate efficiently and to the benefit of the world.

STATEMENT NO. 29: LeROY LOGSDON, CHAIRMAN
GEORGIA HIGHWAY USERS CONFERENCE

Although significant contributions have been made by various modes of transportation, the motor vehicle-road system is the chief element of our transportation network. The growth of suburban growth has brought about population density decreases and job shifts to outlying sites, and therefore reliance on motor vehicles has increased. To serve this increased volume of traffic safely, existing roadways must be improved. Particularly prevalent is the increased use of roads in areas which were formerly rural; many of these are narrow farm-to-market roads paved during the 1930's which were adequate for the few hundred vehicles that formerly passed over them each day, but which cannot carry today's traffic efficiently. Additionally, good roads are conducive to development in smaller communities such as manufacturing plants, recreation parks and businesses, all of which keep rural America financially strong.

The need to maintain road and street development in growing areas should be recognized and lead to the following points being included in the 1976 Democratic platform:

1. Completion of the interstate highway system and maintenance of the completed portions must be given high national priority. Built to high standards, the system has saved thousands of lives, billions of dollars in operating expenses and immeasurable quantities of motor fuel.
2. Modernization and upgrading of many rural and urban roads and streets on the primary and secondary system are badly needed. America's highways are wearing out 50% faster than they are being rebuilt, and we must protect our highway investment and preserve mobility.
3. Reduction of highway deaths and injuries must continue. A strong federal commitment to proven, high pay-off traffic accident counter measures will help speed progress in solving this major national problem.
4. The Highway Trust Fund, whose income comes entirely from taxes, supports vital federal highway and safety programs. This system of pay-as-you-go should be maintained and used primarily for highway transportation related programs.

STATEMENT NO. 30: JAMES R. MOORE, SOUTHERN DIRECTOR
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH INSTITUTE

Although much progress has been made in the field of civil rights since 1960, black voters today feel that neither party is responsive to their needs. In order for the black people of America to remain loyal to the Democratic Party, the Democrats must remain loyal to the principles and programs that initially attracted the blacks to the Democratic Party. The Democratic Party must not adopt a warmed-over version of Republicanism, that is telling the poor and deprived to lower their expectations. It has recently become

Cont.

fashionable to criticize big government. The idea that we can solve social problems by throwing money at them certainly is not the answer; however, it is much closer to the truth than the illusion that critical problems will solve themselves if only we don't throw money at them. For black Americans, attacks on social programs and on big government are subtle methods of attacking programs which are designed primarily to help minorities and the poor.

FULL EMPLOYMENT IS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY OF BLACKS IN THIS ELECTION YEAR. Without full employment all social problems will fester and grow worse. Unemployment is still at 7.5%. In March of this year, however, black unemployment was officially 12.5%. The current administration's goal for 1981 is to lower the unemployment rate below 5%, but this would leave unemployment among blacks at over 9%. Even this 2.5% decrease in unemployment would take a period of economic growth that would be more rapid and longer than any period in American history, and would offer scant hope for the American economy.

The Democratic Party must provide a real alternative to the "economics of low expectations and low achievements" of the Republicans. Poll after poll shows an overwhelming majority of Americans in favor of the government's guaranteeing every American a job. If the Democrats go to the people with the message that this country cannot afford the economic and human waste of high unemployment, they will get an enthusiastic response.

STATEMENT NO. 31: CHARLES G. HAMILTON

Government and Human Needs: Our Homes are America

Government first meets human needs in the home; home is the foundation of our government. The bicentennial calls for the dedication of the Democratic Party to see that the American Dream which centers around the home is not destroyed. Our ancestors were united 200 years ago by moral standards. As we spend billions to defend our country from foreign foes, we must also recognize the deadly enemies within. We are loosing a civil war against the slavery of crime, against the slavery of exploitation, against the slavery of filth and falsehood. We must stop the traitors who are working to destroy marriage. Divorce laws must be fairer to children and to women. No home is safe unless pornography of print and screen is kept out; polluted minds are permanently perverted from patriotism. The adult also is entitled to freedom from filth. The post office must not misuse tax dollars to deliver dirt. This flood of filth was turned loose by Watergaters after the peddlers of pornography helped Richard the Lyinhearted steal elections. Pornography is a major racket of organized crime; if we do not kill it, it will kill us.

We must enforce the Thirteenth Amendment against the slavery of legalized prostitution. Communists gain millions of votes by opposing prostitution; we must have higher morals than the Reds.

Watergate exposed how four years ago Nixon sent homosexuals to our convention to lose us millions of votes. Nothing is more hateful to American men and women; sodomy is treason to the American and to the human race. There would be no human race if they had their way. Sodomy poisons all human relationships; we can punish those who urge this treason with a penalty of treason. No founder of our country, no author of our Constitution, no patriots would disagree. The Democratic Party which 200 years ago freed us from alien exploitation must win us liberty today from a brutal slavery of exploiters. America is our home -- our homes make America.

STATEMENT NO. 32: RICHARD E. HODGES
BOARD OF GOVERNORS, PUBLIC BROADCASTING SYSTEM (PBS)

PBS is the station-owned network and national organization of public television stations operating in the United States. Although commercial broadcasting performs important services for the public -- public, non-commercial broadcasting offers almost limitless potential for providing other and

equally significant services which complement rather than compete with the commercial media. Millions of individual citizens and families invest their time, energy and dollars in the building of a lively, relevant public television and radio service to serve the communities of our nation. Currently before Congress is legislation which will provide for matching federal support for public broadcasting--for each \$2.50 raised from other sources, both public and private, one federal dollar will be provided. This matching principle offers an important incentive for stations to increase and broaden their base of financing. Also, this concept which has received strong bipartisan support, will insure that public broadcasting remains independent and free of undue influence from any level or part of the government.

Leaders of the Democratic Party have been strong supporters of the full development of public broadcasting, and we expect the 1976 Democratic platform to reflect a continued commitment to a strong, independent locally-controlled system of public broadcasting to increase the quality and diversity of choices available to viewers and listeners in this country.

STATEMENT NO. 33: RICHARD B. HOLCOMB, GENERAL MANAGER
WABE-FM and WETV

Educational television and radio have been helping to educate our children for more than two decades; public television is now within reach of more than 80% of the American people, and public radio is enjoying a similar expansion to reach new audiences with a kind of programming not available from any other source. The significance of public broadcasting in communities in every part of our nation is growing. The 1970's is the era of the "media child", a child who is influenced a great deal, for better or worse, by television and radio. In Atlanta, the impact of media on children is being utilized by designing programs which convey needed information and concepts in a visually interesting, lively format which takes full account of children's high expectations of television and radio. This activity is supported entirely by the Atlanta and Fulton County schools.

The programming produced and selected by WABE-FM and WETV seeks to provide a quality alternative to the six other television stations and nearly 35 other radio stations available to Atlanta-area audiences. The increased interest in public broadcasting is reflected in the record number of contacts from viewers and listeners expressing appreciation for our programming and in the more than \$70,000 in individual and family contributions. Also, public broadcasting allows local citizens to be heard and seen in performance, in dialogue and other formats designed to help bring the people of Atlanta closer together.

These services were made possible through the assistance of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which receives the bulk of its funds from the federal government. Public broadcasting is not a partisan issue. However, the momentum must continue, and I urge the Democratic Party platform to make a specific pledge of strong support for public broadcasting during the next four years.

STATEMENT NO. 34: JAMES K. JENKINS, GEORGIA STATE CO-ORDINATOR
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION for the REFORM OF MARIJUANA LAWS (NORML)

NORML is a non-profit, public interest group seeking a non-criminal, common sense response to the private use of marijuana. NORML is supported by approximately 20,000 members nationally, and is working throughout the country to bring meaningful change in this critical area, primarily through public education, in the legislatures and in the courts. NORML does not advocate or encourage the use of marijuana or any other drug; however, we support a policy of discouragement of all recreational drug use including alcohol and tobacco. What NORML does oppose is the policy of severe criminal sanctions against persons who choose to smoke marijuana.

Decriminalizing private use of marijuana by adopting a citation system was lead by the state of Oregon, and in the past year seven states (Alaska, Maine, Colorado, California, Ohio, Minnesota, and South Dakota) have adopted similar citation systems for dealing with minor offenders. Surveys reflect that approximately 13 million Americans are current marijuana users and a total of 34 million Americans from all walks of life have smoked marijuana at least once. The National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse (the Shafer Commission),

- (10) Elimination of discrimination toward gays in all contracts between agencies of the United States Government and their contractors.
- (11) Legislation banning dossiers and data banks from inclusion of information regarding sexual preferences and directing the immediate destruction of all such existing data.
- (12) Establishment of an Office of Gay Awareness, under the auspices of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, whose primary responsibility would be to recruit qualified gay persons under the civil service and to conduct gay awareness workshops within the federal government agency.
- (13) The immediate addition of gay persons to the Federal Civil Rights Commission.
- (14) Funding for qualified gay social service agencies.
- (15) A policy change in the Department of Housing and Urban Development to end discrimination against gay people who reside in public housing projects.
- (16) Legislation to enable persons covered by Social Security and/or benefits provided by any and all federal pension programs to designate whomever they so choose to receive unexpended benefits in the event of their death.
- (17) An end to the National Parole Board requirement that, as a condition of parole, gays associate only with persons not of their sexual preference.

STATEMENT NO. 40: JEANNE CAHILL
Representing E.R. AMERICA

Ms. Cahill appeared to urge the Democratic Party Platform Committee to take a strong stand on the Equal Rights Amendment, by renewing and redoubling its effort to secure passage of the ERA by the states.

Ms. Cahill's main point was that it would be better and less expensive to pass the ERA than to continue case-by-case litigation.

STATEMENT NO. 41: NAN PENDERGRAST

Mrs. Pendergrast appeared as a mother of an American in exile and as an American citizen to urge the Democratic National Platform Committee to adopt a plank guaranteeing universal, unconditional amnesty for the million Americans who are still being punished for opposing the disastrous policies of the Viet Nam war, policies which our entire country has come to reject.

The draft resisters in exile constitute a small group numerically, but "are eminently worthy of consideration..". The only crime of these men was "premature morality", as Jules Feiffer has so cogently put it.

Almost all of the draft resisters in exile came from middle-class families of liberal beliefs, were college-educated, and had ranked at or near the top of their classes.

One Canadian editorial said gratefully, "at least, the brain drain is running our way". A member of Parliament stated on the floor of that House "one nation's draft dodgers are another nation's heroes".

Not only are the draft resisters of the last decade worthy of amnesty, the Selective Service System which they protested and which has since been abolished by this country was the most inequitable system imaginable. Only 11% of the young men of draft age were actually called into service. Legal loopholes in the Selective Service Act permitted the legal evasion of the draft through vocational or educational means. Therefore, the burden of that war fell disproportionately on the poor and minority Americans, many of whom came to oppose the war while in the services and whose subsequent acts of resistance took many forms, including leaving the military. Hundred of thousands of civilians actively resisted the war in countless ways, and tens of thousands are now stigmatized with "records" for these acts. Hundreds of thousands of draft non-registrants remain essentially underground.

"More than 600,000 war heroes and military veterans have been branded with punitive less-than-honorable discharges. These veterans have literally received

life sentences to under- or un-employment, deprivation of basic civil rights such as voting and civil service employment eligibility, and ineligibility for standard veterans' benefits, including those for war disabilities. In most cases, a less-than-honorable discharge is issued administratively, with no semblance of due process."

"In light of the universal unconditional amnesty for Richard Nixon for crimes known and unknown and the welcoming of South Vietnamese refugees without a case-by-case review of their motivations for leaving their own country, it hardly seems just to continue to punish our own sons with exile, imprisonment, exclusion from the United States, and unemployment."

"For my own son, now a Canadian citizen, I plead, but with great urgency I plead for those who live among us here, deprived for life of the basic liberties we cherish. We must put the war behind us and move ahead, but not without dealing with this unresolved problem. In our Bicentennial Year, it would be good for our country because it would demonstrate our faith in such basic American principles as freedom of conscience, the right to dissent, and social justice for all our citizens."

STATEMENT NO. 42: TIM BENTLEY, PRESIDENT
YOUNG DEMOCRATS OF GEORGIA

Mr. Bentley appeared to urge the Platform Committee to change the age of majority throughout the nation to 18 years of age.

Eighteen-year-olds have been called upon to serve their country in the armed forces and to die for their country in many cases, and they have recently been given, on a national level, the right to vote in recognition of their sacrifices and of their maturity. Mr. Bentley simply pointed out the incongruity of allowing 18-year-olds to vote, but prohibiting them from holding office or otherwise achieving full adulthood.

By making 18 the age of majority in all 50 states, Congress could complete its unfinished task of granting first-class citizenship to 18-year-olds.

STATEMENT NO. 43: BARRY SCHOLNIK
Political Science Student at Emory University

A. Apparent Abhorrent Deficiencies and High Cost of Medical Care in the United States

1. "Upwards of 500,000 people die every year because of the failure of the current administration to insure equal access to conventional medical services in this country."
2. "The United States is ranked 16th among nations in infant mortality."
3. "The United States is tied for 19th in life expectancy for males; for females, the United States trails five countries."
4. "The United States is tied for 10th with several countries in the ratio of doctor per population."
5. "In New York City alone, over 50% of all nursing positions are vacant."
6. "There are fewer doctors today on a per capita basis than at the turn of the century."

B. Federal Funds and Programs are Necessary to Solve the Nation's Health Problems

1. Funds are necessary to build hospitals and supply medical schools with first-rate equipment and professors to cure the current shortage of physicians. "It is a national tragedy that each year thousands of would-be doctors are denied entrance into the medical profession, particularly when you consider the enormous waste of these well-qualified
2. Funds are needed for research into major diseases such as heart disease, cancer, muscular dystrophy, and multiple sclerosis.
3. Government funds are necessary to support a comprehensive health insurance plan in order to make first-rate health care available to all people in this nation.

STATEMENT NO. 44: BILL LEACH
Representing himself

Mr. Leach was concerned with the unwillingness of political campaigns in recent years to focus on non-bread-and-butter issues, pointing out that individual freedom is ignored and threatened by such exclusive concern for "bread-and-butter" issues.

Mr. Leach urged the Platform Committee to take a stand on a number of issues:

1. Decriminalization of marijuana, because of the infringements on individual rights inherent in the enforcement of criminal prohibitions against possession or use of marijuana.
2. Nationalization, or at least closer federal regulation of, natural monopolies including such utilities as telephone, electric power, water, railroad and postal services. According to Mr. Leach, such public control of utilities would prevent labor and management from dictating the policy of natural monopoly to the detriment of unrepresented consumer interests.
3. Increase in the membership of the United States Senate from 100 to 150 Senators, thereby diluting the concentration of Senators' political patronage power and making the Senate more responsive to the people. Mr. Leach also recommended the reduction in Senate term from the current 6 years to 2 years.

STATEMENT NO. 45: HARVEY SCHLANGER
U.S. LABOR PARTY

In a statement filled with radical rhetoric, including such name-calling as "puppet Mayor Beame", Mr. Schlanger called for the Democratic Platform Committee to espouse the following political positions:

1. Debt Moratorium - Suspension or cancellation of all existing debt and the total reorganization of the world economic system, including the establishment of a New World Economic Order based on a policy of expanded trade and production world-wide supported by credit from a new International Development Bank.
2. Removal of Secretary of State Kissinger - Immediate removal of Dr. Kissinger from any further Mid-East negotiations and the termination of a personal diplomacy in favor of meaningful peace negotiations by a conference of involved nations.

STATEMENT NO. 46: JOSEPH J. WESTWATER, VICE PRESIDENT
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, DAIRYMEN, INC., LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

There are two areas of agricultural policy which need the attention of the Democratic Party. They are (1) the severe swings in farm prices in recent years, and (2) the vital role of family farmers and their cooperatives in achieving our country's relatively abundant supply of food.

Some change in direction of prices paid farmers is often necessary. However, changes in the magnitude of the last two years make farmers unreasonably risk-conscious and make optimum production planning extremely difficult. More stable agricultural prices will also encourage farmers to stay on the farm. We cannot continue to lose our farmers without endangering our production base.

The family farm has been the most important element in the success of American agriculture. Many family farmers, particularly dairy farmers, market their production collectively through their cooperative associations.

In the last few years, we have witnessed an attack upon cooperative associations. This attack is dangerous for if America's family farmers are stripped of their cooperative associations, we will see a greater integration of big agri-business corporations back to the farm.

Cont.

Improving the ability of farmers to act together in marketing their production has long been a hallmark of American agricultural policy. The recent attack upon cooperatives may be the beginning of a reversal of this policy, which will result in higher prices to consumers.

Questions

Mr. Westwater was asked by a member of the Platform Committee to elaborate on the effect of high inheritance taxes on farms. Mr. Westwater replied that the average dairy farm is valued at approximately \$200,000, and represents approximately 60 to 70 milk cows. When the head of the household dies, the family is often in the position of having to sell off valuable parcels of the property in order to pay the inheritance tax. There is therefore an active move afoot in Congress to provide tax relief in this situation.

STATEMENT NO. 47: IVAN ASAY, PRESIDENT
COUNCIL OF SENIOR WEST VIRGINIANS

The special concern of our advocacy coalition is for the rural and poor among our senior citizens and, at this hearing, the skyrocketing costs of health care.

Although our organization is non-partisan, I will state a personal belief that the Democratic Party has the best chance of seeming credible. From the standpoint of older citizens the Administration's budget shows misplaced values and priorities.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. We urge reversal of the trend away from people-oriented programs.
2. We think programs for the elderly should be planned to fit into a National Policy on Aging. But there is no such policy even now, six years after the White House Conference on Aging.
3. Income support programs are particularly important to the elderly. But income security cannot be attained so long as heavy and unpredictable health costs threaten fixed incomes.
4. The obvious answer is National Health Security. We've waited quite a while for its enactment and many of us haven't much longer to wait.

Pending full-fledged National Health Security: State health systems planning needs more adequate federal support; Medicare and Medicaid urgently require reform; Home health care, outreach, health education and other keep-well programs must be expanded and overuse of hospitals discontinued.

Finally, as a general principle, we urge that national policies and programs for people give a little more attention to the special needs of salt-of-the-earth oldsters living in rural America.

STATEMENT NO. 48: FRED B. WOOD, PROJECT MANAGER
PROGRAM OF POLICY STUDIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Telecommunications is a critical national resource with a significant unrealized potential for improving our quality of life and meeting human needs. Because of rapid advances in technology and changes in social priorities, the Federal government has a necessarily redefined and redirected responsibility for insuring that the application of telecommunications is indeed in the public interest. However, at least in the area of telecommunications policy research and development, the current institutional structures and processes of the Federal government are not satisfactory for carrying out this responsibility.

THE 1976 DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM SHOULD INCLUDE A PLANK RECOMMENDING THAT THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. CONGRESS, DEVELOP A PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH TELECOMMUNICATIONS (ranging from innovative use of the telephone and television to new uses of satellites and computers).

The platform plank should recommend a program which encourages new applications of telecommunications, for example, to increase productivity of work, conserve energy, and facilitate delivery of health care and public education, thereby creating new jobs and career opportunities. The program should lower regulatory and institutional barriers to such applications by the private sector, while at the same time protesting against possible invasions of privacy and information overloads which may be associated with the use of new technology. Telecommunications is one of the few areas of our economy where costs are -- or should be -- declining. The program should help the Nation better utilize this national resource.

With respect to Federal government organization, the program should recommend an institutional structure for more effective policy research and development. One possibility is a reorganization of the Office of Telecommunications Policy (now in the Executive Office of the President) and the Office of Telecommunications (now in the Department of Commerce) into a consolidated office under the direction of an under-secretary or assistant secretary for telecommunications in an existing agency. A small policy group would be retained in EOP to handle telecommunications matters requiring regular Presidential attention and authority.

Question: Mr. Wood was asked whether or not the viability of spending additional monies for telecommunications was questioned in the State of Virginia.

Mr. Wood replied that such questions have arisen in the past. For instance, cable T.V. was highly touted, and has not lived up to its expectations. However, it is his opinion that a great deal can be done with telephone and television without additional capital expenditures.

Question: Mr. Wood was asked whether or not new FCC regulations on cable television hurt or helped the situation.

Mr. Wood replied that all questions regarding current FCC regulations are based upon outdated principles. The Communications Act which governs the FCC was enacted in 1934, prior to the advent of television. Mr. Wood recommended that this legislation be updated in light of current developments.

STATEMENT NO. 49: DR. BELLE MILLER McMASTER
INTERRELIGIOUS TASK FORCE ON U.S. FOOD POLICY

The Democratic Party prides itself on a tradition of adapting government programs and resources to meet critical human needs. For at least the remainder of the 1970's, human hunger, both at home and abroad, represents one such need which challenges the conscience of the American People and cries out for revised and more effective governmental policies.

We therefore recommend that the Democratic Party pledge itself to the development of a national food policy which will implement the right of each American citizen to a nutritious diet and which will commit the United States to work cooperatively with other governments to put flesh on that right for persons in other nations, particularly those with chronic and unmanageable food deficits. As a practical means of funding more responsive social programs, we urge the Democratic Party to reiterate its 1972 platform pledge to make substantial cuts in military expenditures. The meeting of human needs at home and abroad should be viewed as an urgent and indispensable investment in our own national security.

As concrete steps toward this goal, the Task force makes specific recommendations in four areas:

1. In International Development Assistance, we urge
 - a. A commitment to increase U.S. development aid levels incrementally until the U.S. reaches the U.N. targets in the early 1980's.
 - b. An increased use of the United Nations and other multilateral channels of aid.
 - c. Allocations decisions based primarily on need, not on political factors.

STATEMENT NO. 49: Cont.

- d. Aid directed to the neediest persons within recipient countries.
 - e. A separation of development aid from military aid in the authorization and appropriations process.
2. In Food Aid, we urge
- a. Clear priority to the humanitarian purposes of our Food for Peace program.
 - b. More responsiveness to the development objectives of recipient nations.
 - c. A guaranteed annual U.S. food aid commitment of at least seven million tons.
 - d. Integration of U.S. food aid into the response of the international community to world hunger.
 - e. More openness and accountability to Congress in the food aid decision-making process.
3. In Domestic Nutrition, we urge
- a. An affirmation of every American's basic right to food.
 - b. An honoring of this right through reforms in the food stamp program which eliminate the cash purchase requirement, set a just income eligibility limit, make no immediate change in asset limitations, and strengthen outreach programs.
 - c. An affirmation of the right of every American to the social and physical conditions necessary to live with dignity.
 - d. Strengthened accountability of public officials for implementing the food stamp law and of citizens for complying with it.
4. In U.S. Agricultural Policy, we urge
- a. Farm policies which will encourage full production, assure farmers a fair return on their investment, and result in reasonable prices for consumers.
 - b. Revisions in the current estate and gift tax laws which encourage the survival of the family-owned and -operated farm.

Question: Dr. McMaster was asked that if she opposed the use of food as a weapon by the United States, how did she feel about the sale of grain to the U.S.S.R.

Dr. McMaster replied that her organization took no specific stand, but felt that humanitarian needs should govern in the sale of food, and that these needs should be weighed alongside foreign policy objectives. A further question was asked as to whether the Government should sell or give food away. Dr. McMaster replied that the food could either be given or sold depending on the situation. However, she pointed out that food aid in the past had been sold to countries, and oftentimes ended up in the hands of the rich people in the country. She suggested a better form of aid would be to teach the people how to farm. She agreed that food should be given at times, and should only be given to those countries most seriously affected.

A further question was asked that if the United States was in fact in debt, would not food giveaway programs put us further in debt.

Dr. McMaster's answer was that the aim of her organization was directed to long-term objectives.

STATEMENT NO. 50: HOWARD COOPER, BETTY LESLEIN, AND ZAN WHITE
Citizens from the Atlanta urban area speaking on the topic of
Local Community Educational Cooperatives for Building
Multiracial Communities

We urge the Democratic Party to support the following proposal for Federal grants for local community educational cooperatives as a practical way to build multiracial communities:

- 1. Affirming Multiracial Communities by affirmative legislative action to encourage communities in creating and sustaining multiracial educational programs.

2. Developing Local Community Educational Cooperatives through making available federal grants to develop quality integrated education through shared efforts by those living in multiracial residential areas.
3. Building in Flexibility through local analysis of needs and creative ways of meeting them.
4. Establishing Relevant Guidelines for
 - a. Adequate racial mixture
 - b. citizens' participation
 - c. open membership and democratic decision-making
 - d. private non-profit organization.
5. Freeing Local Initiative through direct access to federal grants.
6. Possible Local Examples....
7. Concluding with Action to bring together federal vision and support with local cooperative action.

The following questions were directed to the speakers by Governor Noel. In making your point about equal education, and equal educational dollars per pupil, is this a national concern requiring federal dollars, or is it a state concern?

The panel replied by pointing out that control of school systems is still in the hands of segregated school boards. It is therefore necessary to have direct funding to multiracial communities to avoid this dilemma.

The further question was asked as to whether or not this is still a question of state allocation?

The panel replied by saying that federal dollars were needed at the local level.

STATEMENT NO. 51: RUSSELL H. RICHARDSON, MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA

The nation's family planning system has responded quickly to the public's expectations and is currently serving about 3.5 million low- and marginal-income women. Financial support for family planning projects, meanwhile, has not increased since 1972. When the impact of inflation is considered, funding has actually declined by about 30%.

Without renewed commitment to the nation's family planning goals, there's scant hope that funds will be available to adequately maintain the current program or to finance efforts to reach those who are still unserved.

I urge you and the members of the Platform Committee to expand on the 1972 statement on family planning as follows:

Since safe and effective regulation of fertility is a prerequisite for the exercise of many fundamental rights and is basic for the equality and advancement of women in our society, it is the responsibility of the federal government to assure that family planning services are available to all Americans according to uniform and equitable standards. Furthermore, federal support for research on human reproduction and contraception should receive highest priority in order to develop a range of fertility control methods that are reliable, risk-free and acceptable to persons of diverse beliefs and circumstances.

I urge the members of the Platform Committee to follow the precedent from 1972 and to take the position that the function of the government is to insure that all Americans have the opportunity to make private decisions affecting marriage and family life according to the dictates of personal conscience.

I recommend that you include this statement in the 1976 Democratic Platform:

Abortion. The constitutionally guaranteed right of women to terminate unwanted pregnancies by means of safe, legal abortions must be protected and fully implemented in accordance with the decisions of the United States Supreme Court. To insure that, in practice, this right is not dependent on economic status or location of residence, all publicly funded medical institutions and health programs serving low-income women have an affirmative obligation, when providing other forms of maternity care, to offer and provide abortion services as well.

A question was asked about how many major groups have taken a stand favoring abortion.

Mr. Richardson agreed to submit a list to the Committee, but pointed out that a number of organizations such as the American Bar Association and the American Medical Association have taken a stand favoring abortion. Mr. Richardson pointed out that the only groups opposing abortion are church-affiliated groups, and specialized anti-abortion groups.

A further question was asked to the effect that why should a high priority be placed on planned parenthood if the birth rate is in fact actually down.

Mr. Richardson replied that the lower birth rate indicates an interest in family planning on the part of the citizens. He further pointed out that there were in excess of one million abortions performed last year. Lastly, he pointed out that the birth rate among women under the age of 17 was in fact up. All these factors indicated an increased need for adequate family planning.

STATEMENT NO. 52: WAYNE CLARK
SOUTHERN GOVERNMENTAL MONITORING PROJECT
SOUTHERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Southern Governmental Monitoring Project has studied general revenue sharing and other programs of the "New Federalism" for the past three years. Our conclusions are that serious problems exist in these programs and that immediate steps should be taken to correct them. The revenue sharing programs in the South, for example, have built segregated jails and nursing homes. The programs blatantly discriminate against non-whites and women in employment. As of November, 1975, the Office of Revenue Sharing (ORS) had a total of 136 active cases of discrimination. Over half were in the eleven southern states. ORS has clear authority to cut off funds to governments that discriminate, but it has refused to do so even when the evidence is overwhelming.

The Housing and Community Development Act was specifically designed to improve the neighborhoods of the urban poor. But many local governments have demonstrated a cavalier disregard for the intent of the act. For example, Little Rock and Chattanooga constructed tennis courts in affluent suburbs. New Bern, North Carolina, upgraded a road to a suburban country club area.

The Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) is wracked with abuses and patronage. For example, in Mobile, Alabama, two Manpower administration officials were recently found guilty of fraud. There undoubtedly are many others who have exploited this program for personal ends. The CETA program invites these kinds of abuses because there is little real accountability in it. The same is true of the other "New Federalism" programs.

Local control of funds and a desire to effect social change are rarely found together in local communities. If our findings to date are correct, and we believe they are, support for "New Federalism", as presently constituted, is not support for greater citizen participation in local decision making. It is support for provincialism and elitism. It is support for the facade of social change not the substance. It is support for race and sex discrimination not fairness and equality. It is support for the status quo, not constructive advances in providing services to those who need them most. It is time we recognize the "New Federalism" for what it is. It is time to consider alternatives.

Questions:

Mr. Clark was asked a question regarding the advantage of handling these problems at a local vs. federal level. Mr. Clark pointed out that the United States Government is not now able to enforce federal revenue sharing. He would be opposed to federal revenue sharing even if there were checks at the state level because there still exists a gap at the local level. When asked what he would do in the place of revenue sharing, Mr. Clark replied that he would return to the grant program. Revenue sharing has made local government so dependent upon federal dollars, that they are losing their initiative.

STATEMENT NO. 52: Cont.

It was asked of Mr. Clark whether or not local people are able to handle their problems better because they know their problems better. Mr. Clark replied that they may know of their problems better, but they cannot and have not done anything about it. He also doesn't believe they are in a better position to solve their problems because they don't have the resources available to the federal government.

STATEMENT NO. 53: EMORY VIA
SOUTHERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Mr. Via presented the Committee with a document entitled "A Southern Declaration: 1976, an Agenda for the South and for the Nation". Some of the highlights from this document supported by Mr. Via include:

- We must activate a national goal of full employment.
- We should be prepared to divert expenditures from socially unproductive programs toward the goal of full employment.
- Public service employment programs must be greatly expanded. The nature of these programs must be directed to filling the many needs of the South and its people: in health care, in environmental protection and improvement, in community development, in providing housing, and in day care service.
- Employment and training programs should be coordinated with job development and rural development efforts.
- Existing federal legislation governing collective bargaining is deficient in terms of enforcement.
- The rights of Public employees to collective bargaining should be affirmed.
- Federal agricultural policies must be altered so that they encourage small farming rather than continue to make it economically impractical.
- Unless General Revenue Sharing is substantially altered the program should be discontinued, with its funds allocated for other pressing social needs.
- Community Development projects under special revenue sharing have tended to encourage construction projects more than socially beneficial expenditures.
- Throughout the nation doubts have grown about our ability to achieve racial integration in the schools. But segregation created by statute in the South and by public policy and common practice elsewhere in the land has been tried and does not work. Separate is not equal. It cannot be equal in America.
- Segregation and selective discrimination in educational opportunity produced psychological damage to the moral growth of white children as well as placed an onerous stigma on black children.
- The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously declared in the Swann decision that crosstown busing is a legitimate tool for dismantling a dual system of education. In some situations busing may be the only means of achieving full desegregation.
- Assertions that busing leads to white flight which resegregates school systems is questionable, despite the studies of Dr. James Coleman. The evidence counter to the Coleman assertions should be carefully considered.
- The South has suffered from the fact that the Medicaid program is not uniform and nationally administered.
- Eligibility for Medicaid should be expanded to include the medically indigent and should assure all poor persons, regardless of family composition or working status, access to medical services.
- Future actions are required in support of the rights of women to assure equality of opportunities and services and toward this end, passage of ERA should be assured.
- The time has come for the nation to enact a guaranteed annual income, reflecting realistic levels of need, to replace many of the public assistance programs that now exist. Until that is done the beneficial results of current programs for the poor, the aged and handicapped should be protected.

In closing I would like to thank this committee for the privilege of appearing here, today. Madam Chairperson, we will be delighted to supply more copies of the larger Council paper on request.

STATEMENT NO. 54: KORYNE HORBAL
CO-ORDINATOR, DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S AGENDA
DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMAN FROM MINNESOTA

Ms. Horbal also represented National Committeewomen from Mississippi, North Carolina, Texas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, and Louisiana as well as the President of the National Federation of Democratic Women from Tennessee. Ms. Horbal called upon the Committee to ask the Party to set a new agenda for America by adopting the United States National Women's Agenda. She outlined the following as the important considerations from this agenda:

1. The final passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.
2. Enforcement of federal, state, and local laws which guarantee equal access to and equal treatment in all aspects of education.
3. Full and fair employment for all Americans.
4. Economic and legal recognition of homemakers' work.
5. Establishment of a minimum standard of income and other social benefits for low income and disadvantaged persons, which protect their equality and respect their individual rights and dignity.
6. Elimination of discrimination in income tax laws and removal of sex bias from the Social Security system and introduction of coverage for unpaid homemakers.
7. Elimination of discrimination in insurance, benefit, and pension plans.
8. Creation of and adequate funding for comprehensive and adequate systems of child care.
9. Support for and expansion of convenient and responsive medical and mental health services available without regard to ability to pay.
10. Elimination of discrimination in housing.
11. Repeal of laws which treat women and men differently within the criminal justice system.
12. Development of programs which provide community support and services for indicted and convicted women and their families.
13. Protection on all levels of government and in all matters, of the right to privacy.
14. And by including these and the other goals of the Agenda, and encouragement, to all sectors of government to treat women's issues as an integral part of the effort to meet human needs.

Question: Regarding Nos. 3 and 14 on your agenda, what is the problem in this country regarding welfare women in jobs?

Ms. Horbal replied that full employment was the answer to jobs for welfare women.

A question was asked regarding No. 11, the repeal of laws treating women differently within the criminal justice system.

Ms. Horbal replied that women sometimes receive higher sentences for the same crime, according to statute, in this country.

STATEMENT NO. 55: W.W. LEWIS
DECATUR, GEORGIA

This testimony concerns the methods and processes for making U.S. foreign and military policy and offers proposals for inclusion in the Democratic Party platform.

In particular, it argues that the National Security Organization and processes established by the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, are inadequate for the situation in which the country now finds itself and that there needs to be an explicit public debate concerning how the country should go about developing and integrating foreign and military policy. There are several reasons why the debate is needed. Under the present administration the system is not working. Disagreements about foreign and military policy between the State Department and the Defense Department have not been resolved and the National Security Council is, in practice, not functioning. On the other hand, during the 1960's the system did work and gave us the Bay of Pigs, Vietnam, and Cambodia. The System, as presently established by law, effectively excludes Congress from participating in the policy-making processes.

Cont.

STATEMENT NO. 55: Cont.

It is proposed that the platform include a plank concerning the methods and structures of U.S. foreign and military policy making; a plank which will recite the existing problems and will propose an explicit public debate on the issue of what the policy making processes should be.

There are two specific proposals which are designed to generate and focus the debate:

- (1) That the Congress establish a select committee to investigate the operation and adequacy of the existing National Security Organization.
- (2) That in the future, the Defense Authorization and Appropriations Bills be referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for a report concerning the extent to which the proposed military force structure supports the foreign policy objectives of the United States.

Question: What priority would you place on increasing the military budget?
Mr. Lewis replied that he would decrease the military budget by re-evaluating foreign policy. He is in favor of re-examining foreign policy goals, which he thinks would reduce military expenditures.

STATEMENT NO. 56: MARY BANKESTER
GEORGIA WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS

Ms. Bankester announced that she was authorized to speak on behalf of the Georgia Women's Political Caucus, the Georgia Committee on the Status of Women, the Atlanta Branch of the University Women, and the Atlanta Branch of the National Organization of Women. Ms. Bankester said that she appeared before the panel to advocate that the women's agenda be adopted by the Democratic Party, and made a part of the platform. She pointed out that the women's agenda was supported by over 90 women's groups.

DEMOCRATIC
NATIONAL COMMITTEE

1625 Massachusetts Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 797-5900

CONTACT: Jane Wales

202/797-5900

PLATFORM COMMITTEE

WITNESS LIST ANNOUNCED

The 1976 Democratic Platform Committee will be holding its final, four-day Washington, D. C., hearing May 17 through 20 in the Main Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Hotel at New Jersey Avenue and "D" Street, N.W.

The 153-member Committee will open its May 17 meeting at 9:00 a.m. to conduct a working session in which the Permanent Chair, four Co-Chairs and a 15-person Drafting Subcommittee will be elected. The working session is open to the public.

Starting at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, the Committee will hear witnesses. Witnesses are scheduled to appear from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday. There will be a lunch break from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. each day. All hearings are open.

Members of the press are asked to check in at the press desk directly outside of the Main Ballroom to pick up credentials.

Following is a tentative and partial witness schedule. The order in which witnesses will appear may be subject to change, and some witnesses may be added. Exact times at which witnesses will appear:

MONDAY, MAY 17

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.: Working Session: Election of Permanent Chair,
four Co-Chairs, and 15-person
Drafting Committee, Adoption
of the Rules

MONDAY, MAY 17

2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Robert S. Strauss, Chairman, Democratic National Committee; with
 Arthur Krim, Chairman, Democratic Advisory Council of Elected Officials
 Harry McPherson, Chairman, Domestic Affairs Task Force of Democratic Advisory Council
 W. Averell Harriman, Chairman, Foreign Affairs Task Force of Democratic Advisory
 Council

George Meany, President, AFL/CIO

George C. Wallace, Governor of Alabama, Presidential candidate

Ralph Nader, Public Citizen, Consumer Advocate, Inc.

Clarence Mitchell, Leg. Chairman, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, with
 Joseph Ruah, Jr., Legal Counsel, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

Moon Landrieu, Mayor of New Orleans; President, U.S. Conference of Mayors

Donald M. Fraser, U.S. Representative from Minnesota; President, Americans for
 Democratic Action

Elizabeth Carpenter, Co-Chair, ERAmerica

John Breaux, U.S. Representative from Louisiana

Charles Hayes, Executive Vice President, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists

Carole Foreman, Executive Director, Consumer Federation

Frank Ikard, President, American Petroleum Institute

Lloyd Unsell, Vice President for Public Affairs, Independent Petroleum
 Association

Sherley Koteen, Chairperson, Political Action Committee, Women's National
 Democratic Club

John Sledge, President, North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, American Farm
 Bureau Federation

Chuck Fraser, Legislative Director, National Farm Organization

Tony Dechant, National President, National Farm Union

Robert Partridge, Executive Vice President, National Rural Electric Cooperative
 Association

Patrick Healy, Secretary, National Milk Producers

R. Heath Larry, Vice Chairman, National Association of Manufacturers

James Flug, Director and Counsel, Energy Action Committee

TUESDAY, MAY 18

9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Edmund Muskie, U.S. Senator from Maine

Glenn Watts, President, Communications Workers of America, on behalf of the
Labor Coalition Clearinghouse

David Cohen, President, Common Cause

Hubert H. Humphrey, U.S. Senator from Minnesota

Leonard Woodcock, President, United Auto Workers

Albert Shanker, President, American Federation of Teachers

Basil Paterson, Vice President, Democratic National Committee

Edward M. Kennedy, U.S. Senator from Massachusetts

Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr., Majority Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives,
U.S. Representative from Massachusetts

Edward R. Roybal, U.S. Representative from California; National Association of
Latino Democratic Officials

Herman Badillo, U.S. Representative from New York; National Association of
Latino Officials

Jerry Wurf, President, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal
Employees

William Winpisinger, General Vice President, International Association of
Machinists and Aerospace Workers

Charles B. Rangel, U.S. Representative from New York; Congressional Black Caucus

Milton Shapp, Governor of Pennsylvania, Presidential candidate

M. Carl Holman, National President, National Urban Coalition

Michael Harrington, Convener of Initiating Committee, Democracy '76
Author

Clifford Alexander, Vice Chair, Coalition for Self Determination
Former Candidate for Mayor, Washington, D.C.

-more-

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

W. Averell Harriman, Chairman, Foreign Affairs Task Force, Democratic Advisory Council

Birch Bayh, U.S. Senator from Indiana, Presidential candidate

Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, Former Chief of Naval Operations, 1970-1975

George Ball, Under Secretary of State, 1961-1966; U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, 1968

Daniel P. Moynihan, Former U.S. Representative to the United Nations, 1975-76

Sargent Shriver, Director, Peace Corps, 1961-1966; Ambassador to France, 1968-1970, Presidential candidate

Eugene Rostow, Under Secretary of State, 1961-1966

Anthony Lake, Director, International Voluntary Service

Edgar Lockwood, Director, Washington Office, American Committee on Africa

Ernest Hollings, U.S. Senator from South Carolina, with
Gus Tyler, Assistant to the President, ILGWU
Morris Bryan, President, Jefferson Mills, Georgia
--American Textile Manufacturers

Ron Brown, Director, Washington Office, National Urban League

Paul Nitze, Secretary of the Navy, 1963-1967; Secretary of Defense, 1967-1969;
Member, SALT Delegation, 1969-Present

Zbigniew Brzezinski, Director, Trilateral Commission

Arthur Taylor, President, Columbia Broadcasting System

Morris Amitay, Executive Director, American Israel Public Affairs Committee

Cooper Holt, Executive Director, Veterans of Foreign Wars, with
Donald Schwab, National Leg. Director, Veterans of Foreign Wars

Lyle Pearson, National Commander, Disabled Veterans

Jon Rottenberg, Washington Representative, National Conference on Soviet Jewry

Alexander Trowbridge, Secretary of Commerce, 1967-68

Sanford Gottlieb, Executive Director, SANE

James Wagonseller, Past National Commander, American Legion

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Harriet Miller, Executive Director, National Retired Teachers Association/
American Association of Retired Persons

Bernard White, Member, Executive Committee, with
Alan Lesser, Director, Washington Office
--Zionist Organization of America

Gerald Cassidy, with
Kenneth Scholssberg
--international food consultants

-more-

THURSDAY, MAY 20

9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

William Proxmire, U.S. Senator from Wisconsin

Fred Harris, U.S. Senator from Oklahoma, 1965-1973, Presidential candidate

Murray Finlay, President, Amalgamated Clothing Workers; Chairperson, The Full Employment Action Council

Dr. Bernard Sorokin, with
Ms. Billie Carr, Co-Chair
Ronald Dellums, U.S. Representative from California
--New Democratic Coalition

Claude Pepper, U.S. Representative from Florida; Chairman, Select Committee on Aging

Rev. Jesse Jackson, National President, Operation PUSH

Morris K. Udall, U.S. Representative from Arizona; U.S. Presidential Candidate

Paul Hall, President, Seafarers' Union

Most Reverend James Malone, Bishop of Youngstown, Ohio; U.S. Catholic Conference

Stanley Dreyer, President, Cooperative League of the United States

Milton Stewart, President, National Small Business Association

Patricia Schroeder, U.S. Representative from Colorado

Olya Margolin, President, Council of Jewish Women

Dr. Eugene Linsef, Chairman, Political Science Dept., Concordia Lutheran College,
St. Paul, Minnesota

Mrs. E. Babette Edwards, President, Harlem Parents' Union
--Citizens for Educational Freedom

Terry Herndon, Executive Director, National Education Association

Carl Bradley, F.A.I.A., Vice President, American Institute of Architects

Albert DelBello, County Executive, Westchester County, New York, National Association of Counties

Elaine Latourell, National Vice President for Legislation, National Organization for Women

Endicott Peabody, Secretary, Americans for Energy Independence
Former Governor of Massachusetts

THURSDAY, MAY 20

7

9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Seymour Graubard, President, Anti-Defamation League, Conference of Presidents
of Major Jewish Organizations

Arthur S. Fleming, Chairman, U.S. Civil Rights Commission, with
Frankie Freeman, Commissioner, U.S. Civil Rights Commission
John Buggs, Staff Director, U.S. Civil Rights Commission

Keith Stroup, NORML

###