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HEARINGS
BEFORE THE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS
OF THE
UNITED STATES SENATE
NINETIETH CONGRESS
SECOND SESSION
AND
NINETY-FIRST CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION
ON
NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS
PART 4—SOUTH CAROLINA

WASHINGTON, D.C., FEBRUARY 18, 19, AND 20, 1969



Printed for the use of the Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs

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NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1969

U.S. SENATE,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met at 11 :05 a.m., pursuant to call, in room 1114, New Senate Office Building, Senator George McGovern (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Senators McGovern, Ellender, Hart, Percy, Cook, and Dole.

Also present: William C. Smith, staff director; and general counsel Kenneth Schlossberg, professional staff member for the majority; and Clarence V. McKee, professional staff member for the minority.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order.

OPENING STATEMENT BY HON. GEORGE MCGOVERN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM SOUTH DAKOTA, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

The CHAIRMAN. This week's hearings mark the beginning of the committee's efforts to examine the problems of malnutrition and hunger in particular parts of the country.

Thus far, we have been dealing with it on a broad national basis, but we will see, through public hearings in Washington and on field trips to 10 or more States the nutritional needs of the people in specific areas of the country, and we will make an attempt to assess the extent to which Federal, State, and local efforts are either meeting, or failing to meet, these needs.

We will begin our field hearings on March 10 in Collier County, Fla.

Our second field hearing will be later on in March in Boston, Mass. Testimony of the next 3 days will focus on the State of South Carolina. We are focusing on the South Carolina situation this week, not to single this State out as having a hunger or malnutrition problem that is unique, or even more severe than that in many, many other parts of the Nation, but to illustrate what I believe is the emergency nature of this problem and to give some sense of its urgency.

In another sense, though, I think South Carolina is different, because the people of that State have been awakened to the problem of hunger and many community officials and leaders are seeking to find ways to deal with it, thanks, I suspect, in considerable measure, to the efforts of Senator Hollings, who is with us as our first witness today, and who has taken upon himself to visit various parts of his State and to give considerable time and energy to try to come to a better understanding of the nature and extent of the nutritional problems in the State he represents.

Following Senator Hollings, State Senator Waddell, who will be joined by Mr. Thomas Barnwell and Mr. William Grant, of Beaufort County, S.C.

They will tell us of their efforts to get help to their people, people in desperate straits, some of whom live in areas where they have to walk miles to get clean water for their homes.

Many of those homes are equipped with no toilet facilities at all, indoors or outdoors.

We are going to hear tomorrow from a panel of doctors who have examined 181 preschool children in Beaufort and Jasper Counties, S.C., and they will report on the results of their clinical and dietary examinations of these children.

Finally, on Thursday of this week, several witnesses who have taken a close look at the food stamp and school lunch programs in South Carolina will present their findings.

Senator Hollings, we are honored to welcome you as our first witness, and I want to personally commend you on the efforts you have made in your own State to come to a better understanding of the problem with which this committee is concerned.

STATEMENT OF HON. ERNEST F. HOLLINGS, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Senator HOLLINGS. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate it very much. I appreciate the leadership you and my colleagues on the committee are giving.

I am happy to be here this morning with Senator James Waddell, and Mr. Thomas Barnwell, and Mr. William Grant.

I have been asked today to report on my recent visit to South Carolina hunger and poverty areas.

I visited Little Mexico in my hometown of Charleston and Black Bottom and the slums in our capital city of Columbia, Rock Quarry and Riverside in Greenville—the slums of Anderson and the rural poverty areas of Chesterfield, Jasper, and Beaufort Counties. The details of the Beaufort visit will be reported by others here this morning. I would like to sum up the problem as I found it statewide.

There is hunger in South Carolina. In Beaufort County I visited a shack in which 16 persons lived and there was no light, no heat, no running water, hot or cold, no bath, no toilet. The entire store of food consisted of a slab of fatback, a half-filled jar of locally harvested oysters, and a stick of margarine. Dr. Kenneth Aycock, our State health official, who was accompanying me, tentatively diagnosed a man in the house as suffering from pellagra, a disease supposedly nonexistent in this country. In the same house one small child had rickets and another was recovering from scurvy.

At our next stop I talked with an 83-year-old man who supports a wife and three children on a \$40-a-month welfare check. Two of the children receive hot lunches at school by paying 35 cents a day. The cost of these children eating lunch is \$14, out of a total family income of \$40. When I pointed out that Congress had provided a free lunch program, Thomas C. Barnwell, from whom you will hear later, said, "Well, Senator, that hasn't trickled down this far yet. Maybe we are just too far down the coast. Anyway, we haven't got it."

At other homes water had to be carried a distance of 2 miles—not because a waterline isn't available. There is one there and in place, but the Federal law provides for a \$25 tap-on fee and in most homes the cost is absolutely prohibitive.

In the Bluffton area I saw a mother of 10 children, one of whom is mentally retarded. The woman supports the family on a \$116 welfare check. She is eligible for food stamps, but she has never heard of the program. State Senator Waddell pointed out the problem in disseminating the information. They simply have no one in the field. Nor was this an isolated incident.

In the five areas I visited, there are literally hundreds of hungry families who never heard of food stamps. But perhaps this is a blessing, for if they did, they wouldn't qualify anyway. They can't afford the initial cost.

In Columbia, S.C., I visited in an area known as Friday's Alley, where there are three water spigots for 35 families. A previous visit had prompted the health department to condemn outhouses that were unsanitary. The result: The owner removed the outhouses so that 20 families must use a single one, still filthy and unsanitary. But this wasn't bad. In the rock quarry section of Greenville, 38 families were required to use one toilet, the seat of which had been burned for firewood.

In Columbia I talked with one man who told me he had to burn his lights all night to keep the rats from biting his children. But perhaps he was fortunate—most didn't have lights.

I met a Mrs. Jackson, who upon being questioned, broke down and cried. She admitted to being hungry and sick, and said she had not eaten in 2 days. Mattie Simmons sat on the porch of her home on Pulaski Street, in sight of the Capitol. She pays \$25 a month for rent and \$1.50 for every day the payment is late. Her house consists of three rooms, "But they is rotten," and she means this literally, because she has fallen through the floor three times. Her window panes are out and Mrs. Simmons says it gets so cold she almost freezes to death. She is on welfare, but doesn't know how much she gets. Someone has to cash her checks for her. She can't read or write.

In Chesterfield County we saw shacks without bathrooms, window panes, or running water. At one house, four children were home from school so their mother could wash the only clothes they had. The mother pays \$5 monthly to haul water from a white lady's house. The children said they eat grits for breakfast and greens or cabbage for supper—when they have it.

At another house—better described as a hovel—four girls were home from school. They were all barefoot. They said they had no shoes. In another house the floor in one room is used as a family bathroom. These are just a few examples.

Nor is the problem simply one of race. In Anderson, S.C., I visited a home of a family of 10—a mother, eight children, and an idiot relative of age 50. The mother's income is \$50 a week. They receive no welfare. I was told by a lovely 15-year-old girl, who is in the sixth grade, that she and her brother get hot lunches at school but they never heard of food stamps. I saw white hunger, white poverty, and white slums in Riverside in Greenville, Black Bottom in Columbia, and in Beaufort and Chesterfield counties.

White or black, the poverty is the same. Bleak hunger and hovel-housing amidst disease and ignorance. Again and again, no running water—hot or cold—no lights, no toilet facilities amidst filth, and too little to eat. In many instances there is awareness of the problem. In most cases local and State officials traveled with me and they have tried. But there is a greater blight perhaps than poverty. That is the red-tape-worm of Federal Government.

For example, at Warsaw Island in Beaufort, 60 families are without water. Before a water system can be installed, the Federal Government requires a satisfactory comprehensive water plan. To secure such a plan, the local people say, is impossible. It would be easier to put a man on the moon. For 7 years they have tried, still no water.

At Low Bottom, the Federal requirement of a \$25 tap-in fee voids the program. The poor can't afford \$25. The pipe and system is ready, but still no water.

In housing the FHA provides a program for the rural poor and there is none to speak of. Wretched hovels persist. After the Civil War at Lady's Island the freed slaves were given 10-acre plots. Families moved in and out.

No records were kept, and what we lawyers call "heir property" resulted. You can't obtain a fee simple title to comply with the Federal requirement, and, as a result no homes, just hovels.

In food stamps, let me reiterate once more, of the hundreds I saw in South Carolina, 90 percent couldn't qualify even if they heard of it. And in only two instances did they know what we talking about.

Many times the local effort has been frustrated. Joe Frazier, the heavyweight champion of the world, was born in this area. He came down and gave boxing exhibitions. The money was used to start the construction of several day-care centers. Two have been completed by the churches, but five half-completed remain as a bleak monument to Federal bureaucracy.

OEO says this is exactly what the area needs, but they won't give the \$40,000 to complete the five centers. The same OEO would readily employ two consultants at \$20,000 a year to study the need, but nothing to satisfy it. As a consequence, the biggest cry I received from the local leadership and the poor on my visits was, "Senator, don't ask me any more of these questions, just get us some food and something to live in."

There are certain facts of hunger that are familiar to the committee, but must be emphasized. You know the social facts. Without food, the children will catch worms and other diseases. Without food and care and the consequent disease, there will be no attendance at school, and those who start become weak and ill and drop out. Dropouts, lack of job skills, and the unemployment compound the problem. Without food, people steal and find themselves in jail.

The economic facts that result from these social truths should answer the question that we constantly hear in the Congress, "Where are we going to get the money?" What is the cost, Mr. Chairman, of an inmate in the penitentiary as compared to feeding a hungry man? The largest class at our correctional institute is adult training to teach reading and writing. For the cost of instructing a hundred at the penitentiary, we could easily teach a thousand outside.

The 15-year-old that I saw receiving half an education because he was required to babysit every other day with the smaller children,

swapping this task with his 16-year-old sister—when you have had about six grades of mathematics and receive accumulatively about one-half, by the time you hit the seventh grade, you are lost. You are a dropout.

Immediately the Government, like medicine that can cure pneumonia but not the common cold, goes into high gear with counselors, guidance officers, truancy officers, vocational training, and technical training centers. Millions of dollars are spent here.

The reason hardly any of the hungry are designated as “starving” is that our society will take the ill in his last stages and get him to a hospital for treatment. For the \$65 a day there—and that is what it costs at the hospitals, what the costs are in Charleston—we could feed an entire hungry family for a week. The committee must make an analysis to show that a dollar spent on the hungry is \$10 saved in health, welfare, and special training courses. The people must learn that it is cheaper to feed the child than jail the man.

Now the medical facts need emphasizing. Dr. Charles Lowe has just testified a few weeks ago before the committee that the brain cells of the human being form during the first 4 years. Because of the lack of nutrition there is often as much as a 20-percent loss in the brain cell development. Now many is the time that my friends have pointed a finger and said, “Look at that dumb Negro.”

The charge too often is accurate—he is dumb. But not because of the color of his skin. He is dumb because we have denied him food. Dumb in infancy, he has been blighted for life.

Now for the political facts. Remember this outstanding one.

Politically, hunger cannot be seen through the eyes of any but the neighbor. I can find hunger in my backyard, but you cannot. Your finding hunger and worm in South Carolina is no better than my finding rats and slums in Harlem.

The resentment to an outsider who views poverty conditions builds up such a reaction at the local level that people forget about hunger and slums and go out and search for political heads. The quickest way to cut off help to the hungry is for an outsider to head the program.

South Carolina, like every Southern State, is proud. I know we should be ashamed of this hunger. I know as a public official I am late to the problem. But in South Carolina we are also practical. Government is the art of the possible and, financially, it is impossible for the State to solve this problem.

As Governor, I had to put first things first. There were many able-bodied standing around looking for jobs and so industrial development plus State pride resulted in the public policy of covering up the problem of hunger. We didn't want the vice president of the plant in New York to know the burdens. We told him only of the opportunities. You don't catch industry with worms—maybe fish, but not industry.

The second political fact is that hunger is nonpartisan, nonracial. My trips to the poverty areas recently have been charged as a cheap Democratic trick for Negro votes. Hardly. South Carolina's hunger is both white and Negro. It was Republican Governor Romney who came to South Carolina last year to see the hungriest county in America. It was the Republican councilman that showed me slums in Greenville. It was the Republican mayor last week in Anderson that pointed out slums in Anderson.

What Republicans see should not be termed Democratic trickery when a Democrat views them.

Another political fact that must be coped with is the constant rebuff—"jobs, but not handouts." Many poverty programs have aborted because the people will not tolerate "giveaways," and this is the greatest thing that I find in my mail, the outright hostility and rabidness on this particular score.

Of the many letters, I think one would be typical, and I can almost remember the letter word for word from a constituent in Greenville.

A lady wrote and said, "Dear Senator, you cannot represent the productive citizens of South Carolina and the reproducing parasites. Congratulations to the new head of the Whore Corps. Everybody is laying around and getting something for nothing."

No one has worked more constantly or successfully on job development than I have. Seventeen Governors have come to see the technical education program that I initiated as Governor. Billions in industry and over 100,000 jobs have been created. In other words, I know the need for jobs, but what I am talking about here to this committee is downright hunger.

The people I saw couldn't possibly work. There were old people, sick and invalids.

Let us make some suggestions. This committee should set as a national goal the elimination of hunger and slum conditions in America. Ten years ago we set a national goal for construction of a super-highway system and the conquest of space. Now, we have about completed this and there is no reason why in the next 10 years hunger and slums cannot be eliminated from the American scene.

Secondly, the Federal red-tape-worm must be exterminated. We must cut through the bottlenecks and coordinate so that food reaches the hungry rather than giving them scientific studies as to why we think they may be hungry. I know educated people who do not enjoy a proper diet. This is not the problem we are talking about. We are talking about what is easily recognized without a study.

Third, food stamps, without cost, must be provided with similar stamps being used for the cost of clothes and used for the school feeding programs. A hot breakfast, as well as a hot lunch, should be provided.

The feeding and housing programs must be administered jointly with an education program. Some have suggested that rent supplements go directly to the persons. I disagree.

Food and housing without education would be futile in the extreme rural poverty areas that I have in South Carolina. They still wouldn't know what to eat. They would use the bathtub as a coal bin and homes without supervision would result in slums in a short time. In other words, the Government programs should be designed to maintain people and not just buildings.

Let me categorically state there is hunger in South Carolina. There is substantial hunger. I have seen it with my own eyes. "Starving"—that is too dreadful a term. But the result is the same.

Those weakened and diseased from hunger are dying from the disease caused by the hunger. Weakened and diseased, they become emotionally blind. Their burden and ours compounds and grows. The hunger and burden of the poor can no longer be ignored.

Now, Mr. Chairman and distinguished members, I would be glad to try to answer any questions. There is much I purposely omitted, because I wanted to cut short and make room for the more expert witnesses who live directly with it, and who have been trying—I think this is the unique part of the Beaufort problem. They are aware of the problem.

They are public leaders and community leaders, but they still have been frustrated, and I think this should be brought to the committee's attention.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Hollings, I want to begin by saying that your statement is one of the most powerful and compelling and dramatic that I expect this committee will receive in the course of our investigation, and it is given additional force by the fact that it comes from someone who has taken the time to look at these problems himself, and not relied on hearsay and reports.

You have gone into the field, and you are quite correct that you have told us things that it would be very difficult, if not impossible, for the committee to find with its own investigation.

We are very grateful to you. I am wondering whether on the basis of your rather sustained efforts in the past 2 or 3 weeks in traveling in various parts of your State with reference to this problem, that you found it considerably worse than you expected?

Senator HOLLINGS. We all do. We all know it is there, Mr. Chairman. We see it every day, whether it is callous, or knowing that we can't do too much about it from a financial standpoint, you pass over, you move on and, again, there is that pride, like a family.

We are very close knit. We are proud of our State, proud of our communities, and this is very good. Like a family, we don't talk about anything, like anyone who has a venereal disease in the family.

Hunger is a worse problem. You go and give the Thanksgiving basket and the Christmas basket, and you say, "I have done my duty."

I don't know any chamber of commerce who does anything about this. I hope we can get our civic clubs and chambers of commerce to do something about it.

I would say, yes, it is worse than I knew. A senator only last week—Senator Harris from Chesterfield—he was a little casual when we started our trip, but you ought to have heard him with the news media when we got through.

This is something we have to handle. I could give you a lot of political reasons, but I am sure the intent of this committee is not politics, but because it is right. I appreciate the comment about the dramatic statement, and maybe the news media will leave it out.

They will say, "That fellow has Potomac fever, and to heck with him."

I am not going to be coming back up here and nagging a point, but I will be glad to counsel my Senators and work on my problem.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator, what do you regard as the chief reasons for this problem?

Where do you see the responsibility lying?

Senator HOLLINGS. At every level. Of course, they have always said the local people have the problem, the State has the power, and the Federal Government has the money. It is about the same on this score.

I don't mean to say it is a total Federal fault. It is a total Federal financial responsibility.

I have the highest rate of illiteracy, with the least wherewithal, of any State but Mississippi. Thank heavens for Mississippi again.

I am trying to build schools and get jobs and develop technical training centers and everything else. But we don't financially have the ability to do it. These trips have been a lot of help.

Immediately some areas got food stamps the next week. In the city of Anderson, a town of 35,000 population, there is no housing authority, so if you tried to clear out the slum, there wouldn't be any housing whatsoever for them to go to.

But tonight I am told that that council and that mayor—and he is doing a fine job—will meet and they will approve now for the first time a housing authority for that city.

I think we have got to bring this to the attention of the local people. The State people have got to give the leadership, the churches could do better, and the Federal Government can provide this program, and with education—you see very, very encouraging signs. I didn't want to get into the housing any, but one in particular in Sumter, Rev. Fred James has a rent supplement housing program in his nonprofit church association.

He had to fight the Federal Government on maintaining people rather than buildings. FHA would get the money to get it, but they wouldn't provide the money to supervise the people.

There was money in the FHA to build a house to keep the tools in, but he wanted a little room, and the church gave the money and they have a community center. It is over a year old now, and it is a model. We broke ground about 3 years ago. He inspects it—there is a class every week—he instructs on how to use the stove and the various facilities, and, of course, there is a waiting list of about 75 in his church, and if they don't adhere to it, he can put them out and put others in.

This is what I try to emphasize. There is local leadership, and they know how to handle this problem. I think that the committee's time spent on finding exactly—we are so scientific about everything—this is everybody's problem and everybody's fault, and I think we would be spinning our wheels. In fact, I think it would be a disservice to this committee to keep studying this to find the fault there. That is the greatest fault we have.

The CHAIRMAN. You have mentioned, Senator, various aspects of the poverty problem—food, education, health, housing, unemployment. Where would you place malnutrition and hunger in that scale in terms of the urgency of the need, priority of need?

Senator HOLLINGS. It is the heart of the problem. Like you have indicated, I am a damage-suit lawyer, and when I see the client in many cases, he is multiple injured, with a broken arm and a fractured skull and everything else.

The hunger, lack of a skill, poor health facilities, no job opportunity, and all these things. You have to begin at the beginning and feed the man. I think this has been the trouble, that we have started on the other end.

We can get graduate education, and even I can get technical training, but we can't get food. These people are going to be belligerent before long, not just docile and sick.

The CHAIRMAN. First of all, you have warned against outsiders coming into your State and trying to deal with this problem and look at it.

Second, you have indicated that too much study and investigation may not be in order right now. What you need is some food rather than some more studies.

What does that mean in terms of the work of this committee and what we ought to be doing?

Senator HOLLINGS. It means we meet here next year in February of 1970 and you are still studying. You are gone. The problem is going to move down the road and pass you, and you are going to turn from a hunger committee into a police committee.

The CHAIRMAN. You know the mandate of this committee, Senator, is to be completed before the end of this year.

Senator HOLLINGS. The people are reasonable. These community leaders, Mr. Grant and Mr. Barnwell, they have been waiting and waiting. They have been 7 years on Warsaw Island, and we are going to get water out there.

I think we will finally have it there before next year. But the people are reasonable, but they have got—you see, that is what was wrong with the last administration, overpromise and underperformance, and we have got to stop that in America.

We have got to, particularly with the Hunger Committee, now that you have thrown the kleig lights on the problem, you can't be calling in everybody and goosing them and tickling them and finding out what worm it is.

The general assembly in South Carolina is working on it, but you have to move in realistically and get the food to the hungry.

The CHAIRMAN. You would agree, though, would you not, Senator, that this congressional committee has a responsibility to look at Federal programs that have been authorized and funded by the Congress to see whether they are working or not, and, if not, why?

Senator HOLLINGS. Well, the Federal Government has been known to work irresponsibly at times, and this would be a good place to get that going. Start out somehow, even if it is wrong, getting food down there, and getting medical care, and sanitary instruction.

There is no use to get the child with the worms and give him shots, and he is back out in the fecal matter, without toilets, and he has the worms back in 48 hours.

I think we have to move forward, and this committee can do it. I think we ought to bring the pressures to every level. We ought to continue it, not just here in Washington before your committee, and see what you are going to do.

Regardless of what the committee does, we are going to work on it at this level. The Governor and the general assembly are completely cognizant of it, and they are beginning to get charged up now. You folks call it a dialog, and we call it an argument.

We are beginning to argue this thing out and fuss and holler at each other, but it is good. It is health, because we are facing up to the problem.

The CHAIRMAN. I think you know, Senator, that the resolution which created this committee did two things: It authorized this investigation, but it also called on every agency of the Government to

make a maximum effort with existing authority right now, without further delay; in other words, to try to improve our existing programs at every level.

So I am sure the members of this committee agree with what you are suggesting, that insofar as we now have the authority in the Federal Government, we ought to make a maximum effort now and not wait for any further recommendation.

Just one final question.

One of our colleagues has been quoted as saying that this is a problem that has always been with us—that is, the problem of hunger—and there isn't really very much that can be done about it, that it is a chronic problem, and it has existed since the time of Christ, and there isn't an awful lot that can be done, and furthermore, the efforts of our committee to spotlight it are an insult to the individual States.

I would be interested in your comment on that.

Senator HOLLINGS. I think it is my senatorial colleague that has been quoted, correctly or not, as saying we have had the problem since the time of Jesus Christ.

The only feeding program the Government had in the days of Christ was throwing Christians to the lions, and if we are going to approach it in that way—well, I hope we have come further than that.

The worst thing that could happen is to get into an argument to find out whether Thurmond is right and Hollings is wrong. I have seen that. Nice boys gig him and then gig me. They are looking for a headline.

The problem is individuals. It is the most difficult thing to stay on top in this particular field, and I am not looking to try to argue and say that I know anything, or I know a certain way it has to be done. There are so many ways it has to be done if we could all agree on it, and I think now is the time to use.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Senator Ellender?

Senator ELLENDER. Senator, how many of the people you visited were on welfare?

Senator HOLLINGS. I would say that not over one-third. A lot of them are getting nothing at all. These are real, extreme poverty areas.

Senator ELLENDER. Those who are not on welfare, how do they live?

Senator HOLLINGS. They don't. They barely exist.

Senator ELLENDER. Why can't they get on welfare?

Senator HOLLINGS. A number of reasons. They have been denied for one reason or another. You are getting back into the concept of responsibility, and again it is a complex part of this problem.

I introduced the Uniform Support Act in South Carolina, and it is the law, but how can you chase them down in New York and Florida? They go and apply and are denied the welfare payments.

In many cases, some of your welfare officials down the line are misplaced in their particular roles as officials, because they resent anyone getting onto the welfare rolls. They don't look upon it as an opportunity to clean up a problem, but, rather, they almost look upon it as their money and they are not going to give it away, and I could name you numerous reasons for the fact that they are not on it.

Now, some that weren't, they went around with these various health officials, they have gone back and seen that they had payments, and do begin to qualify.

Senator ELLENDER. Judging from what you say, most of your problem is due to lack of cooperation at the local level. South Carolina is one of the few States in the Union that has the food stamp program in every county, and I just wonder why it is that your State officials don't see to it that this program is properly administered, because it is up to—they make the bid for it. That is, in each county representations are made as to the necessity for this program. The people at the Washington level look into it, and it is then granted under certain conditions. The only condition imposed on the State is to administer it, and if there is anything wrong with administration, I would pin it on the State officials.

Senator HOLLINGS. Well, pin it there. It is still no food. [Laughter.] [Applause.]

Here is what is wrong, Senator.

"Guidelines," you mentioned—"Under certain conditions." That is another expression of the word we have trouble with down in our part of the country, "guidelines."

In Williamsburg County, Governor Romney comes down, and I say, "This is a heck of a note, the Governor of Michigan coming down here."

This is before the Governor and the State did adopt a policy for food stamps. The local people would not administer it. They needed \$25,000 to administer the food stamp program to the hungry.

The local leadership had collected some \$8,000, and they needed \$17,000 more. I got that out of a salary schedule. I hope they won't try Sarge Shriver for this. I went to him and begged him for the \$17,000.

I said, "I need \$17,000," and that is how we started it down there.

Now, yes, the State has starved the program, to disseminate the information and get it to the field, and then the important qualification of the minimal qualifying.

A fellow would work—I saw this last week—a fellow would work when he could, driving trucks, and he would make \$80 or \$90 a week, and the job was temporary, and when he was off, it was just enough to keep him from getting the food stamps.

Another fellow dug swimming pools. He made enough in the warm weather to disqualify him. It is reason after reason after reason, that kind of thing, that working together we have to clear up.

Senator ELLENDER. There are certain guidelines written out for observation by the local officials. But from your statement, I would judge that everyone of the people you have just been speaking about would be entitled to it.

Senator HOLLINGS. I believe so; yes, sir.

Senator ELLENDER. Exactly, and why it is not given to them, I can't understand it. It must be lack of interest by the local people.

Under the present rules, a person, given \$3 in cash, could get \$48 in food stamps. It strikes me it would cure a lot of evils if your local people would only give the news out and make this good program available to the people.

Senator HOLLINGS. Senator, when I answered "entitled," I meant morally, not legally. I have a family, an old woman with seven children, and she doesn't have the initial payment—

Senator ELLENDER. You mean \$3?

Senator HOLLINGS. That is right, and many of them don't understand the financial arrangements. They can't read or write and I am sure these folks right here in Beaufort County will talk of specific examples and tell you of them.

They cannot pay the money down. In many instances you have to put down \$90. If you make that \$90 at any one time, you can't qualify.

Senator ELLENDER. As you know, under the food stamp plan, the regulations are a little different from one State to the other, depending, probably, on the condition of the people; that is, their capability of putting up the money.

The only actual requirement, generally speaking, is that they must spend for food each month what they spent in the past. In other words, if a family has been spending \$15 a month, or \$20 a month, then they put up that \$15 and get as much as \$75 in stamps. As I said a while ago, they have made it more lenient in many cases, and they have provided for \$48 of the food for \$3 worth of cash. It strikes me that if your local officials will look into this program that a lot of the difficulty that you are now talking about would be ameliorated.

I hope that your State senator, who is going to be the next witness, will give us the reasons why it is that the local and State officials don't do that job.

Senator HOLLINGS. Senator, no segment of Government is totally without fault here, and we are working on trying to disseminate the information and implement the program in a most comprehensive way, and I am sure Senator Waddell will point these things out that have been done, but I saw many, many people, and this is what I am really concerned with, that we have to understand as Senators and as your committee that there are people in dire need that cannot read or write.

They don't have any record about how much they spent last week or spent last month, because they didn't spend any. They get hand-outs, they live on other members of the family, what they can steal, and in some of the areas where they can get oysters. Those kinds of things don't indicate a Federal program with guidelines.

What I am talking about is that it would be much more economical and resultant to go ahead and get them food.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Hart?

Senator HART. Mr. Chairman, I am sure we want to hear the other witnesses. I just want to join in your comment about Senator Hollings' presentation. It has been as direct as having somebody put their finger in your eye.

I would hope that it would open our eyes. I am sure it will.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Percy?

Senator PERCY. Senator Hollings, I would like to first state that I am filled with admiration for your willingness to pinpoint a problem area in your own State. I know there isn't a single committee member who has not been perfectly willing to have this committee or any other investigatory agency look into their own States.

However, there have been some public officials who have been reported as trying to prevent investigation or revelation of problems in a State, and I think it is a false sense of State pride.

It is our job to focus attention on problems, not just the good things, and I can't commend you too highly for your work.

You have in your State a doctor who is well known, I first heard of him through an article in Esquire magazine. Dr. Donald Gatch. I wonder if you are familiar with his work and what he has done to investigate hunger in South Carolina in Beaufort County?

Senator HOLLINGS. Senator Percy, Dr. Gatch has become so controversial that, again, in going to Beaufort County, I told them initially—the officials were all gathered there, and some of the news media—I told them I had not come to be pro-Gatch or anti-Gatch, but the issue was to be prohunger or antihunger.

I went to see Dr. Gatch, and what he showed us was hunger and malnutrition. In many instances, there is controversy. It has not run its course. It is just getting started good.

Last week, in the headline, Dr. Gatch says that the war in Vietnam is a racist war, and he is advising the people who work with the predominantly Negro population, and he will give them physicals, and there are 90-something human defects that get you out of the draft, and if you come to him, you can get out of the racist war.

This has been denied by Dr. Gatch. That is the trouble when you get in there.

The fellow there was an insider, but he was sort of run out of the Beaufort area, and he is now in the Jasper area. In substantial measure, I think he is accurate. I wasn't going to ignore him. Everywhere I went, I had the same apprehensiveness that our distinguished senior Senator from Louisiana has. I wanted to see the worst, but I would just about take the fifth amendment on Dr. Gatch. It is not going to help this problem very much. I have not tried to find out whether he is right or wrong, and maybe I am doing him an injustice but the problem of hunger is greater than an individual.

Senator PERCY. For many of us, he has helped to put the finger on this problem. I wonder if Mr. Barnwell and Mr. Grant know Dr. Gatch.

Senator HOLLINGS. They know him intimately, and would be glad to answer questions about him, I am sure.

Senator PERCY. As I understand Dr. Gatch's work, Mr. Chairman, he has seen firsthand the effects of hunger, and has treated local citizens for malnutrition, and when he spoke about this problem publicly, and was interviewed on it, many of his fellow white citizens denied the fact that hunger did actually exist.

Of course, we know that there is nothing really new in the situation. We have seen this happen before. However, in the case of Dr. Gatch, there has been reason to fear that the local population has taken a variety of ways to punish him for the work that he has done in this area.

I was concerned enough when I heard about that, that on November 25, I wrote a letter to the Honorable Wilbur Cohen, the Secretary of HEW, and asked him to see whether or not he could not investigate—when a person such as this tries to put a finger on a real problem—whether or not he is placed in the position where he is endangered in the community, and whether we don't have any responsibility for him.

I received a reply from Mr. Lee, and I request unanimous consent that not only my letter, but the reply, dated December 24, 1968, be placed in the record.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection, that will be done.
(The correspondence referred to follows:)

NOVEMBER 25, 1968.

HON. WILBUR J. COHEN,
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. COHEN: In the June 1968 Esquire magazine an article appeared about a courageous doctor in South Carolina by the name of Donald E. Gatch. I was impressed by the dedicated work of Dr. Gatch but even more concerned about the harassment which he has undergone in the community itself. Since then there have been continuing rumors to the effect that Dr. Gatch is still being harassed by the community and perhaps more seriously by a number of visits from various federal and congressional agents. Quite obviously such persistent and continuing harassment has subjected this doctor and his family to intolerable pressures. I understand that the wife of Dr. Gatch has recently entered a mental institution and his children are subjected to discriminatory practices. His medical practice, of course, is hampered by such interruptions and interference.

While this situation has, quite obviously, been of concern to me, I have no way to determine the validity of these rumors. I feel that your Department may wish to ascertain whether private and public doctors are cooperating to help him in meeting the obvious health problems in his community. Any information which you can supply to me on this matter would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

CHARLES H. PERCY,
U.S. Senator.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., December 24, 1968.

HON. CHARLES H. PERCY,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR PERCY: Secretary Cohen has asked me to reply to your letter of November 25 regarding Dr. Donald Gatch. I am sorry my reply has been delayed.

A member of my staff, who knows Dr. Gatch, spoke with him by telephone. Dr. Gatch gave the following information pertinent to your questions:

1. Relations with the local medical practitioners are virtually nil.
2. Dr. Gatch has closed his Beaufort office, due to a fall-off in paying patients.
3. He "resigned" from the Beaufort County Memorial Hospital (hospital by-laws require the active staff to live in Beaufort. When Dr. Gatch closed that office he was no longer eligible for active staff privileges).
4. Dr. Gatch spoke at the medical school at Charleston several weeks ago, and was "well received."
5. The only "investigators" who have approached him were two visitors several months ago who identified themselves as being from Representative Whitten's staff, and asked to talk to him privately (he met with them for 1/2 - 1 hour). Later they apparently interviewed others in the area.
6. In terms of personal harassment, Dr. Gatch relates no harassment of his children. He does allege that he was apparently "shot at" recently, but did not report the incident to the authorities. Dr. Gatch was somewhat reluctant to pursue this matter, as he feels that his telephone line is not secure. He also stated that his wife had been hospitalized but that she was now at home. She has been under great emotional stress.

As regards the relationship with health authorities, Dr. Gatch relates difficulties as in (1-3) above with local private and public health doctors. He does feel that the State Health Director, Dr. Aycock has been "helpful" to him.

Dr. Gatch's recent nutrition study in Beaufort County will be ready for publication soon. He has agreed to send us a copy of the data.

I trust this information will be of use to you.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP R. LEE, M.D.,
Assistant Secretary for Health and Scientific Affairs.

Senator PERCY. I was disappointed that Secretary Cohen did not see fit to send a personal representative, because at the end of the telephone interview that a member of his staff had with Dr. Gatch, Dr. Gatch said he was somewhat reluctant to pursue the matter on the telephone line, because he didn't feel his telephone line was secure, and that should have been an indication that a personal visit might be worthwhile.

I talked to Dr. Gatch this morning on the telephone to see whether or not he would mind our questioning the witnesses today to see if we can get more facts in this case.

But as I understand it, Gatch's office in the county was closed because of a fall-off in paying patients, his relationships with local medical practitioners are virtually nil now, and he resigned from the county memorial hospital. He says he was shot at recently, but did not report the incident to the authorities.

I would like to ask you, Mr. Barnwell, and Mr. Grant, whether or not you do have knowledge that Dr. Gatch was shot at.

Mr. BARNWELL. Personally, I cannot say he has or has not been. However, I do know during the past weekend there were rumors in the community. Many persons were concerned about this. Fortunately, we can say, though, to our knowledge, he is still safe.

Senator PERCY. I am going to ask these questions, because, Mr. Chairman, I think they are quite pertinent. We are trying to get at why a community doesn't locally respond to the problem, and here we have an indication now as to what happens inside a community, a test case, when someone tries to do what in his judgment is the right thing, by bringing out the truth of the situation.

Is it true that his white patient load dropped off after he made these statements?

Mr. GRANT. From visiting the office area, apparently it was. Of course, it is true that he has moved from the Beaufort area, and he is in the Bluffton area practicing now.

Senator PERCY. Would you consider this, then, a form of punishment by the white community for his having made these statements that hunger actually exists in his county and in the State?

Mr. BARNWELL. I could not say 100 percent it is, but it is generally, in the area, in the area there are some persons that, you know, sort of fall off, and find another doctor. "Why should the doctor go into this problem?" And things of that type.

I agree that if this committee or someone could certainly look into this matter, it certainly would make many of us in the community relax a lot more, because we are very concerned that if something drastic does happen to Dr. Gatch, the community would never be the same, and, of course, Mr. Grant—

Senator PERCY. Could you expand on that? What do you think will happen in the county if something did happen to Dr. Gatch?

Mr. BARNWELL. I would be afraid to make any assumption. Mr. Grant can give his impression on this as well.

Senator PERCY. Mr. Grant, would you care to comment on that, please?

Mr. GRANT. I feel if anything would happen to Dr. Gatch, like his getting hurt or anything like that, I think it would be very bad for Beaufort County. That is about all that I can say, though.

Senator PERCY. Does Dr. Gatch continue to have staff privileges at Beaufort Hospital?

Mr. GRANT. I know that he is not working out of the Beaufort Hospital now.

Senator PERCY. Do you know why?

Mr. GRANT. No.

Senator PERCY. Senator Hollings, do you have any comment on that?

Senator HOLLINGS. Yes. I don't comment on why he is or is not working in the hospital. I say that you bring out most vividly what I am trying to emphasize, and that is this problem of hunger.

If we came up here and tried the Gatch case—there is a personality thing involved here. He was completely free, and he came and he went, and if you want to see someone who is going to shoot somebody, I can show you some telegrams I got this morning. We all get them.

Everyone is threatened, and this is unfortunate, because if we get into this kind of a thing, hunger is gone for another year, or 2 or 3 years.

Dr. Gatch came and found some things, and they are accurate. There is hunger and there is malnutrition. He came from Montana. He has been rebuffed locally. He tends to—everybody doesn't agree with everybody's personality. He was going to solve the medical college problem. He said all the doctors were quacks and veterinarians in Beaufort. They are not.

If I went around and called all the lawyers ambulance chasers, I don't think I would get along too well in the area.

I wouldn't call all Senators dumb, and I am the only smart one.

Whether he is going to live through the night or not, or you will, or I will, is always a question, but let's stick to this hunger. If you get to the *Gatch* case, then you are going to miss 4 or 5 more years on the hunger problem. The entire local area is going to continue to clamp down, and as Senator Ellender says, "How do they live?" They barely exist.

Why aren't we going to get the programs, because you are cutting off the local administration of the programs by trying the *Gatch* case?

This fellow who is a Senator has to come up for another election. It will get hot. This is what we are trying to talk about. If those working on nutrition could work practically, then we would get somewhere, but somehow it gets into the scare headlines, and we try somebody's case, and we are down the drain again, and that is the unfortunate part.

Senator PERCY. I am just wondering whether or not we can gloss over—

Senator HOLLINGS. We are not going to gloss over it, but we are not going down a side road. Mr. Gatch can speak to me, and the local solicitor—he is not popular, and I am not popular in a lot of areas. We can find the solution to this hunger problem, if we don't find solution to that.

Senator PERCY. One other question. I have heard that Dr. Gatch's wife and children have been harassed as a result of his statement. Do you have any knowledge of this?

Mr. BARNWELL. I have no actual facts on this, Senator. As I have said earlier, you are out in the area, and you are out in the community

and you hear these things as you go along, and they concern you; yes, but I cannot give you the times and dates of this.

Senator DOLE. Of what?

Mr. BARNWELL. The question he raised with respect to harassment, Senator Dole.

Senator HOLLINGS. May I respectfully, Senator, emphasize, if you want to try that, I can give you calls and letters and telegrams of harassment that put me in the same position. That is not what we are trying to find out in this committee. There is so much chance to get food to the hungry.

If we are going to get down and make headlines instead of make headway—I hope this committee will make headway.

Senator PERCY. I think we are all trying to find the reasons why local government and the local community does not respond to an obvious need, and if the local community attitude is to take punitive action against anyone who raises their voice and stands up to be counted and says: "We have a problem and we have to do something about it," I don't know how we are going to solve these problems. We are all going to be rushing to Washington, because suddenly down here we have people of conscience who will deal with the problems, and I think the conscience has to begin in the community.

I think this is one of the reasons why, as an answer to Senator Ellender's question, why aren't these problems being solved locally?

I think these are some of the facts we are trying to bring out. I think the comments you have made are helpful, and I commend you for making them, and I believe Dr. Gatch, from my analysis, has made a contribution, and I hope he will continue to spotlight the attention, as he has, on this problem, which has helped, I think, the deliberations of this committee.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Cook?

Senator COOK. Senator, where I come from, we call them arguments, too. We have the same problems in Kentucky that you have in South Carolina.

You started off in your remarks by saying that people said to you, "Senator, do something."

Before I became a Senator, I was a county executive of a community of some 600,000 people.

Senator, I feel and I wonder if you agree that one of the reasons local officials are not effective in food distribution is the redtape of the Federal Government which they are required to wade through?

Senator HOLLINGS. Yes, sir.

Senator COOK. You said that the Federal Government has the money. Don't you feel the Federal Government has wasted some of it?

Senator HOLLINGS. Can I read excerpts from a letter a local official received?

I read from a letter from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, dated April 3, 1968, from the regional health director for health services, a Dr. Hudgins, to Dr. Kenneth Aycock.

Now, here is the federalese that we are trying to cut through. Senator COOK. Do you feel that is a form letter he sent to everyone else?

Senator HOLLINGS. Here is one of the finest health officers in all of America. He knew illness. He didn't mind handling sick people, and

he could identify, and he was working on the problem with the local health officer in Beaufort County, who is outstanding.

They say :

The review committee feels there is undoubtedly a need in the Beaufort-Jasper County area for developing health services to the local population.

The intent of Partnership for Health Act is clearly indicated a priority for comprehensive health services directed particularly to the poor or indigent populations.

The review committee felt that the proposal as presented could have been expanded in scope to include medical care components that would more nearly meet the criteria of comprehensive health services. The view is felt that the computation of the needs of the population could have been more specific in terms of population at risk, morbidity, and mortality rates, and indices, the magnitude of the problem could have been somewhat clarified by adopting more specifically the available resources or lack of resources within the project area, the objectives could have been expanded in scope in order to develop a program of comprehensive services. The statement of objectives could have been designed in more specific terms. The reviewers indicated that the objectives outlined seem to be more of a real description to staff than specific delineation of methods and procedures to be employed, and that polishing and refinement of this area would be helpful.

The evaluation section might be enhanced and strengthened by applying additional criteria to the evaluation process. The reviewers felt the project would be considerably strengthened by additional documentation to define the degree of involvement by other community agencies and organizations in the planning process and in the implementation.

And on and on and on, Senator. [Laughter.]

What did the man say? "We just didn't get the money." [Laughter.]

"I said to Dr. Aycock, I am going down there, and we are all concerned, and I want you as health officer to go with me. I can't tell pellagra from this disease, and the fellow says they are starving. I want you to tell me whether they are or are not."

I find some seven of the nine projects had been refused. This is why the community health, with all of the worms and the disease and the illness and everything else—this is the rebuff that we get as a State or county official from the Federal official.

Yes, sir!

Senator COOK. Let me ask you some specifics, then.

You think that HEW in this field has been a failure?

Senator HOLLINGS. The HEW has been a failure, not outright, but largely.

Senator COOK. Let's get to the Department of Agriculture and its food stamps. You said they were available, but there was no one in the field to tell about it. Would you say the Department of Agriculture is a failure in this field?

Senator HOLLINGS. Yes.

Senator COOK. You feel we are drowning in guidelines; don't you?

Senator HOLLINGS. Yes.

Senator ELLENDER. May I say it is not up to the Department of Agriculture to check on this? Is it the local people.

In your State, every county is qualified for food stamps, and it is up to the local people to handle the food problem. You won't have any trouble in getting food through the food stamp plan at all, if you comply with the regulations, and those regulations are, as I understand, given at the local level.

If the food is not properly distributed, you blame the people at the local level.

Senator HOLLINGS. Senator—I would hope the regulations, when you use that expression—it is my hope that these regulations would be eliminated with respect to the downright destitute. They cannot comply with that initial cost of food stamps. I think that is the main hitch in the administration of that program.

Senator COOK. And if these regulations are not met, no stamps are available, regardless of the circumstances, is that right?

Senator HOLLINGS. That is right.

Senator ELLENDER. If you want to make a welfare program out of the food stamp program, that is a horse of a different color. It strikes me that the regulations we had recently, where you put up \$3 to get \$48 of stamps are most equitable.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator, will you yield?

Before we leave that problem, isn't what you are saying, the crux of it, Senator, that there are some people who don't have any money?

Senator HOLLINGS. Exactly.

The CHAIRMAN. And, therefore, a food stamp program that requires a payment of cash at the beginning of the month, where you have to put down so much money in order to get stamps for a month's food supply, just has no relevance to people without income?

Senator HOLLINGS. That is exactly what I have been trying to say, Senator.

Senator WADELLE. Could I address an answer to Senator Ellender on that subject, or would it be out of order at this time?

The CHAIRMAN. Proceed.

Senator WADELLE. We were the third county in the State to institute the food stamp program, before it became statewide, and we found several technical, if you want to call it technical, requirements, or there were certain things that were really not practical in the handling of the program.

I agree with you wholeheartedly. At the bottom of the level, a family from zero income to \$29 a month, they put up the \$3 and get the food stamps. That is one, and it works fine, but, Senator, when the Department of Agriculture has one fieldman that covers several counties for the institution of this program, we found that when we started the program that when they had the—the regulations were that they had to purchase the stamps all at one time at a specific spot. The Department of Agriculture had regulations that the money had to be locked up every night in a vault, the accountability of this money, which I am not fussing with, but they were so stringent that this meant our county, which is made up of 67 islands, and transportation is rather difficult, and these people were not able to come to this one center.

We prevailed on the Department of Agriculture to let us take these food stamps to several health centers and have them distributed.

We had a terrific time. They said: "The accountability will be wrong."

The next problem is, if you are on a welfare check of, let's say, \$125 a month, and that is the maximum in our State, and you can buy \$50 or \$60 worth of food stamps, it was practically impossible for the individual to plunk out the \$60 from that check.

So we again got the Department of Agriculture to modify it so that they could be purchased twice a month.

These are the things that could be looked into. You say we fail on the local level. A lot of people draw social security income and never come through our welfare department. I assure you that every person under old-age assistance, as well as aid to dependent children, has been informed.

But the social security administrator doesn't sit down and explain the food program.

When you talk about failing at the local level, we could improve it tremendously. We have these same people. To purchase these stamps, they have to pay \$2 and \$3 and \$5 for transportation to go and get the stamps, that they don't have. Probably somebody is taking advantage of them. I am not saying all the fault is up here. It is lack of compassion somewhere else down the road. But I am saying the ease, and issuance and administration of the food stamp program could be greatly assisted, and this, to me, could use some refinement, because I have dealt with it on a local level.

We have right now in our counties, in Jasper County, approximately 1,000 families taking advantage of it, but this is not near enough. As I get into my testimony, I will show you how many families have incomes of less than \$3,000 that would be there.

But there are practical administrative problems that could be resolved and made easier, Senator, along the line.

The bottom of the schedule is fine, but when you get up to the woman with \$125 with five persons in the family, she puts up \$48 and gets \$32 worth of food stamps, on a total of \$80 for food out of a \$125 income.

Senator COOK. Mr. Chairman?

Senator, you dwelt on guidelines, and I want to ask you one other thing.

Because of guidelines and the fact that this waterline has not been put in for 7 years and they are still trying to get it figured out, and they are still trying to comply with the Federal regulations, how much do you think the cost of this waterline has been increased when it is finally put in?

Senator HOLLINGS. Four or five times the cost, easily. The cost itself has gone up. We would have saved up that whole money—that is the whole complexity of this problem. We could have saved on the health, on the shots, because they would have worked there, they could have taken a bath, there would have been sanitary conditions. You are talking as a contractor, a constructor, and the actual cost has gone up probably two or three times in putting in waterlines in 7 years. All of those things have been going down the drain, and that is what I am hopeful for, because this kind of feeling and this kind of message is getting through to the people in need. The Mr. Grants and the Mr. Barnwells see it every day, and people are getting restless, and the frustrations of our domestic program—I commented that if foreign aid was administered this way, it is a wonder the whole world isn't in revolt against this country. You get antagonistic after you try and there are so many bottlenecks.

Senator COOK. When you came away from people who said, "Senator, don't ask us any more questions, just do something," did you feel the Federal Government was an inverted pyramid?

Senator HOLLINGS. Right, and I felt that this fellow didn't really feel I was going to try to do anything about it. That is why I got Mr. Grant and Mr. Barnwell and said, "You come up to Washington," so they could tell you as poignantly and as movingly as they did me. I wanted the committee to get the message directly from them.

The CHAIRMAN. I asked you a moment ago about the problem of the family with no income, and the present requirement that you have to pay something for the food stamps.

What about the family that has an income of, say, \$50 a month, which is required to pay \$16 or \$20 a month for these food stamps, or an income of \$100 a month, who may be required to pay \$40 for their food stamps?

Is that possible in terms of the other claims on that limited income?

Senator HOLLINGS. The problem is very simple, and very complex, and when you try to write out one Federal program for all situations, you get into some unjust situations. You indicated that you can't pay and still sustain the family on that amount, and you try to increase it.

But I think in taking first things first, that the committee has to get right down to the destitute—I mean nutrition is a sort of a misleading thing when you go off into the scientific miasma. There is not quite enough.

I know a doctor friend of mine, quite close to me. When he started in medical school, in a class on nutrition, each one of the students was required to write down what they had for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They did that for a week and computed the vitamins and everything else, and only two were receiving a proper diet.

Here is an educated man, a college graduate, and off into medical school, and not receiving a nutritional diet, you see.

The committee has got to get at downright hunger first, the slum and poverty conditions, and if there are those who can't quite get \$50 to \$100 to take care of a family of seven, which is obviously inadequate. Those are some of the families we are going to have to get to.

I think if they saw what Bill Smith, your counsel, saw with me, you would get to it right quick.

The CHAIRMAN. If you want to, you can come and join the committee.

Senator HOLLINGS. Thank you, I will work here.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Waddell, we will be happy to hear your statement.

STATEMENT OF HON. JAMES WADDELL, A STATE SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Senator WADDELL. I have given Mr. Smith my statement.

In appearing before you today, it is not my primary purpose to remind you that poverty is neither indigenous nor limited to Beaufort and Jasper County, S.C.; neither do I come to extol the virtues of rural poverty as compared to the poverty and squalor of the city slums. Indeed, I come not to praise poverty of any kind but, hopefully, with you, to bury poverty of all kinds.

Poverty is universal but none of us is entitled to take comfort from the breadth of its existence. Nor do I derive any personal solace from the fact that the evidence of poverty and its fruits are as easily, if not more easily, accessible here in Washington as in my own district.

Neither should I incline to gloat over the fact that even worse forms of infestation than the ascariasis located in my district may well exist close by.

Indeed, if the harsh glare of publicity which has fallen on my district because of the discovery of the ascaris worm there serves to bring to light the conditions of poverty for which we have vainly sought assistance in eliminating, some good will have come of statements which otherwise might be deemed injudicious and offensive.

Ascariasis, or infestation by the ascaris worm, has aptly been described as a "hand to mouth" condition, but its root cause can be ever more aptly described as a "hand to mouth" existence. However revolting and repulsive the mental images may be of the ascaris worm entering human bodies, particularly those of little children, the fact is that they are eradicated with infinitely greater ease than the poverty, squalor and ignorance which are their true breeding grounds and their haven of refuge.

The ascaris worm is no more native nor peculiar to Beaufort and Jasper Counties, S.C., than is the poverty upon which it thrives. Studies on the subject of the ascaris worm are recorded with respect to Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Louisiana, while other studies recite conditions encountered in Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Pakistan, Egypt, South Africa, the Near and Far East, Okinawa, Indonesia, Cook Islands, New Zealand, and Tahiti. It is not too much to say that if the worm could be eradicated through study, the ascaris would have been studied to death.

One is tempted to paraphrase Mark Twain by suggesting that everybody studies about ascariasis, but nobody does anything about it.

It is not altogether clear why so many studies should have been required to make it plain that the want of, or failure to use, sanitation facilities leads to the presence of human feces on the ground, thus furnishing a breeding place for ascaris larvae which being picked up by those, usually children, handling the soil, are ingested should those handling the soil fail to wash their hands properly.

To isolate and focus attention upon ascariasis and ascaris worm which leads to the infestation may make for dramatic presentation and thrilling reading, but the obliteration of such conditions can come only from a successful attack upon all the causes, such as the lack of sanitation facilities, lack of water and/or its means of supply, lack of proper housing, lack of personal hygiene education, underemployment, nutritional deficiency, and all of the other ills that follow in the wake of poverty.

The inescapable fact is that of all the funds allocated to the liquidation of poverty there are simply not enough of those funds filtering down to the community level where the problems lie. Stated otherwise the war which we are supposed to be waging against poverty is being fought with an excess of generals and a pitifully inadequate supply of troops. Furthermore, we have at the rear an impressive array of sophisticated weaponry, but those who are charged with grappling with poverty in the frontlines are grudgingly supplied with slingshots or bows and arrows.

In our area, consisting of Beaufort and Jasper Counties, we have 600 homes without sanitary facilities. We have 1,790 families with incomes of less than \$1,000 a year and 4,903 families with annual in-

comes of less than \$3,000. Fitting into the latter category are 68 percent of the families in Jasper County and 40 percent of the families in Beaufort County. Of the housing in Beaufort County, 35 percent would have to be classified as substandard while 61 percent of the housing in Jasper County would have to be so classified.

Whoever accuses us of want of compassion for our own basely slanders us. Would that our means were but equal to our wishes, poverty would be nonexistent in our community. There are too many who want to fix the blame and too few who want to fix the matter. If we lacked compassion or the desire to help solve the problem, I would not be here today.

We have made inroads on the problems akin to poverty. They are, in our area, lack of potable water, housing, sanitary facilities, personal hygiene education, health facilities, parasitic infections, and nutrition. These are like an endless chain. The problem is such that an attack on one link does not halt the cycle. All portions must be attacked together.

We have tried within our means to solve these problems, but they are greater than our resources. We have turned to the State and Federal Government for help and, in some instances have been successful. In the field of nutrition we have successfully used Federal funds when they have been made available to us. We were the third county in the State to institute the food stamp program, which is now state-wide.

In the same area of nutrition, the school lunch program has benefited from funds under title I of Public Law 89-10. From September 1, 1968, through January 1, 1969, 618,404 lunches were served in Beaufort County schools. Of this total, 187,808 free lunches were served, of which 107,000 were paid for by funds from Public Law 89-10 and the other 80,000 paid for by the district.

One of the most successful programs as far as benefit to the younger generation has been the Headstart program in our area.

But, in the area of sanitation and I speak of basic needs—outhouses—we have been unable to fund projects to construct them. It is not improbable that the cost of the eight studies dating from 1936 confirming the presence of the *Ascaris* worm in our community would, alone, have built the 600 privies vital to the blotting out of these parasites. Apparently we can send a man to the moon, but can't build an outhouse.

We have been unable to fund comprehensive health programs that would provide for and teach elementary sanitation and personal hygiene. I think Senator Hollings read you a letter there. That project consisted of \$95,000 a year for 5 years, a tremendous amount.

To break this endless chain or cycle, one of the best plans is to start in with the young. We have attempted to construct day-care centers that could be utilized not only for the children but for health and educational purposes. However, these projects have not been funded, so again the cycle continues.

We have been attempting since 1966 to bring potable water to areas where residents have to haul water in buckets, bottles, or cans. Most of them are too poor to afford pumps even if potable ground water were available. To this date not one drop of water has reached them.

If time permits, I will be glad to recite the frustrations, redtape, and unrealistic requirements which we have encountered. Mr. Chairman, if I lived in an area that had no potable water and all water had to be carried, I doubt that I would use much of it for personal hygiene.

Again, we see the continual cycle of worm infestation going unabated.

In the area of rural housing we have made small success, but it is only a drop in the bucket. The local people who administer this program have done their utmost to assist the people in our area, but unrealistic requirements such as debt repayment, land title requirements and others, eliminate the same persons that need help most.

In the Book of Proverbs it is written, "The destruction of the poor is their poverty." So be it here.

There may well be worms in my district, but they are as nothing compared to the "redtape worms" we have encountered in our efforts to obtain means for relieving poverty, its instances and effects in our area. Whatever may be the case elsewhere, I am in position to say that the funds that have been appropriated for the war on poverty are not benefiting as they should the old, infirm, and the very young who are unable to help themselves.

Senator, I am certain that more realistic and workable criteria can be established. Better communication should be established between the administrators and those that are in the field. There should be some way to eliminate some of the unnecessary requirements that may be necessary in one section of the country that are not applicable to another.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I implore your help to see to it that form is not permitted to stand in the way of substance, here in Washington and elsewhere, as I fear has all too often been the case.

Gentlemen, I would like to answer any questions that I might be able to, if you have them.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Senator Waddell. If it is agreeable with you and the members of the committee, I would like, before we question you, to hear Mr. Barnwell's statement.

As I understand it, Mr. Barnwell, you will be making a statement on behalf of yourself and Mr. Grant, who is with you?

Mr. BARNWELL. That is correct.

The CHAIRMAN. We will hear from you, then, and then the committee will have a chance to hear from both you gentlemen.

**STATEMENT OF THOMAS E. BARNWELL, JR., HILTON HEAD, S.C.,
AND WILLIAM GRANT, BURTON, S.C.**

Mr. BARNWELL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

During the past 14 years, many of us have been working with county, State, and Federal agencies to improve the services of the communities. In April 1966, many communities in the county came together and formed an organization which purpose was to take advantage of the Economic Opportunity Act.

The first problem that we attacked was that of providing day-care services for children of low-income working families. We learned that funds were not available through OEO for construction or renovation of such facilities. There were seven such communities that desired day-

care services. When we learned that there were no funds available through OEO, these communities began a self-help, or do-it-yourself effort. Of the seven, only two have meager services available at present.

The total number of children in the county needing day care is 920, according to a recent survey, and this can be documented. The two centers which are in operation are not adequate to take care of all the children who need this service. The five others are also not adequate, but if they were completed, it would help the situation. However, funds have not been available for the completion of these centers. The five centers could be completed with a cost of approximately \$40,000 each, not including furnishings.

To say something about the families whose children would benefit from day-care services: Many of these families are seasonal workers. They work at harvesting vegetables in the area and nearby areas, fish, shrimp, and crab factories, and as domestics in resort areas.

Many of the young children of the families are left alone all day and others are left with old grandparents who are not able to properly care for themselves in many cases. But most of all, older sisters and brothers have to remain home from school to look after the small sisters and brothers. Some of these older children average 90 to 100 days out of 180 schooldays and some fewer.

If day-care services were provided, some sort of transportation would have to be made available since houses are scattered far apart in rural communities.

If centers could be established throughout the rural communities, they could be utilized for other services. For instance, there could be some sort of youth program going on, as well as adult programs—nutrition, or what have you.

Residents of the communities in Beaufort County have asked us if after this hearing, would we be able to tell them what will happen as a result of the hearing. The most urgent needs expressed by residents of the communities we surveyed are in the area of foods, naturally, and then day-care centers, better housing, pure water supply indoors and indoor plumbing, more jobs with better pay, better roads and bridges, and a better boat or a bridge to isolated Daufuskie Island.

Pure water is also a problem in some areas of the county. On Warsaw Island, a smaller island on St. Helena Island, has been without pure drinking water since 1959. Water has to be carried for drinking purposes a distance of over a mile. Three areas in the county have made applications to the Farmers Home Administration for loans to establish water districts. Two of these are being processed, but one of the communities cannot participate because residents are having difficulty getting the \$25 fee required to sign up, as stated earlier by Senator Hollings and Senator Waddell.

The community having the difficulty has no source of pure drinking water, and residents have to haul water a distance of 3 miles and have been doing this for the past 10 years.

Housing is another problem in Beaufort County. Many families live in inadequate houses and cannot secure loans for renovation or building. The most outstanding problem is having titles cleared on real estate.

Another complaint is that when a loan is applied for through Farmers Home Administration, the property is appraised too low to secure an adequate amount of loan; the amount is based on the appraisal of the property and the annual income, which really creates a problem. In other words, the workload situation, as we see it, is at the county level.

Assistance in this area can be given through (a) legal aid service, (b) more assistance in the FHA office, adequate footage for the family, and (c) consultant service to homeowners or prospective homeowners. It is a vicious circle between the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries and the Small Business Administration.

About employment: When residents have tried to secure Small Business Administration loans to purchase vessels for fishing and shrimping, as well as other small business ventures, the redtape has swallowed them up.

Neighboring counties in South Carolina share most of the problems we have outlined here. What we have stated here are facts which can be documented. Many years of working and living in the county and facing these conditions daily makes it possible for us to discuss them.

We do hope that funds can be made available through some means other than the local CAP agency—OEO—to improve conditions in Beaufort County, as well as other counties in South Carolina. The poor in the area are displeased with the operation of the antipoverty program, and poor people look on this agency with mistrust.

That is the end of my statement, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Barnwell.

Senator Waddell, I wonder if you could cite one example, and take us through the steps, that you were referring to on the frustration that you encountered in dealing with Federal agencies.

Could you do that? Are you prepared to cite from your own experience a case where you tried to get assistance for your people and ran into insurmountable difficulties?

Senator WADDELL. I think, Senator McGovern, I would like to take two outstanding examples.

In this comprehensive health program, which Senator Hollings read you a letter on, we submitted that program again to OEO back in September. We have yet to hear from it. We tried to do what was in that long paragraph. I didn't use the paragraph, but apparently somebody did, and we tried to improve it.

We have yet to hear from that.

But I think one of the outstanding examples of the frustrations that we meet on the local level, Senator McGovern, might be the food stamps, as I related earlier, that the administrative difficulties in handling them are so great. The treasurer of our county didn't want to be involved because apparently the Department of Agriculture was putting such restrictions, such as having to deposit the money every night and so forth.

We hire and pay the salaries of clerks to administer this program out of county funds, but the water program is the greatest one of all. We, on our own—it took us 9 years—but we have built a \$5 million water distribution plant for the whole county.

We bring water from the Savannah River. Water is an acute problem in the coastal area, and we, immediately after completing this, started in trying to bring these rural areas into our central system, so we held elections.

The first thing you have to do is hold an election. You have to define an area and hold an election. The first time we held an election, due to some misconceptions, it was defeated. We reheld the election, and it passed.

We went on to say that we would form this water district under State law—we had to pass a law on the State level to permit these to be formed, which took a year in itself.

Then we went to see who was going to fund it. The Farmers Home Administration said they were out of funds, so we went to HUD. In the meantime, we started these other two districts under the Farmers Home Administration, and the Farmers Home Administration came to us and said, "This is a great idea, but you have to have a comprehensive water and sewer plan for your county."

I said, "Where do we go about that? I don't have \$10,000 or \$12,000 or \$15,000 to pay for a comprehensive water and sewer plan. Where do you get that?"

They said, "We have a program for that, but right now we are out of funds in that department."

That was delayed until such time as grant funds became available. Now the grant funds have become available. We started to hire a consultant to have a comprehensive water and sewer program. In the meantime, HUD says that "The board you have is not sufficient under the law, and you must have a more comprehensive planning board."

So we had to create another planning board. By this time, we are meeting ourselves with plans and planning boards. I have appointed 15 or 20 people on planning boards to meet the criteria.

This is the thing that is not practical. A comprehensive water and sewage plan for Washington, or the growing areas of our State may be wonderful, but this is the kind of frustration you go through over and over and over and, to me, there should be a better means of communication.

We have people come down—we submit programs, and when I say "communication should be better," I think the people on the local level know what the needs are.

We submit them to Atlanta, or to the State, and the State to Atlanta, and Atlanta to Washington, and maybe it will get back.

The CHAIRMAN. With reference to that statement that the people on the local level know the needs, and I think that is doubtless true, I would be interested in any thoughts that you or Mr. Barnwell or Mr. Grant might have as to specific things that need to be done to improve these existing food programs, with special reference to the food stamp plan and the school lunch programs, or any other suggestions you might have to make in the way of specific improvements.

Senator WADDELL. Senator McGovern, I don't know how practical this is. I am not as familiar with the upper echelons of the program, but I would like to see something—at the present time on the State level, we submit a project. We have a planning officer on the county level.

He plans it. Then OEO, or the CAP board takes it up and votes on it. They send it to the State, they screen it, they send it to Atlanta. I think in South Carolina we have some 16 in the Atlanta office that are plan reviewers for South Carolina. I believe I am right. Then it goes from there to Washington.

I thought maybe we don't need OEO. Send it under HEW. All of it is health, education, and welfare. That is what we are dealing with. We on the State level have, under the Governor's office, a similar program.

Instead of having a regional plan go in Atlanta, why can't the money come from Washington to the area?

I think I can convince somebody better in Columbia about a program than in Atlanta or Washington. Sometimes they come down and say, "Let's plan this program. You didn't plan it right."

I think you need professional help, but let's not let them get the idea of the program and then come down and impose it on us.

In the food stamp area, we are, for example, starting a new program in 30 days. For pregnant mothers, and lactating mothers and children under 6, specific foods that are issued by the health officer. We have clinics. We are running into administrative problems with the Department of Agriculture, who furnishes the food. They ship it in carload lots. We must supply storage and distribute this food.

I am hoping, with Dr. Aycock, when that pregnant mother, or the lactating mother, or the child under 6 comes to the health center for treatment, at the same time that they come in there, if the health officer determines that they need it, that they will be able to pick up the food on that one trip.

I think some of us in the more affluent society lose the idea of transportation in rural areas. There is no mass transportation, no streetcars, no automobiles. Transportation is a problem for them.

So if we could, work out the problem of where they could come and get it.

The same with the food stamp program. I would like to try some experiments with having a mobile food stamp. We can get a surplus bus, pick it up, and let's take it to the people.

We have to seek medical attention, Senator. We can build all the fine clinics you want, but we need teams to go out to the people and find the medically indigent people, people who need the help. This is where we break down.

Caseworkers can talk about the welfare program all day, but probably in the food stamp program we could go out, like the old traveling store, where these stamps could be issued.

The CHAIRMAN. Where are they issued now?

Senator WADDELL. In most counties, they issue them at the courthouse or some other fiscal agency of the county.

We now issue them at the county courthouse, and at St. Helena's Island, and two other places in the county. We have to go so far as to have a bank messenger to pick up the money in Bluffton and bring it back, it is so vital we get the money back in.

They are issued on certain specific days. If you are not there on that day, you don't get them. What I am saying is that maybe the mechanics could be worked out in a better method.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

Mr. Barnwell, in response to your question which you directed to the committee as to what we are going to do, what is going to come out of this hearing, of course, we can't make any specific pledges at this point in our investigation.

I do want to tell you, though, that I am sure the members of the committee and the staff will be willing to work with Senator Hollings

in trying to break the Federal logjam on these existing programs as they relate to South Carolina.

Beyond that, it has occurred to me for several weeks, and I have suggested this to the Department of Agriculture, that in areas like this, the Secretary of Agriculture use his emergency authority, designate this as an emergency area, and make commodities directly available.

The present legislation provides that where you have a food stamp program in operation, you do not have a free commodity distribution program, unless there is an emergency situation.

I would think you would be in a position—this is something you might want to discuss with Senator Hollings and Senator Waddell, and that you might want to give consideration to, the possibility of discussing with the Secretary of Agriculture the designating of these two counties as an emergency area, eligible for direct commodity distribution to supplement your food stamps.

That is just a thought.

Mr. BARNWELL. Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Ellender?

Senator ELLENDER. In that connection, surplus foods are distributed in bulk. What we have been trying to do here is to do away with that program and get the food stamp program, for the reason that under the food stamp program you get quite a variety of food, whereas in the surplus food program you get whatever is surplus. It may be beans, or rice, or just four or five commodities.

Judging from the testimony, you are two counties on the coast.

Senator WADDELL. Yes, sir. They join. Under reapportionment we have four counties, but we are speaking of two that are adjoining.

Senator ELLENDER. What is the population?

Senator WADDELL. Beaufort County, 44,000 persons, and the population of Jasper County is roughly 12,000, Senator.

Senator ELLENDER. What is the proportion of Negroes and whites?

Senator WADDELL. All right, sir. I think I can give it to you.

In Jasper County, it is 62 percent. In Beaufort County it is about 35 percent, or 38 percent, sir.

Senator ELLENDER. Beaufort is the 12,000 county?

Senator WADDELL. No, sir; it is the large county, 44,000.

Senator ELLENDER. Also judging from your testimony, your main occupation is fishing?

Senator WADDELL. It is agricultural, Senator, and seafood. There is very little industry.

Senator ELLENDER. How much of it is agricultural?

Senator WADDELL. I would say the largest payroll in the county is derived from farming interests. We are a truck farming area.

Senator ELLENDER. What is your staple crop, cotton?

Senator WADDELL. No, sir; we have crops such as tomatoes, cucumbers, snap beans—

Senator ELLENDER. It is mostly small farms?

Senator WADDELL. No, sir; not any more. The small farm has gone the way of most small things.

I think that 70 percent of the produce raised in the county is raised by 10 or 12 farmers.

Mr. BARNWELL. That is true.

Senator WADDELL. They are geared to the economics of handling fresh vegetables.

Senator ELLENDER. Do most of the people who obtain work, work on these large farms?

Senator WADDELL. Yes, sir; and it is on a day labor basis. Since the minimum wage, it is on a piece basis, but it has to meet the requirements of the minimum wage.

Senator ELLENDER. Because of the minimum wage, do you find the owners of those farms have to resort to more mechanization?

Senator WADDELL. Yes, sir; and it has weeded out the elderly who could not produce sufficient to meet the minimum wage. This is the damaging thing of it. We used to have aged citizens who could go into the shucking houses where they shuck oysters, but under the minimum wage we cannot do this.

It has worked a hardship on the old and infirm, Senator.

Senator ELLENDER. This was one of my arguments against it.

To what extent, percentagewise, has this affected your counties? That is, what percentage of the people are out of work because of the minimum wage?

Senator WADDELL. Well, Senator, our figures on unemployment are relatively low. I think the unemployment figure of Jasper County is 5.9 percent, and in Beaufort County it is about 5 percent.

Our unemployment rate—it is mostly an underemployment proposition rather than an unemployment. This is our problem.

It is like these water districts—I don't want to get off your subject, but I would like to bring it in and talk about unrealistic things.

Under HUD you can get a 50-percent grant. You have to sell the other 50 percent in bonds on the open market. With the interest rates as they are, it makes it impractical to bring water to the people who need it most.

Senator ELLENDER. I don't suppose the people in the two counties have regular work.

Senator WADDELL. It is seasonal work. In Jasper County most of it is logging. We have a large tourist industry, and our Congressman is Congressman Rivers, and we do have some military installations. [Laughter.]

I guess that is the largest cash payroll in our district, sir.

Senator ELLENDER. Are those installations in those two counties?

Senator WADDELL. Yes, sir; Parris Island—

Senator ELLENDER. Then quite a lot of Government money is spent there?

Senator WADDELL. Yes, sir. It is the largest payroll in the area.

Senator ELLENDER. It would seem to me a good deal of your problems could be easily solved, not by waiting on what we will do but by getting many of the rules and regulations concerning the food stamp plan amended.

Now, under the present rules, as I understand them, it is the State or county that is responsible for these stamps.

Senator WADDELL. Yes, sir; the county. They are sent down just like cash to us.

Senator ELLENDER. It strikes me the counties should be able to find some ways and means of satisfying Washington that any stamps made available will be repaid by the counties, and—

Senator WADDELL. This would be fine. I would agree with you, but it is not done that way.

Senator ELLENDER. But I say, that is one way by which I think we could help you.

Senator WADDELL. Yes, I think this is possible.

Senator ELLENDER. Since the county is responsible for these stamps, they could proceed and distribute them as each county sees fit, but satisfy Washington that the moneys would be paid back, by the county.

Senator WADDELL. That would be awfully fine, but since—

Senator ELLENDER. I believe it might be possible under the present law. I will be glad to look into it, because I offered it as chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. It may be possible that the regulations can be lifted and cure a lot of your problems, because of the fact that you are a coastal county.

You said you had how many islands?

Senator WADDELL. Sixty-seven in Beaufort County.

Senator ELLENDER. You pose questions that wouldn't arise in many of the counties throughout the country, so I believe it might be possible to have special regulations that could fit your condition. Since every county in South Carolina may obtain food under the food stamp plan, and the Government is going to make it available to all those who need it, I think that the rules and regulations probably can be lifted to meet most of the conditions found in these two counties.

Senator WADDELL. We would like very much to have this done.

Of course, the Department of Agriculture, in a county as small as mine, will have to extend it credit probably for 30 days, because stamps run about \$21,000 a month, and I don't know where I would get that first \$21,000 worth of food stamps from until I got the first money back in, Senator.

We would have to do some financing there.

Senator ELLENDER. We have some good bonding companies throughout the country, and I am sure that if the county made an effort, they could obtain that very easily.

Senator WADDELL. I would like very much to see it in that manner. It is better than your telling me every night I have to lock it up, and you have to count the books, and the loose stamps, and you have to make a report.

I think we are capable, and I don't believe everybody is dishonest, and I think we are capable of accountability. Our treasurer, for some number of years, has not run off with funds in the county, or any funds to my knowledge, and I don't believe he would start with food stamps.

These are the kind of practical problems, Senator, that I complain about. These are the kind of practical problems we meet on the everyday level. These are the kind of problems that they say, "Well, we will meet with you in 2 weeks or 3 weeks, and we will go the next step."

You soon lose patience. We made this tour a year ago with these same gentlemen. I knew what Senator Hollings was going to find. We have been working conscientiously since then, and we have done some things. We have brought the homemaker program in, which is an excellent program, a unique thing, under the Department of Public Welfare.

This, to me, was one of the greatest steps in the world.

But it needs expansion. In the Department of Agriculture, our county agents, and our home demonstration people, I think that more emphasis could be given by them to working with these people on nutrition.

Senator Ellender, we could dump all the food in the world there, or Senator McGovern, and unless somebody is there to instruct these people how to prepare it—they are strange foods—there will be problems, and there is no telling what will be happening.

They have patterns, not that they shouldn't be changed and couldn't be changed. But it is going to take education.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Ellender has repeatedly suggested that we do more with our extension workers.

Senator ELLENDER. Instead of establishing another bureaucracy, which would take a long time to do, I have suggested that the Extension Service be the agency that would assist in that direction.

Senator WADDELL. They are going to have to change a little bit, sir.

Senator ELLENDER. I understand that. It is just as easy to disseminate knowledge as to the best fertilizer to use for a turnip or a potato, and they could distribute, I am sure, food, or the formula for it.

In other words, we had some specialists here that couldn't write out a prescription, because they don't know the situation in each area of the country, but it strikes me that, let's say in your two counties, it would be an easy matter to establish a formula for the best food to provide the best nourishment. After that is done, let's let the Extension Service, your home economics, distribute that knowledge.

It can be done as easily as distributing knowledge to the housewife on other subjects, and the Extension man on farming, and you could have that done now and not wait until year after next.

Senator WADDELL. Senator, if we could get the change—we have, I guess, seven or eight, in both counties, in the demonstration programs. I would be delighted to see them change their programs instead of having a quilting bee and some of these other programs—don't misunderstand me. I am not being overcritical, but I think the emphasis of the people on the Federal payroll could be directed to help the people who need the help most.

Those 12 farmers who raise most of our vegetables, they know as much about pesticides and fertilizer as the county agent does, but he might help the man lower down in the scale and do fruitful work.

Senator ELLENDER. It is my belief that we probably would be able to get the Department to assist in disseminating knowledge about nutrition, and I would like to get the views of a few other witnesses on that suggestion.

Mr. BARNWELL. Senator Ellender, one point you just made about the Department of Agriculture disseminating the information: Certainly we have confidence that they would. However, they have had financial problems on travel, and I imagine this is practically all over the country, but—

Senator ELLENDER. You mean the agents?

Senator WADDELL. The agents, sir.

Senator ELLENDER. That could be provided for. The point that I was trying to emphasize was the idea of doing that, rather than wait and find some other methods of doing it.

If you have the people employed there now, you could employ more within the county, particularly counties like the two you represent.

It strikes me that some ways and means could be found to attend to this now and not wait until this committee makes a recommendation and then Congress passes a law and does those things. I think we should get after the problem now, and not tomorrow.

Senator WADDELL. I agree with you wholeheartedly, but one of the problems—one of the home demonstration agents has \$40 a month travel allowance. Her home is 40 miles away from one demonstration center. She makes two or three trips a month, and that is it. This has to be repeated over and over and over.

You must tell the story today, the week after next, and her making three trips down there is like a drop in the bucket.

But these are practical things we face. This is all the travel budget they get, and that is all the traveling they do.

Senator ELLENDER. I am certain that providing more travel could be easily done.

Senator WADDELL. I wish it could.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Barnwell or Mr. Grant, do you have any additional responses you wish to make to the questions that have been raised, or any further discussion?

Mr. GRANT. I would like to make a statement on the school lunch program.

In our county we feed now children from the first grade through the seventh grade, or sixth grade, and the children from the seventh grade through 12th grades can't have the free lunches.

I am saying that children in the first grade get as hungry as children in the fourth grade, and isn't there something that could be done about that, where all the children in the school, who are underpaid, or have no income—

The CHAIRMAN. What grades did you say were presently covered?

Mr. GRANT. One through six. I am saying that it seems all of them could be covered through the school lunch program rather than sixth grade; you see.

You have children in places who are sleeping like hogs, you say. There are 15 in the family, and, say, nine of those are in school, and three of them, let's say, are from grades one through six. They have free lunch.

What happens to the others?

The CHAIRMAN. Those youngsters who do have the program in the grades one through six, does it work pretty well?

Mr. GRANT. Well, they eat.

The CHAIRMAN. In your view, is it generally an adequate program?

Mr. GRANT. Senator, I can't say—

The CHAIRMAN. Insofar as it goes.

Mr. GRANT. So far as it goes, yes. They eat.

But the children I am talking about are in families who have no income, and they still fall under the same category. They don't have lunch.

One day, for example—we did a survey last week in a family of five, and they come to school, maybe two eat lunch this week. Next week, the next two eat lunch, and the next week, the other one starves while the next one eats lunch; you see.

In other words, they sort of have to have a changeover there in order for the family to make it, and it seems like there should be something

provided, for people to have a free lunch program for all of the children; you see.

I am 35 years old, and I can't study on an empty stomach at this age.

The CHAIRMAN. The ones in the grade levels one through six get the lunch free; do they?

Mr. GRANT. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. All the students. But this business of taking turns, one youngster eating on one day and one the next; that is, youngsters from seven through—

Mr. GRANT. That is usually from the family itself.

The CHAIRMAN. But that involves youngsters from the seventh grade on up?

Mr. GRANT. Right.

Mr. BARNWELL. Switching from food to human need, Senator Waddell pointed out in his remarks that there have been applications for sanitary facilities.

Even though privies are needed, I certainly hope that the committee in its final stages would try to give some attention to the fact of the exact need of water systems within the two-county areas, and maybe some way could be developed, or means could be developed between HUD and Farmers Home Administration in order that there will be a closer link of coordination at our level in order that we will be able to know when FHA is out of funds, and HUD does have it, in order that we would not waste a lot of time setting up committees and various meetings and changing and shifting gears to meet the various needs of one agency or another.

This has been extremely frustrating to us.

The CHAIRMAN. In addition to that, the community action program and other Federal programs that deal with the poor, are the poor people in this case the malnourished and hungry, are they involved in any of these planning efforts on the local level?

Mr. BARNWELL. There are some persons on some committees. However, the persons with the greater needs, in many cases, are not on all of the committees that operate the programs, and, of course, this is the one thing that certainly would be extremely helpful, where the liaison person would be sure that the programs would reach the needs of the communities.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Grant?

Mr. GRANT. Another thing here, your Federal guidelines, for example in OEO, employ people for special jobs, for example, supervisors working in the community, two years of college or whatever.

Now, those people have college educations and come into the community, and they cannot identify with the problem in that community like the people who are there, even if they had a Ph. D. degree.

You have to have people from the community who know the problems are there, respect the fact that they are there, and go out and do something about it, and not have somebody who is looking for a paycheck at the end of the month.

Senator ELLENDER. Do you have health centers in both of the counties?

Senator WADDELL. Yes, sir, we do have small health centers built under Hill-Burton funds. We have about four in our county, and three in Jasper County.

Senator ELLENDER. The local people are taking advantage of that?

Senator WADDELL. To some extent. We also take advantage of the Hill-Burton funds in our hospital expansion.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Waddell, Mr. Barnwell, and Mr. Grant, your testimony has been helpful to us today, and we appreciate your bearing with us and staying with us through the noon hour.

Thank you very much.

Senator WADDELL. Thank you very much.

Mr. BARNWELL. Thank you very much.

(Whereupon, at 1:20 p.m. the committee recessed, to reconvene at 10 a.m., the following day, Wednesday, February 19, 1969.)

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NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1969

U.S. SENATE,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met at 10 a.m., pursuant to call, in room 1114, New Senate Office Building, Senator George McGovern (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Senators McGovern, Ellender, Hart, Cook, and Dole.

Also present: William C. Smith, staff director and general counsel; Kenneth Schlossberg, professional staff member for the majority; and Clarence V. McKee, professional staff member for the minority.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order.

We are privileged today to have more doctors who will be offering testimony with reference to studies that they have undertaken in the State of South Carolina—Dr. Lease of the University of South Carolina, Dr. Felix Lauter of the University of South Carolina, Dr. James T. Carter, professor of nutrition, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.; and Dr. Robert Coles, Harvard University, university health services, Cambridge, Mass.

I think the best way for us to proceed, Dr. Lease, is for you to lead off and perhaps summarize the highlights of your prepared statement, and then the other doctors can follow in turn with opening statements either to be read or to be summarized. We will refrain from any questions until we have heard from all four of you, and then question you as a panel, if that is agreeable.

Thank you. You can proceed, Dr. Lease.

STATEMENT OF DR. E. J. LEASE, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF PHARMACY, COLUMBIA, S.C.

Dr. LEASE. Thank you, Senator McGovern, members of the committee, and ladies and gentlemen. I appreciate this opportunity to tell about the program we have conducted in Beaufort County, S.C.

Perhaps I should mention the first 30 years of my life was spent in and around Madison, Wis., in that I went through schools there including the University of Wisconsin where I took my Ph. D. and continued on for 3 years with a postdoctoral.

The last 30 years of my life from 1938 on have been in universities in the State of South Carolina. I have grown to like the South and have been there some 30 years.

Approximately a year or a little more ago I was telephoned by Dr. Darby, who is from Vanderbilt University and internationally recog-

nized. He asked if the University of South Carolina wanted \$10,000 to carry on a study in Beaufort County, S.C.

I said, "Bill, to be sure the University of South Carolina considers the entire State as its campus, and we will be delighted to have any amount of money for constructive programs if there are no strings attached."

There were no strings attached, and we were able to convince the Field Foundation of New York City to increase this from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

So we started with a project of some \$15,000 and matched that with an equal amount of money from title I, Higher Education Act of 1965, which funds were already at the University of South Carolina, and then proceeded to Beaufort County to make this study.

The first thing we did was to get clearance of this project with the State health officer, then with the county health officer. I made a trip to Beaufort County and looked at the upper half and how they lived.

I got myself invited to talk to the Beaufort Medical Association. I was asked to present what we had planned to do there. I would say that I talked 10 or 15 minutes at the request of the chairman and then was cross-examined for perhaps 2 hours.

I might mention that my work in the past has been rather independent. The University of South Carolina is very independent in their activities. We go where we want and we study what we want as long as we stick to facts.

The next step was to go to the area that we had decided upon which was Hilton Head Island and the adjacent mainland near Bluffton, S.C., which is in the county of Beaufort.

We were given a room of about 25 by 25 feet in dimension. This was kind of a meeting room or auditorium as part of the State board of health system, and the county board of health system and again called Bluffton Health Center.

I sent the University of South Carolina station wagon out along with a local assistant to bring in some of the Negro children whom we were to examine. The first day we brought in 10. We examined those with the help of a medical student from the Meharry Medical College. This medical student examined as best he could, although for a short time we did have an M.D. as well as this student doing some of the checking.

The first day showed that all 10 Negro children up to age 5 had intestinal parasites. The second day we sent the station wagon out again, and I believe we brought back eight or nine children all of which again had intestinal parasites.

I think in looking at this, the committee should remember that this is a very primitive area. We are not dealing with urban conditions; this is rural—very rural.

To be sure, as we would bring these children in with their mothers, they enjoyed it because they had a free ride to town. They got a free snack, fresh fruit, and cookies. We entertained them. We had educational movies, as best we could, so we had very good relationships between the Negro mothers and our research team.

The primitive nature and the fundamentals on which we are working here should not be overlooked as I give you some of this research data.

In one case we had in the car three rather young Negro women, none of whom were married. I believe they had a total of seven or

eight children. Those children all had intestinal parasites. They came from homes that had no bathroom, no running water, they had no outside privy, and I wondered if the mothers ever did have. So, one must think of this in terms of the total environment in which these people are living.

One more general outlook one should have is that, as mentioned earlier, we proceeded on this project as a university very objectively. There had been, as everybody knows in that area, considerable controversy—and the committee heard of this controversy yesterday—between the medical people in the area.

We as a university stayed entirely out of this so none of my report will go into this matter of Dr. Gatch or the anti-Gatch. We made our survey. We made a very objective survey, and we are sticking to that part of it only.

I would like to have the first slide¹ put on the screen in order to quickly show you what our results are, and then in a few minutes I would like to turn over the program, with your permission, Senator McGovern, to Dr. Felix Lauter who is a parasitologist, teaches parasitology, and his department gives masters and doctorates in parasitology.

This project is so important we felt we could not have any doubts about whether we were dealing with worms; we had to be positive of it.

The results of the study made by the University of South Carolina are shown here. We examined 177 children; 98 of those children were infested with one or both of the common parasites, *Ascaris* and *Trichuris*.

Seventy-three percent of the Negro children had intestinal parasites and nearly 5 percent of the white preschool children had intestinal parasites. We consider this a very high level. We wanted to be positive of it, so we checked these results not only with the Meharry Medical College students but with our research team at the University of South Carolina.

We also had some checking on this from the Communicable Disease Center of Atlanta. This is part of the U.S. Public Health Service, and we have preserved our samples so that we can pull them out today, and we believe these are correct.

Actually, if you look at this thing in the proper perspective, it does not matter much whether our figure is 73 percent for the Negro children or whether it is 63 or 83; the figure is deplorably high.

The next slide goes into what we found insofar as diets are concerned. Actually, we asked the mothers and guardians of these preschool children what their diets were. This was done by what is known as the 24-hour recall technique. I have used this many times in many places, and it is probably about the most reliable that nutrition people have to work with.

The Negro assistant I had—a highly capable and highly motivated woman—would talk to these people who were her neighbors, and they had a lot of confidence in her. First, we would determine as much as possible about what this child was being fed.

¹ The slides used to illustrate Dr. Lease's testimony can be found in the files of the committee.

I would check on her, and we doublechecked as much as we could. We must remember that these people are somewhat ashamed, they are somewhat sensitive, and that is somewhat inborn.

I have to point out to the committee we are dealing with a very primitive situation.

When we were evaluating this data you will notice the ideal would be to have all of these chart lines up to that second level. Then they would represent what the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council considers to be a fully adequate diet.

When they are down to the second line that you see, this is critical. This is what we consider two-thirds of the recommended dietary allowance. It is below that in most of the cases.

In the form of information, you should know that one of the things that I did as the director was to go to a nearby space, actually it was near the place where the secretary of this particular small health center was, and I sat down with most of these Negro women or guardians or mothers and asked them to read to me. This is quite a departure from usual procedure.

Finally, after a week or two of this, a nurse who had been there for many years said, "Dr. Lease, we have had many visitors from Washington and Columbia but never have we had one who would come and sit down and have the Negro women read to him."

I said that I wanted these people to read to me so I could determine what their educational level was so that we could talk to them at their level and help them from that point on.

The facts are, as I also told this nurse, that the best thing to do with most of the literature that was available for these Negro mothers to read was totally unsuitable. We should perhaps discard about all of the reading matter that is available for them because they cannot understand it.

As an example, I would like to tell the committee that one word in a rather simple bulletin said, "Infested." Only one of 20 of these Negro mothers was able to tell me what the word "infested" meant, and yet this was throughout this simple bulletin prepared by the State board of health. So, while they can read, they can read the English language, but they cannot, in my opinion, comprehend the kind of literature available to them to read.

So, it becomes a very fundamental piece of work that we must do insofar as education is concerned. They must be taught from their level of education on upward if we are to do any good in this area.

One of the things we do in classes at the University of South Carolina is first to give an examination to our class to determine where they are, and then try to build their subject matter from that point on. Perhaps the exam is not given the first day, but within the first week the professor learns what his class has as a level and then goes from there on upward.

I reported to the State health officer and his associates at Columbia that the literature available to this population, to tell them where they got these worms, just could not be read by them.

We are, therefore, preparing educational films at the level that they can understand. They are not what I would call dumb or incomprehensible, and I don't mean to insult them in any way. I like many of them, and I think they are fine American citizens, but there is no need for anyone to talk over their heads.

Insofar as this chart is concerned, I think we can dismiss it merely by saying that the university found their diets were poor in many respects, low even in calories. We are actually baffled at the high protein intake. Some of this is seafood, but some of it also has other reasons. As far as we can tell, and we are not positive of this, but when they are infested with these parasites, their demand for protein is higher.

There is evidence in the literature that one of the enzymes that is involved in the breaking down and metabolism of proteins is inhibited by these intestinal parasites.

The intake of several other things is low, also.

I will turn off the projector and mention that as we proceeded with this study in Beaufort County, S.C., we drew samples of blood from each of these children. Unfortunately, the medical student, and we had two of them a short time, were not very capable in getting blood from such small veins, so we were not able to get as much blood as the University of South Carolina and the Meharry Medical College needed.

Later in the fall Dr. Carter came down to get additional samples. In that case he took samples from the groin where these young medical students were unable to take it.

Those of us from the university on this team are not legally authorized to draw blood in that we are not registered medical technologists. I am a nutritionist and a biochemist and my associate, Dr. Lauter, is a parasitologist. One must have legal authority to draw blood from the veins, and we left that to Meharry Medical College.

As I mentioned, Dr. Carter came down and did get enough blood samples, and he will report on this later.

The samples we did get showed in many cases the hemoglobin level was low. Without going into the figures, I can mention that half of the children up to age 3 had deficient hemoglobin, 3 to 4 years of age, and then up to 6 it ran something like 65 to 70 percent of the children were too low in hemoglobin.

We analyzed the vitamin C of their blood and found this also to be low in many cases, about 1 out of 5 of the children having a low blood vitamin C.

My position is this: When children, either in the arms or preschool children, have a heavy load of intestinal parasites, they are malnourished, and I stake my reputation and work in the State of South Carolina on the basis that if these children are heavily infested with parasites and their stomachs are distended, I do not plan to take seriously a nutrition demonstration. I believe that they should be dewormed and put under conditions where they no longer will be reinfested.

After that our school lunch program will do some good. After that the food stamp program might be doing some good. But I did not propose to use University of South Carolina funds for a demonstration to show that additional vitamins, minerals, proteins, or food would do these children any good.

Our position is that we are not feeding worms. We are going to try to feed these children and job No. 1 is to get rid of all of these intestinal parasites.

(Dr. Lease's prepared statement follows:)

REPORT TO SELECT COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS—U.S. SENATE—
FEBRUARY 19, 1969

In June 1968 the University of South Carolina received a grant from the Field Foundation and matched it with equal funds from Title I, Higher Education Act of 1965 to make a study on malnutrition and parasitism within a low-income group of families in Beaufort County, South Carolina.

Essentially all the pre-school children in the Bluffton-Hilton Head Island area of this county were checked for parasites and their diets were studied. Fecal samples were examined for ova and parasites in the laboratories of the University of South Carolina. The direct smear technique was used and also a modified zinc sulfate flotation method (Faust, E. C., and Russell, P. R.,) was employed to concentrate helminth ova. Soil samples were analyzed by modifying the sedimentation test of Headlee. Examinations were under magnification of 100X and 400X.

The 24-hour recall technique was used to obtain information on the dietary intakes by interviewing mothers and guardians. The daily intake of specific nutrients was computed by referring to the U.S.D.A. Home and Garden Bulletin No. 72, and the adequacy of the diets determined by comparison with the Recommended Daily Allowances (National Research Council). Blood was collected by venous puncture and analyzed as recommended by the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense.

It was found that 73% of 131 pre-school Negro children and 4% of 46 pre-school white children had either *Ascaris lumbricoides* or *Trichuris trichiura* or both of these intestinal worms. Children with a heavy worm burden are malnourished, and when the extent of the parasite infestation was recognized, it seemed urgent that emphasis should be placed on eradicating the worms. Soil samples from door yards of about a dozen homes of infected children were examined and all were found to be contaminated with the parasite eggs.

Averages from 151 dietary recalls show that the daily intake of the Negro children is below the Recommended Daily Allowance (National Research Council) with the exception of protein. Deficiencies include calories, calcium, iron, vitamins A, B₁, B₂, C, and niacin. Analyses of blood from these children showed hemoglobin, hematocrit, and vitamin C to be low in numerous cases, and in all cases minimal.

GREATEST DEFICIENCIES

Interviews, data, and daily contact with these families has brought out the fact that lack of information and motivation are among the greatest deficiencies. Mothers and guardians of the children were asked where they believed the "stomach worms" came from. A common misconception was that eating sugar was the cause, some had other incorrect beliefs, and some just did not have any idea. Until this population segment is taught the nature of this disease it cannot be eradicated. General knowledge in basic nutritional needs for proper growth and development of the body, as well as training in purchasing and preparing foods are critical needs of the homemakers in this area. The University of South Carolina is seeking funds with which to evaluate and develop a series of visual aids and other educational materials geared to the educational level of these victims of intestinal parasites and malnutrition. It is a conviction that such materials and a vigorous follow-up by community leaders and teachers are vitally necessary to bring about the reforms.

E. JOHN LEASE, Ph. D.,
Research Associate.
FELIX H. LAUTER, Ph. D.,
Parasitologist.
BETTYE W. DUDLEY, M.A.,
Research Assistant.

University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. 29208.

Dr. LEASE. At this point, and as I mentioned, I had on the team along with me to be sure that we were correct because there was so much controversy and politics in this situation in the lower part of the State that I needed a competent parasitologist with me; and Dr. Lauter, my associate, will take over and talk about the intestinal parasites.

With your permission, Senator McGovern, Dr. Lauter will now go through a series of slides which were shown to the Senate in the State of South Carolina to inform people where these worms actually come from. They do not come from sugar, and they do not come from food. It is necessary that the public know a few of the facts about this situation.

It is an undesirable and somewhat filthy subject, but we must face it or ignore it with great loss.

SENATOR ELLENDER. When was than done, Doctor?

DR. LEASE. We started, as mentioned in this written report, last June and have been at it since. I have made many surveys in the State of South Carolina during the past 20 years.

I would like to mention since it was brought up that we had a peculiar situation within our State prison where I was functioning for the University of South Carolina, we had deficiencies of the kinds mentioned here and we were able to correct those, but under these conditions it is much more difficult.

We are dealing with a primitive population. We are dealing with perhaps more than a countywide, maybe a statewide situation, but these are recent studies, sir.

So, at this point, Dr. Lauter.

STATEMENT OF DR. FELIX LAUTER, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY, COLUMBIA, S.C.

DR. LAUTER. Thank you.

First of all, I would like to say that the projections that we will project on the screen is of an organism, one of several organisms that we found.¹ It is the organism that causes ascariasis. It is a worm.

The adult is 9 to 12 inches long. It is about that size. The female lays 200,000 eggs a day. You can get 50 to 100 of these tiny eggs on the head of a pin and each one of these eggs has the potentiality of growing up into either a male or a female worm this size, so it takes probably a lot of protein to manufacture a worm of this size from an egg that is highly microscopic.

I would like to project on to the screen a picture of both the male and the female worm. Both of these worms are alongside a 12-inch ruler.

The larger worm above the ruler is the female. This is the species that lays 200,000 eggs a day. She lives about 10 to 15 months so that she has a capacity of manufacturing as many as 70 million eggs in her lifespan, approximately 70 million eggs.

The male is the smaller of the two with the curved tail and he lives with her in the small intestine. He mates with the female, and she subsequently manufactures and lays these 200,000 eggs that come out with the fecal material. If an individual promiscuously defecates on the ground, the fecal material then merges with the soil and you have a polluted soil situation.

The next slide is a highly magnified version of one of the 200,000 eggs the female lays. This is an unembryonated egg. If you will note, it has a very rough coating. This coating has been analyzed bio-

¹ The slides used to illustrate Dr. Lauter's testimony can be found in the files of the committee.

chemically as protein. This protein is coming from somewhere. It is coming from the host's diet. It is a protein that subsequently cannot be used by the host. The parasite is evidently taking it away, using it for its own use.

So, this is an egg that has been highly magnified. One of these eggs will run around 45 to 75 microns in length by 35 to 50 microns in breadth. In other words, it takes 50 to 100 of these tiny eggs on the head of a straight pin that a seamstress uses to pin hems. That is how small they are.

If I reverse this now, again here are the two worms. Each one of these worms is more than 6 to 7 inches long, and here is the egg highly magnified. It took a lot of protein, a lot of food to manufacture these two adults from that particular egg that is microscopic.

If we look at this first chart, this is simply a chart that we made for use in South Carolina showing a diagrammatic version of the length of the particular female, 15 inches. It is the largest round worm that exists in the gastrointestinal tract of man.

This chart is the biology or the life cycle of this particular organism. If we look at the top. Let me first of all try to get this into focus. We look at the top where the male and the female adults are in the GI tract, the small intestine. A preschool child, 2, 3, 4, 5 years of age can have as many as 100 of these large organisms in his or her gut, GI tract.

The female then will lay 200,000 of these eggs. These eggs are passed in the feces by the small child. The eggs then will develop to the infective stage in the soil. Each egg will develop a small larva inside the egg capsule. This will take approximately 3 weeks, depending upon the oxygen, the temperature, and the humidity within the soil.

It will take, generally speaking, 3 to 6 weeks for the small, minute larvae to develop inside of the egg capsule that can then become infective for an individual who might ingest the egg capsules into his or her mouth. So, what we have specified here is the fecal material plus the soil that contains the infective egg capsules containing tiny worms that can be ingested by the host, by the small child.

The drawing here which we made shows a small child putting his or her dirty fingers into his or her mouth and is swallowing these particular egg capsules containing the infective larvae. The egg capsules then go down the GI tract into the small intestine and the larvae pop out just as a chicken hatches from an egg.

These larvae then will penetrate the intestine, and the bloodstream will carry these small larvae to the liver and then eventually to the lungs by means of the heart. They will grow and break out into the air sacs of the lungs and will ascend the windpipe, the trachea, and be swallowed again by the small child or the adult and will develop to maturity in the small intestines in about 60 to 85 days.

The end result is that if you swallow two of these eggs, one of these eggs can be a potential female and one of these eggs can be a potential male. The end result is that you have a female and a male which will then mate, complete the cycle, and the female will then lay the 200,000 eggs a day. The egg capsules are disseminated through the promiscuous defecation on the soil. The cycle then is repeated by the small child ingesting with his or her dirty fingers these egg capsules that are then swallowed, and we have another cycle.

The next chart is simply—and I found this chart very interesting—I think a picture is worth a thousand words. It shows a small child defecating promiscuously in the soil in and around the dooryards of the shacks that these people live in. They are without water, without any type of sanitation, and not acquainted with correct personal hygiene. This small child, be that small child 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 years of age, deposits the fecal material promiscuously in the soil. The eggs can live in the soil for as long as a year.

There are cases where these eggs can live longer than a year. They can then be transported by the wind or by pets such as dogs, cats, chickens, ducks that lay in this contaminated soil. They pick up the contaminated soil with the eggs in it, and carry it into the house. I have seen four, five, six, seven, and eight children playing in what is a kitchen on the floor and eating food from the floor where pets are lying with the dirt that has gotten into the house via these pets. The pets lay in this contaminated soil and soil their fur. So, this is one means of transmission.

The next slide is simply a large version of a small child putting dirty fingers into his or her mouth, putting in embryonated eggs that will eventually be swallowed down to the small intestines.

The next slide is an enlarged version of what happens after the eggs hatch, and the larvae migrate through the bloodstream to the lungs via the liver and the heart.

The following chart is a continuation of this life cycle where the worms will ascend the trachea and then are swallowed down the intestines where they will begin feeding, they will mate, they will lay the eggs, with one adult female then laying up to 200,000 eggs daily, and the organisms will rob the host of much high-quality protein.

The next chart shows you the preventive measures that ought to be taken. There ought to be a massive program on hygiene education and sanitation.

This, coupled with the treatment of the infested, and in some cases soil decontamination, can, I think, eventually lick this problem that we have from Tennessee to Galveston. Ascariasis is not unique to the State of South Carolina. It is not unique to Beaufort County. It is a regional problem. It has been here for years, and it extends from Tennessee, Kentucky, North and South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, to some parts of Texas.

Thank you.

Dr. LEASE. Thank you, Dr. Lauter. Just a word before I turn this over to Dr. Carter.

I think we can all realize that a massive program of this sort is not to be done in a matter of a few months or a few years. This is a program which needs to be put squarely in the educational system. Not only do schools need to teach something about this matter from the beginning grades on up, but I have talked on other projects very similar to this particularly with the Negro preachers in the South.

I have found particularly when I was at Clemson University that the Negro preachers are very willing, in fact, the rural preachers, both white and black, are very willing to take subjects, fundamental subjects on agriculture, on sanitation, and so forth, to their congregations.

This is not something that the Federal Government is going to solve for South Carolina or the South by merely giving a little money or a

waterworks. We have found parasites in families that have bathrooms, that have running water.

They must be taught to wash their hands before they eat. They must be taught to wash their hands when they get through in the bathroom. They must be taught not to defecate in the rear yard. There are many things that must be done, and we are, as mentioned, in the process of preparing adequate visual aids.

We do not believe that this program is to be solved in a matter of months. We think it is at least a 5-year project, and we have been trying to get some small funds for an educational program but have not so far been successful in getting even a few thousand dollars with which to take these facts on simple preventive education to the public.

The rest of the program insofar as what Meharry and Vanderbilt found and the Field Foundation will be next.

So, with your permission, I will turn this over to Dr. Carter, a pediatrician at Vanderbilt University.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. We will be very glad to hear from you, Dr. Carter.

(Dr. Carter's statement begins on p. 1211.)

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INTESTINAL PARASITES AND NUTRITIONAL STATUS

A PRELIMINARY REPORT

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I. Introduction:

During recent years much emphasis has been placed on the needs of the lower socio-economic classes. Testimony and local publications^{1,2} indicate that the nutritional and medical needs of the Negro in the southeastern part of the state of South Carolina have not been met. Jeffrey et al³ reported a very high incidence of helminth infections among the inhabitants of the rural coastal South Carolina area. Ledésma and Lease^{4,5} have investigated the existence of nutritional deficiencies among low income mothers throughout the state of South Carolina; however, these studies deal primarily with nutritional deficiencies among urban dwellers.

The subjects for the present study were 178 pre-school Negro children between the ages of two and eight who were residents of the Bluffton-Hilton Head Island area of South Carolina. The inhabitants of this rural region, in most cases, lived in dilapidated, unpainted, two-to-six room dwellings. Seldom were there adequate sani-

tary facilities; the absence of even outside privies was not uncommon. Water was a scarce commodity; some families of eight to fourteen members have only a few gallons of water per day to satisfy all their needs.

The purpose of this study was to determine the extent of intestinal parasite infection and the nutritional status of the children, also the nutritional and medical assistance required to elevate this population to minimal health and nutritional standards.

II. Methods:

One hundred seventy-eight pre-school children and their mothers or guardians were brought to the Public Health Centers at Hilton Head Island and Bluffton, South Carolina. An experienced interviewer used the 24-hour recall technique⁷ to obtain information on the dietary intakes. Since the subjects were so young, it was necessary to interview their mothers or guardians to obtain, as closely as possible, the daily food intake of each subject. The daily intake of specific nutrients was then computed by referring to the United States Department of Agriculture Home and Garden Bulletin No. 72, "Nutritive Value of Foods." The adequacy of the diets was determined by comparison with the recommended dietary allowances of the National Research Council.⁸

Where feasible, 10 ml of blood were collected

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from each child by venous puncture. The blood was drawn into 15 ml syringes and part of it was immediately placed in 10 ml vacutainer tubes containing 10 mg EDTA in powdered form. The blood was packed in ice and transported to the University of South Carolina laboratory in styrofoam containers. A hemoglobin determination was performed on 0.02 ml of blood by the cyanomethemoglobin method of Hainline.⁹ Microhematocrit determinations¹⁰ were performed in order to determine the volume of packed red cells and to serve as a check on the hemoglobin determination. The vitamin C content of whole blood was assessed on a 2 ml sample using a modification of the procedure described by Bessey and associates.¹¹ Procedures employed for determinations in serum are those designated in the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense Nutrition Surveys.¹²

Fecal samples were collected from each subject in plastic coated paper containers fitted with snap lids. Examinations for ova and parasites were performed on location and were verified upon being transported to a laboratory at the University of South Carolina. The direct smear technique was used to establish the presence of helminth ova. A modified zinc sulfate flotation method was employed to concentrate helminth ova from fecal material.¹³ Flotation was accomplished with zinc sulfate solution of specific gravity 1.180.

Soil samples were collected from the top 1 to 1½ inches of moist soil in the vicinity of the homes of the subjects investigated. This was done to locate one of the major sources of helminth transmission. The soil samples were transported to the laboratory in sealed containers where the sedimentation test of Headlee¹⁴ was utilized to concentrate helminth ova for examination under magnification of 100X and 400X using a binocular microscope.

III. Interpretation of Data

In an overall review of the analyses performed (Table I), it is evident that a significant number of subjects fall below the

Table I
Composition of Blood
Hemoglobin

Age of Children	Accepted Normal	Children Below
	Value	Normal
	Grams per 100ml	Per cent
1-3 Years	11.3	50.0
4-5 Years	12.6	61.9
6-8 Years	12.8	63.6

Vitamin C

Age	Accepted Normal	Children Below
	Value	Normal
	mg per 100ml	Per cent
1-8 Years	0.77	18.43

acceptable normal values of the constituents of the blood. It is notable that those blood constituents that do fall within the acceptable range are on the low side. One out of five children has a blood level of vitamin C that is below normal. Seventy-three per cent of these children were found to have the intestinal parasites, Ascaris or Trichuris or both (Table II). The interrelated association of ascariasis with trichuriasis often complicates an interpretation of the specific clinical role played by either of these parasites.¹⁵

Table II

Intestinal Parasites in Pre-School Negro Children Bluffton-Hilton Head Island, S. C. Area

	Number of Children	Percent of Children
Infected with Ascaris only	28	21.4%
Infected with Trichuris only	33	25.2%
Infected with both Ascaris & Trichuris	35	26.7%
Not infected with Ascaris or Trichuris	35	26.7%
Total Number of Stools Examined	131	100%
Total Number of Children Infested with Parasites	96	73.3%

Averages from 151 dietary recalls (Chart I) show that the daily nutritional intake of the children is below the Recommended Daily Allowance for individuals of their age with the exception of protein intake. If one considers that below 66.6% of the RDA is a minimum diet, then these children are undernourished in over one-half of their needs, with only protein, vitamin A, riboflavin, and thiamine falling between 66.6 and 100 per cent and all other nutrients calculated (i.e., calories, calcium, iron, niacin, and vitamin C) being below 60%.

It should also be noted that these children are situated in a rural area, and many of the foods that were consumed during the study were seasonal (tomatoes, watermelons, fresh fish, etc.). There exists a real question in the minds of the investigators if they would continue to

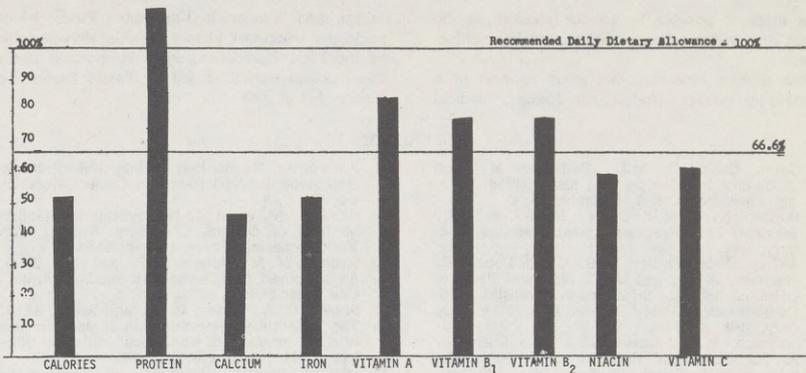


Chart I—Relative Nutrients in Diets 151 Pre-school Negro Children Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Area of S. C. Summer 1968

have even this minimal nutritional intake throughout the winter months.

An adequate number of soil analyses for a comprehensive study were not examined for parasite eggs; however, of the dooryard samples examined, infestation was observed in all samples.

Summary

It is quite evident from the data presented that a high degree of parasite infestation is prevalent in the area surveyed. The indications were overwhelming that this is a critical and crucial health hazard affecting the dignity as well as the well-being of all the citizens in this area.

The nutritional status was in most cases inadequate and in all instances minimal. The general knowledge in basic nutritional needs for growth and development as well as proper purchasing and preparation of foods left a great deal to be desired.

This lack of education, coupled with the inadequate sanitation and poor personal hygiene not only hinders any progress toward helminth elimination, but indeed contributes toward further infestation and continued "undernutrition."

Thus it is apparent that education, together with sanitation and chemothera-

peutic treatment, is the key to open the door of health to these victims of environment, habit, and heredity.

Addendum

During the latter part of December 1968 a nutritional status survey was conducted in this same area (Hilton Head Island-Bluffton) on pre-school white children. Of the 56 children studied, 4.2% were found to be infested with ascaris or trichuris. An overall average of the dietary intake calculates to be less than the Recommended Dietary Allowance in all nutrients except protein and vitamin B₂. Actual deficiency is noted only in the calcium intake which is 61% RDA.

On an individual basis, the percentage of children having nutrient deficiency is: 12%—calories, 1%—protein, 20%—calcium, 23%—vitamin A, 5%—vitamin B₁, 2%—vitamin B₂, 9%—niacin, and 18%—vitamin C.

Acknowledgement

The authors gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of private practitioners, the Beaufort County Departments of Education, Public Health, Office of Economic Opportunity, and the many citizens who demonstrated their concern and interest. Special mention is made of Mrs. Laura Ann Bush and Mr. Thomas Barnwell, Jr., whose community organiza-

tion made it possible to get the children to the clinic and improve the conditions causing reinfection.

The authors conducted this study as part of a cooperative research project with Meharry Medical

College and Vanderbilt University. Funds which made the laboratory phases possible were supplied by the Field Foundation, while inseparable educational phases were financed by Title I Higher Education Act of 1965.

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STATEMENT OF DR. JAMES P. CARTER, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF NUTRITION AND INSTRUCTOR IN PEDIATRICS, VANDERBILT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE; AND ASSISTANT CLINICAL PROFESSOR IN COMMUNITY NUTRITION, DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH, MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE, NASHVILLE, TENN.

Dr. CARTER. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I appreciate this opportunity to appear before you and participate in these hearings on problems of nutrition and related human needs.

I am a board-certified pediatrician. I have a master's degree in parasitology and a doctorate in public health, with a major in nutrition, from the Columbia University School of Public Health and Administrative Medicine. I am also a faculty fellow of the Milbank Memorial Fund.

I have worked in nutrition since 1963 in the developing countries of Guatemala, Nigeria, and most recently in Cairo, Egypt, United Arab Republic. I was a member of the Citizens Board of Inquiry into Hunger and Malnutrition in the United States.

Our involvement at Vanderbilt University in the nutrition survey in Beaufort County, S.C., was initially as consultants. The study as you know was financed by the Field Foundation. After a meeting in Nashville, last October, to look over the preliminary data, it was decided that we would take a more active role in the survey, and in particular would check some of the physical findings of the Meharry medical students, and draw additional blood samples for other nutritional biochemical determinations which we are set up to do. In December of 1968, therefore, Dr. Doris Wright of Meharry, Mrs. Josephine Obie of Vanderbilt, and I went down to Beaufort County and reexamined the children who were in the original survey done by Dr. Lease, Dr. Lauter, and Dr. High, and took additional blood specimens.

We have also been asked by the Field Foundation to put together the different aspects of the study into one final report, which is what we are doing at the present time. There only remains some socioeconomic data on the families which are currently being gathered by some college students from Santa Cruz, Calif. These questionnaires will be studied with respect to education and low income. One of the reasons for gathering this socioeconomic data on the families in Beaufort County is to try to draw some correlations between income and educational level and nutritional status. Until such information is obtained, to say that the major problem is one of income or is one of education is purely a value judgment with no scientific data to back it up.

I would now like to report on our findings which should be put together with those of Dr. Lease and Dr. Lauter from the University of South Carolina in Columbia. Since methodology and definition of terms have been previously covered in the testimony of Dr. Arnold Schaefer, I will be brief and give you the findings and their significance.

We analyzed the heights and weights of the children examined and found by and large that they were shorter and weighed less than they should for their chronological ages. The difference between their

height and weight distribution curves and the norms is statistically significant. We found 26 percent of the children anemic with hemoglobin levels below 10 grams per 100 milliliters. Thirty percent of the children had low levels of vitamin A in the serum; that is to say, the levels were below 20 micrograms percent. This is the level below which night blindness appears. Fourteen percent of the children had low levels of the vitamin, folic acid. They had levels less than 4 milimicrograms per centimeter.

In the case of vitamin C in December when fresh fruits such as tomatoes and watermelons were not available, there were two children out of 99 with dangerously low levels in the blood (below 0.19 milligrams percent), one with a level as low as 0.09 milligrams percent. There were deficiencies of vitamin B₁, or thiamine in 8 percent as determined by transketolase levels and the effect of stimulation with thiamine pyrophosphate. The serum enzyme alkaline phosphatase was determined and was above 19 units in 27 percent. This probably represents a compensatory mechanism to increase bone calcification because of inadequate amounts of vitamin D. Only three children out of 100 examined in December had obvious bone deformities which were compatible with rickets.

The serum iron level was below 40 in 51 percent. The anemia which was found in one-quarter of these children is probably the result of the combined deficiencies of iron and folic acid.

The serum albumin levels were determined last summer and were within normal limits, suggesting adequate protein nutriture. This would fit in with Dr. Lease's dietary findings.

The most striking physical findings on these children were distended abdomens in 41 percent. This distention is most likely due to varying degrees of malabsorption, secondary to the presence of the intestinal roundworm, *Ascaris lumbricoides*. There was pallor of the mucous membranes and fingernails in 18 percent, and smooth tongue in 16 percent, obviously reflecting the state of anemia. There was cheilosis, a swelling, rolling outward, and cracking of the lower lip in 28 percent, which is probably related to environmental exposure and/or B-complex deficiency. There were obvious dental caries in 50 percent, and disease of the gums in 30 percent.

By and large, however, the children would appear normal to a casual observer except for the distended abdomen. Yet significant numbers of them are seriously malnourished. One is reminded of the minister who once said of one of his parishioners, "I didn't know he was a drinker until I saw him sober one day."

As for starvation, none of the children appear to be dying of acute starvation. As far as hunger is concerned, you can ask them and they will tell you that they are hungry.

Clearly, these children are suffering from the chronic effects of undernutrition, parasitism, and repeated bacterial and viral infections. All of these are acting synergistically to reduce their growth and development.

As far as solutions to the problems are concerned, as in the case of developing countries, the solutions to the problems of malnutrition and population pressures require more than just food supplementation and birth control.

Inadequate housing is a problem for many families in the Beaufort County area. Home improvement and home construction loans should be provided to those families most in need.

Some communities in this area are in desperate need of a community water supply and sewerage and waste disposal system.

To give you some idea of how much money the U.S. Government spent for community water supply development and sewerage and waste disposal systems in developing countries, I would like to quote Dr. Phillip R. Lee, M.D., former Director, Health Service, Agency for International Development. Dr. Lee in 1965 said that "During the period 1960-64 more than \$392 million had been provided by the U.S. Government to economically developing countries for water supplies and waste disposal systems."

Some of the areas I saw in Beaufort County would probably have qualified for this type of assistance had they been overseas in a country friendly to the United States at this time.

Economic opportunities also have to be provided if we are to improve the nutritional status of the people in this area. This may require job training, or it might take the form of self-help farm cooperatives. It could require the encouragement of small industries to come into the area. Day care centers may have to be started to take care of children from fatherless homes while their mothers are working. People unable to work should be taken care of under an adequate income-maintenance system.

Only with a sound economic base can there be a better chance for health education programs directed toward parasite control and improving nutritional status successfully.

A rural health center is also needed in the area. It might have to be staffed by personnel loaned from the U.S. Public Health Service. One of the best examples of work in this area is that which is being done by Dr. Joseph Beasley of Tulane University. In this program, family health services, family planning, and applied nutrition are all offered as a comprehensive package because these factors are inseparable.

Through the health center, supplemental feeding programs could be started as a temporary measure to combat malnutrition in the area.

Finally, with the help of citizens in the area such as Mr. Thomas Barnwell and Mrs. Laura Bush, an effective community organization could be developed. This organization should and must have a say-so in deciding the future of the poor in the area, and in determining which programs should have priority development. The organization should have the right to reject or refuse any personnel hired to work on their behalf, if they feel they do not have the right attitude, or their best interests at heart.

These findings therefore are similar to those reported by Dr. Schaefer from the Texas and Louisiana surveys.

In addition, I should like to point out that these children are also heavily parasitized. As far as the argument is concerned, which is more important, the intestinal parasites or nutrition? I think Dr. Lease's data give us a clue—they are both important—as to how things are interacting.

He reported the caloric intake of these children as being one-half of the recommended allowance. That figure for a 3- to 6-year-old child would be 800 calories. I would like to call your attention to the fact that the mean caloric intake for a preschool child in the State of Andhra Pradesh in India is 820 calories.

This caloric insufficiency is certainly not enough to support the patient and barely enough to support the worms.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Dr. Carter.

Dr. Coles, we would be please to hear from you now.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT COLES, M.D., HARVARD UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

Dr. COLES. Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, 2 years ago, with five other physicians, I helped present some observations we all made to the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Employment, Manpower, and Poverty. We declared that we had seen in the State of Mississippi not only extreme poverty, but gross, clinical evidence of chronic hunger and malnutrition—evidence that we as doctors found it hard to deal with ourselves, let alone talk about, because we had been unprepared by our own medical training for what we saw. Today's American physicians are simply not prepared by their education to expect to find in this Nation severe vitamin deficiency diseases, widespread parasitism, and among infants, a mortality rate that is comparable, say, to the underdeveloped nations of Asia or Africa.

We saw, bluntly, hungry malnourished children, children with swollen ankles, swollen bellies, widely infected skin, wasting muscles, and for practically each part of the body, I am sad to say, signs of illness. Hearts had murmurs. Percussion of chests indicated lung infections. Teeth were in awful condition. Children needed glasses, needed antibiotics, needed drugs that would rid them of worms; they needed to have their hearing checked or their heart or nose and throat or bones and joints checked. Children had, almost universally, anemia and unhealed sores and chronic sinus conditions and, in the words of one mother, "Colds, colds, colds; they never get over them, even when the temperature goes over 100."

Such children are badly run down, and, of course, they never get rid of those colds, or the more severe illnesses they live with as a virtual way of life. This committee has heard what may well happen to those children even before they are born, let alone in the first years of their lives, because their mothers do not get enough proper food, enough protein. And this committee, like others of the Senate, has heard a succession of witnesses describe what they have seen and studied and come to conclude.

I take particular note of Dr. Arnold Schaefer's report—the report of a very carefully prepared statistical study—because the six of us physicians who said what we did in 1967—including mention of kwashi-orkor or marasmus, not to mention beri-beri and scurvy and pellagra and severe worm infestations—were immediately doubted, and not only by those who might have good reason not to want to hear such things.

A number of our colleagues, our liberal colleagues, found our assertions hard to believe, as did we find it hard to arrive at the clinical judgments which relentlessly and unrelievedly thrust themselves upon us, as we made our rounds of home after home, county after county.

In an ironic sense, the first confirmation of our findings came from five doctors sent out by the Governor of Mississippi, Paul Johnson.

They followed our tracks and, as the record of their report will show, saw the same underhoused, underfed, undereducated and underemployed people we did, living in shacks, without proper sanitation, in conditions that I regret to say have been described again and again and again by writers and observers and social scientists and medical scientists, all to no effect.

In 1967 when we came to Washington to describe our findings we visited high officials in the Agriculture Department, and without going into the details of our conversations, I can say that we were told not to expect very much change. We were told of the problems that the Agriculture Department has with the Congress, particularly with regard to appropriations, and we left feeling that we ought weigh those problems as somehow of the same order as the problems we had met up with in the South, and that we knew from our work elsewhere existed all over the country—among white people and black people, among people in our cities as well as our rural areas.

Fortunately, Senator Robert Kennedy pursued this issue with great energy and compassion; and fortunately some, but by no means enough, changes at last began to be made—as a result of, as Senator McGovern said in a recent speech, the report “Hunger U.S.A.” and the CBS documentary “Hunger in America,” both of which helped bring the fate of thousands of American citizens to the attention of a large public.

In 1967, Dr. Milton Senn, Sterling Professor of Pediatrics at Yale University, and I spent about an hour with the Attorney General, who wanted to know whether we thought the conditions we had seen in Mississippi and elsewhere constituted an emergency. We were hard put to answer the question, because we know that those conditions have persisted for years, have been responsible for thousands of stunted lives and premature deaths.

Legally, as one thinks of an emergency, one thinks of something appearing suddenly, almost out of nowhere, and requiring immediate attention. The conditions we saw have not come out of nowhere, but, alas, have been for all too long there, a part of our history. Those conditions do indeed require immediate attention, and certainly are a medical and moral emergency of incalculable proportions. How, exactly, does one estimate the extent of a situation responsible for the quick and unnecessary and avoidable deaths of infants and children in this country?

So, I fear Dr. Senn and I were wrong, wrong for not insisting that the chronicity of a problem, its plaguing presence for decades and decades, can hardly disqualify the use of the word “emergency.”

Lives have been at stake; lives are still, at stake. And I regret to say that I have in the course of my recent studies had to confirm once again just how many lives are still very much at stake.

In the past few months, I have made three separate trips to the State of South Carolina, and two to the State of Mississippi. In Beaufort and Jasper Counties, S.C., I saw clinically very much what we saw in Mississippi in 1967, and very much what I regret to say I have seen countless times in 10 years of work in the South, in Appalachia, among migrant farmers, and in the ghettos of our cities.

In sum, I saw evidence of primary, I say “primary” malnutrition, associated in turn with diseases directly attributable to either lack of enough food or a poor quality of food—that is, food low in protein, low in vitamins, low in minerals.

In South Carolina, I saw homes that lacked running water, lacked any sanitary facilities, lacked proper ventilation or heat. I met families who see maybe \$700 or \$800 in a year, who cannot afford the price of food stamps and whose children demonstrated the following: swollen ankles; swollen bellies; infected and excoriated skin; signs of pellagra; poor dental repair; arrested bone development; stunted growth; swollen and deformed joints; anemia; heavy parasitic infestation; lethargy; and irritability and dependency.

In Mississippi, almost 2 years after this issue of hunger and malnutrition was first brought to the attention of the American public—I repeat, almost “2 years later”—I saw once again in several counties, including ones visited by us six physicians in 1967, malnourished children, children who are not getting the right amount and kinds of food, who suffer from several diseases and see no physician, who indeed were born in shacks without the help of a doctor and under conditions that are primitive, to say the least, and to say it without the anger and outrage that are by any civilized standards utterly warranted.

Why, 2 years later, must these children still go hungry, still be sick? Why must families essentially without money be asked to pay for food stamps with money they don't have? Why do American children get born without the help of a doctor, and never, never see a doctor in their lives? It is awful, it is humiliating for all of us that these questions still have to be asked in a nation like this, the strongest and richest Nation that ever was.

“I'd just get the food down there. I can't believe that in this country we can't get some food down there.” Senator McGovern recently quoted those words of Robert Kennedy, and that is about all I can say, too. Many “there's” in America need that food, and because our farmers do such a fine job, we have much food to offer, more in fact than those of us who are reasonably well off need. Why, then, do people in this Nation, children in this Nation, still lack food, and still live the half-life, the deathlike lives they do?

I would like to say one more thing in addition to that.

The last trip I made was to the northeastern section in Mississippi, a county which is represented by the Honorable Jamie Whitten of the State of Mississippi. The conditions there, the lack of food, the primitive living conditions, the lack of sanitation and absolute destitution, coupled with an infant mortality rate that rivals any section of this world, in India or Africa, are beyond comprehension to a civilized human being living in this country at this time. I do not understand why these things have to persist and why we have to talk about this again and again and again, and people like me have to come and repeat all of these findings which have been buried in the medical literature for years and years.

I would urge that the people in this county be given food and food on an emergency basis because they need it. Their children without that food will die prematurely and will die awful deaths without a physician even to care for them, just as they are born even without the help of a physician.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you for your statement, Dr. Coles.

Again, I would like to ask a question of you. We have heard during the last 2 days the first extensive testimony before the committee on the problem of parasites, the problem of worms. Dr. Lease indi-

cated that this may have priority even over dealing with the immediate problem of additional food. I wish you would discuss a little more in depth the relationship between the two problems—the problem of the parasites and the problem of worms.

For example, is a child suffering from inadequate food intake more likely to be infested by parasites? That is the first thing I would like you to answer and, second, does a child who is infested with worms not require considerably more food? If we fail to eliminate the worms by corrective medical action during the time he is infested, does it not follow that he has not eaten considerably more food in order to have the proper nutrition? I wish you would comment on those two items and any other item on which you would care to instruct us on with relation to these problems. It seems to me there is a close interrelationship here.

Dr. CARTER. We have some evidence in animals that they will spontaneously pass their parasites when they are properly fed, but there is no such data that I know of in humans. The problem is that the two go hand in hand. Wherever you find poor nutrition, you very likely will find poor conditions of environmental sanitation.

As far as the amount of food or nutrients that parasites consume, I have some figures here to show that 20 adult *Ascaris* worms, which are the worms Dr. Lauter has so ably discussed, will consume 2.8 grams of carbohydrate, 0.07 grams of protein, which means that if a patient had, say, 600 worms, and this is not at all unusual, in some of the developing countries, this would be equal to 84 grams of carbohydrate and 21 grams of protein.

For most people who have ascaris infection, the problem is not so much the fact that the worms aggravate their poor nutritional status, but the problem occurs when these worms migrate. When an individual has fever or even during anesthesia, the worms can migrate from their usual habitat which is the upper small intestine into the gallbladder and cause an acute gallbladder attack. They can also migrate out through the mouth or through the anus, or they can get down into the tracheo-bronchial tree and cause respiratory difficulties.

There was a Japanese worker by the name of Koino who deliberately ingested 2,000 ascaris eggs and he nearly died. He became ill on the eighth or ninth day after taking these eggs. He kept a record of his symptoms. He had fever and he coughed up blood, and this is related to the fact that the worms migrate initially through the lungs. But he was so sick on the fourth and fifth days after developing fever that his brother had to keep the record for him.

Now, the initial symptoms of infestation range all the way from those in the case of Koino to the death of an infant which has been described by Dr. Cecily Williams from one single ascaris worm. So, you have the complete spectrum of the symptomatology that occurs.

I strongly believe that the effects of the worms on nutritional status, at least ascaris, may be overrated.

Senator ELLENDER. What was overrated?

Dr. CARTER. The effects of the worms on nutritional status may be overrated.

The CHAIRMAN. What percentage of that child's intake is consumed by worms if a child is heavily infested?

Senator COOK. Can you convert the grams to calories?

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, if a child gets 900 calories, how much does the worm get?

Senator ELLENDER. I guess it depends on how many worms he has in his stomach.

Dr. CARTER. I would have to figure that out.

Dr. LEASE. May I comment, Mr. Chairman, we take a different view on this.

My history has been through the agricultural experiment station. As Senator Ellender well knows because of his position, farmers look at their livestock and if they have worms they understand those worms will reduce the profit. That animal will not grow, will not gain weight, and we just rid them of the worms. That is even true with dogs. We understand when a dog has worms he is sick and does not grow well.

I have been asked this same question—how much food does the worm take? What is the relationship between the number of worms and the health of a child? I have just plain abruptly said that I do not plan to go into studies of this sort. If a child is heavily infested with parasites, he is malnourished and he is sick. I have checked this with Dr. Aycock, our State health officer. We agree if a child is heavily infested with worms, the first job is to get rid of the worms and then start feeding.

The CHAIRMAN. Dr. Lease, could you tell me why we have done so much more effective job in eliminating worms from livestock and nutritional deficiencies than we have in human beings?

Dr. LEASE. Yes, sir. Part of the reason is that we have cleared better drugs for the use on livestock than we have for humans.

The CHAIRMAN. Why? Why do we place that kind of value on the health of livestock and not on children?

Dr. LAUTER. I think I can answer that question. We are not as much concerned with the side effects of drugs in cattle or dogs as we are with a 2-year-old, 3-year-old, or 4-year-old child.

I believe if my daughter were infested and there was a new drug out, I would be concerned with the side effects of that drug more so than if I were treating my dog.

The CHAIRMAN. What about the side effects of the worms and the malnutrition?

Dr. LEASE. This has been kept under cover perhaps for reasons that you can guess as well as I can. I have been in the State of South Carolina since 1938. This matter has not ever, really, been taken before the public. In fact, the president of the University of South Carolina asked me to bring one of these worms in a bottle to his office. It was somewhat of a surprise to him, although, people have known that there are worms there. Our State Representative Medlock came to his office and got this worm and took it to the legislature and this has kind of opened up this subject in the State of South Carolina as it had never been opened up before.

I believe, you heard testimony yesterday, that our former Governor, Mr. Fritz Hollings, said our great objective was to get industry and get some employment for these people and do the best we could on parasites and nutrition until such time as we had work for them. So, perhaps we have neglected nutrition and we have neglected this matter. It was not totally unknown to the medical industry.

Senator ELLENDER. Hasn't sanitation been neglected, too? Can you not get rid of these worms with proper sanitation?

Dr. LEASE. Yes, sir. You do not even need a bathroom. All that is needed is to cover the outside excreta, whether it be by use of an outside septic tank or privy. The simplicity of it was shown on these charts.

Senator ELLENDER. I would like to state for the record some of my own experiences.

I was born in 1890 in south Louisiana. Seventy years ago I was just about 8 years old, and I remember discovering that I had a case of worms. Whether it was the worms you referred to on the chart, I do not know. I do not know what kind they were. The matter was brought to the attention of doctors in our parish, and I can remember a campaign by all of the people in that area where there were these worms of putting a lot of lime around and making holes in the toilets outside and pouring in lime in order to kill whatever eggs or worms, I presume, that were put there by people.

As I recall, it was just about a few years ago when we got rid of that. Now, I am just wondering why it is that the people of Beaufort County in South Carolina should be so far backward. There might be something wrong somewhere in those two counties.

Dr. LEASE. It is not only those two counties. It is a wider spread area.

Senator ELLENDER. In South Carolina?

Dr. LEASE. In several States and throughout the world. It is unfortunate and deplorable. I, too, Senator, was born on a farm in southern Wisconsin. We never did have these problems. We had a very high standard of sanitation within our family.

Senator ELLENDER. You have a lot of cold weather there; that might kill it. I may be in error, but I do not recall ever hearing any more about any worms in my area and that is where they were prevalent. That was 70 years ago.

Dr. LEASE. This is unfortunate, but the worms are still in many areas of the South including the State of Louisiana.

Senator ELLENDER. Where would that be? I would like to find out. The next time I go to Louisiana I want to find out about it.

Dr. LEASE. I believe it is common knowledge that there are intestinal parasites in most of our Southern States where sanitation is not practiced. For the most part, this is a rural disease where they do not have a central sewage system.

Senator ELLENDER. Is it the same kind of worm you described here?

Dr. LAUTER. Yes, sir; it is ascariasis and in addition to that whipworm.

Senator ELLENDER. That is a different worm; is it not?

Dr. LAUTER. It is a smaller worm.

Senator ELLENDER. You prescribe hookworm medicine?

Dr. LAUTER. No; not hookworm. We have described only one of several that are significant to the given area.

Senator ELLENDER. The one I am speaking of and that you described?

Dr. LAUTER. Evidently, the one that came out of your nose or mouth is the one that causes ascariasis, the 10- to 12-inch worm.

Senator ELLENDER. That is the worm you described and that is the worm I am speaking of. I do not know of any area in Louisiana where there are such worms. If there are, I would like to know it, and I would like to visit the place next time I go there because we got rid of it in my area.

Dr. CARTER. I can tell you where you can get the information with respect to parasitic infestation in Louisiana. You can get this information from Dr. William Frye, chancellor of LSU, Dr. Schwartzwelder, also at LSU, and Dr. Rodney Jung. Most of these people have been working for a long time at the Tulane University School of Public Health and they have quite a bit of data.

Dr. LAUTER. Also Dr. Paul Beaver at Tulane.

Senator ELLENDER. As I understand it, we have in each of the parishes in my State health centers where we have nurses as well as doctors. I do not know that the same thing prevails in South Carolina but it strikes me that proper sanitation would cure a lot of the evils you now speak of and it is also a question of malnutrition.

Dr. LAUTER. It is a matter of correct personal health hygiene, Senator Ellender. This, in addition to sanitation, could hypothetically knock out these parasitic diseases without chemotherapy compounds because of the particular longevity of certain worms. We have to teach these people correct personal hygiene. We have to teach them how to use a toilet if they have a toilet. Most of these people do not have sanitary facilities let alone water. If they are taught to wash their hands, they have to have water to wash their hands. Teaching them to do something if they do not have the material to do it with is worthless. They have to have correct sanitation; they have to have water facilities to carry out this personal hygiene.

Senator ELLENDER. To go back to the situation of my own experience, I do know and recall at my own home and in homes all around these, precautions were taken and people were told that whenever they had to go to the toilet to go to one of these outside houses where they had put lime and some other mixture, and from what I could understand, it did a lot of good in destroying or killing all of these worms.

The CHAIRMAN. Dr. Coles.

Dr. COLES. Senator Ellender, I think you correctly indicated, however, that you had the help of physicians as you cleared this problem up. I want to emphasize that in Beaufort and Jasper Counties and in many other counties of this country, all over the country, not just in the rural South, there are people who simply never see doctors, who are not getting any kind of medical care, who do not have the money to get medical care, are not tied in with any medical programs such as the Public Health Service and, therefore, are never going to get this advice and counsel and, therefore, are not going to get rid of these worms.

I would also like to emphasize in addition to not having doctors, these people are not getting enough food. Even if they did not have worms, they would be malnourished and hungry. Eight hundred or 900 calories a day are not enough for children. There are people who are not infested with worms but are malnourished because of the absence of food.

We heard Dr. Lease say earlier today we must teach these people various things. We must teach them how to be cleaner and how to take advantage of sanitary facilities when we get them.

I would also like to say we have to teach these children that they can expect food every day and if they don't get this food and if we don't teach them that this food is coming, not only will they be hurt in mind but in body as well. They will learn to expect the absence of

food and become as bitter and despondent as they have become, and they will die prematurely. So, that has to be taught to these children as well as teaching them about the various kinds of sanitation. Also, 800 or 900 calories is just not enough food, worms or no worms.

Senator ELLENDER. I think Senator McGovern is trying to establish and I was trying to establish that it is not the lack of food but a matter of sanitation that causes these worms. To go back to my own State, we have taken precautions in every parish to provide these health centers. In some places, you have two or three or four small clinics. We have in my State nine State-maintained hospitals scattered throughout the State where anybody who is sick can get free service. I cannot say that for New York, nor can I say it for Massachusetts or Mississippi. But I do know that we have tried to do our best within our means to provide the better things that you say should be done in other parts of the country. With all of that, I am sure you find some areas where you might find a few worms. I do not deny that, but I would like to know where they are and, as I said, precautions will be taken to rid ourselves of it, and that is a matter more or less for the local people to do with a little Federal aid.

The CHAIRMAN. I wonder if any of the doctors can tell us what is involved in eliminating this worm infestation. What is involved medically and what is the dimension of the problem? How do you go about dealing with an areawide problem of that kind? You say that practically all of the States in the South are afflicted with this problem. How would we mount a campaign to deal with it and eliminate it? Would you gentlemen speak to that.

Dr. LEASE. I observed how they did it in one of the divisions of the Beaufort County Public Health Service or Public Health Center, mentioning that South Carolina does have a health department in each county and several small branches in most of the counties so, like Louisiana, we have covered this situation although the personnel is limited in connection with the total number of people they must take care of.

Then, Senator McGovern, as I stood by to watch these mothers whom we brought in with the University of South Carolina automobile, the child was taken to a backroom and given one ounce of medicine to drink orally. This medicine is rather pleasant. It is kind of a flavored drink. The child will drink it rather easily. It has very few side effects and in the course of a short time, perhaps that night following, the worms are, one might say, anesthetized in the tract. They are not killed in the tract. They are passed out in the bowel movement and when they were exposed to the air, they cannot live. These worms that you saw are the kind that live in the absence of air.

One treatment is about all some of our clinics have been able to give. They do not get him the third or fourth day. One treatment does not do it. They must have more than one treatment.

It is also true that we do not have good enough drugs to really do this job on the second type of organism which we have spoken of very little, *Trichuris*, or whipworm. This is a smaller and shorter parasite and harder to remove from the intestinal tract but therapy is oral and done in the health centers. They are not necessarily hospitalized unless they are very heavily infested.

Senator ELLENDER. Do you find the small worms in South Carolina at this time?

Dr. LEASE. Yes, sir.

Senator ELLENDER. Is any effort made by the local people or are there any sanitary methods being carried out to try to destroy them and get rid of this problem.

Dr. LEASE. Whether we should do it this way or express it this way or not, I do not know, but they are very primitive. They have lived under these conditions for a long while. They do not have an inside bathroom, they do not have running water, they do not have an out-house or privy. They merely use the woods. This has been a habit. It is not something that we can get done in 6 months or a year. This is something that has to be injected into the educational system and the church system to get this so that it will be corrected in a decade. It is not going to be corrected next year.

Senator ELLENDER. Are there any active health centers in those two counties of South Carolina that you are talking about?

Dr. LEASE. Yes; we have them in each county. Just how active they are, you can judge for yourself.

Senator ELLENDER. You may have people there who do not have to do their jobs.

Dr. LEASE. As a university, we do not really know. I know when we were at the Bluffton-Hilton Health Center, they were busy for the people they had there. They have been criticized that they have not been doing their job 100 percent. The medical profession has been criticized. I guess everybody could be criticized.

Our job as a university is confined to what parasites are there, what is the nutritional status, and I must stick to the data we have from our survey. I cannot philosophize on the facts outside of our survey.

Senator ELLENDER. What is your conception of what should be done by the people working in the health center—just taking care of the people who come there or the health of the people all over the county?

Dr. LEASE. I have told them my personal opinion was that many people must do most of this themselves. This is a matter of personal hygiene or personal, minimum decency, however you want to think of it, but it is not necessary to have a chrome-plated bathroom; but many of these people, sir, do not realize these intestinal parasites come from being somewhat unsanitary. They think this comes from sugar.

Senator ELLENDER. All of that grows out of a lack of knowledge; does it not?

Dr. LEASE. Yes, sir.

Senator COOK. Has this information been made available to the two health centers in those two counties?

Dr. LEASE. Yes, sir; I am well acquainted with the State health officer and through the State health officer as soon as we have any important data, we turn this record over to him and I believe, sir, we have an excellent State health officer and he is doing the best he can with the budget and personnel that he has had and more or less inherited as a State health officer.

Senator COOK. My point is that if you turned over information to him on 177 examinations and you had 98 infected people, has this health center taken any active effort to do anything about these 98 children or are they sitting here and saying, "Well, maybe the Federal

Government will have a program in a little bit." The point I am making is, is this health center really doing something or is it not?

Dr. CARTER. I would just like to add it is an interesting fact that the sample itself for this survey was selected from the records of the health center. This puts in a bias against finding malnutrition and against finding parasitism. If a mother takes her child into the health center at one time or another so she has her name on the record, her child has a better chance of receiving the benefits of health care than someone who does not even go to the health center.

Senator COOK. In other words, you took them from what you consider to be the best examples?

Dr. CARTER. That is right.

Dr. LEASE. Dr. Carter has been over there more recently. The survey I am talking about was last summer. He came in December to get some additional samples. For the record, I must say that we took all of the Negro children and all of the white children on Hilton Head Island, a division of Beaufort County. This island contained some of the best resorts in the world, some of the best beaches in the world. We took all of them on there and essentially all of them from the adjacent mainland of Bluffton.

Also, Senator Cook, to answer your question, do the established health centers do their job, I would say in summary they do the best they can with the personnel and the money they have. It is true that they have followed up these. In fact, as Dr. Carter said, they knew that many of them existed before. We used their records. We also chased down, shaken the bushes, so to speak, by getting local people to help us find everyone. We did not want to get into this matter of statistics. We took all of the children in these particular areas and we did give them our records, and I believe they have followed them along, but they have many programs to follow.

I think to whip this problem, we need to get into education through, as I mentioned, the schools and churches and the university and the schools of the country. There are some things that you just cannot complete and do 100 percent by having people come to a doctor's office. Getting to a doctor's office is expensive in any case.

Senator COOK. Dr. Coles, in your statement, you said, "In 1967 when we came to Washington to describe our findings, we visited high officials in the Department of Agriculture and without going into the details of our conversation I can say that we were told not to expect very much change." Now, why don't you just go into the details of what those conversations were?

Dr. COLES. The six of us went over to see these high officials.

Senator ELLENDER. Would you know who they are?

Dr. COLES. Yes, the Secretary and Under Secretaries.

Senator ELLENDER. Secretary of Agriculture Freeman?

Dr. COLES. Yes, sir. We were told in essence that the Department of Agriculture is beholden to the Agriculture Committees of the Congress, and particularly the House Committee on Agriculture—

Senator COOK. That's the first time we knew that.

Dr. COLES. In particular, Mr. Whitten's name came up and Mr. Poage's name came up, and we were told things being as they are—and I have no reason to hesitate to say as they are—this was a very serious problem for them.

In essence, we were told we were wasting our time, and we were very discouraged.

Senator ELLENDER. And that was due to a lack of funds, they said?

Dr. COLES. There were very complicated problems between the Department and the Congress.

Senator ELLENDER. Because of lack of funds.

Dr. COLES. They recognized that they had an inadequate food program—

Senator COOK. Did they say to you they had a food program?

Dr. COLES. I think they implied it. I think we got that impression, and I think we are six well-educated men, and we got the impression that they realized there were serious problems in this country with respect to adequate food for people who are not getting it and need it. But they also told us there were facts of life that they had to deal with.

Senator COOK. Would you agree with the statement that came out of the Agriculture Department some months ago when this committee first started, in response to the suggestion that people were not being fed in this country, that the Department had a good program which was doing an adequate job?

Dr. COLES. I want to bring in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare because we also went over there. They told us they knew what we had seen, and that this had been known for years. I think we all had the feeling that they had not been able to mount the kinds of programs they might have felt were warranted, yes.

Senator COOK. When you talk emphatically about why can't we get food to these areas, do you feel then a great deal of the effort of this committee should be directed at the food distribution programs at the national level here in Washington rather than at the county and State levels?

Dr. COLES. Sir, I have worked for 10 years with some of these problems with a wide variety of people, rural as well as urban, and I can say that in some sections of this country the county system is simply not adequate to the problems of these people because the very people who are not getting enough food are the same people who are having all kinds of difficulties with those same county officials.

So, the food is not reaching these people because they are not being made eligible for this food, and they are not getting enough money to buy the food stamps.

Consequently, what we have is an inadequate program, inadequately funded, inadequately delivered, and at times delivered reluctantly or not at all by people who don't want the delivery to be made; namely, the county officials.

Until this is turned into a Federal program that transcends these structural difficulties we will have all sorts of serious problems in this country. In the case of migrant workers, the health departments will have to go out to find the poor. In many cases, they do not have automobiles. They are transported around like cattle and tenant farmers.

Others in rural centers cannot get any medical care. When they get there, the concept that the Public Health Service sometimes has, as its function, is to give tetanus shots, to give diphtheria shots but not to give them the kind of comprehensive medical care that they need.

We have a problem that affects doctors of this country, and particularly the Federal programs concerned with medicine as well as the Federal food program.

Senator COOK. I didn't want you to get away from being slightly critical because having been on the boards of some colleges, we found that the doctors want to have more and more advanced study so that they can advance more and more.

We can't get them into counties or in the rural areas. We can't get them into the health centers, and when you talk about the fact that some people never see a doctor, unfortunately, we have gone into the age of medical sophistication where we can't convince doctors to go into these areas.

We have a number of cases in our own State where the counties have sent students to medical schools, and they immediately broke their contracts which required some years of service in the county which financed their education. We are still looking for doctors. I agree with what you said in your statement, but we also have a problem with the medical profession.

Dr. COLES. That is something on which we can act.

Dr. CARTER. As far as the initial denial of hunger and the existence of malnutrition as a serious problem, I think that this was sort of the first phase. Now we are in a second phase where people are saying, yes, there is a serious problem, but it is due to ignorance, which, in essence, is saying it is not our fault; it is the fault of the people.

I think we ought to be wary of this approach to looking at the overall problem.

Senator COOK. You can be awfully ignorant but want to eat well. You are darn right.

Dr. COLES. May I say something about that, too? I think I worked with the culture that these people have for a good long time, and I have never encountered a family in this country in all these years that would not respond to the better care, the better sanitary facilities, and the increased amount of food that we have been talking about.

We do not have to wait 10 years to solve this problem. If we do wait for 10 years, we will be waiting so, I hope, with the knowledge that people will be dying as a result of that wait. We don't need 10 years to educate them, too. They will respond to educational facilities, to better sanitation, to the kind of food they know that they need and deserve.

Dr. LEASE. I could add one short comment that I did question each of these mothers that had children with parasites, and I never have found one that did not want to get rid of the parasites from the child. They all wanted to get rid of those stomach worms, as they called them.

They were cooperative in every case, but they did not know how to prevent this reinfection. They just need somebody to talk to them at their level or show them some simple visual aids; the printed matter available from the Federal Government and the State just does not go through to these people.

These people have about a third-grade educational level. Even when they went through higher grades than that, when I sat down with them and asked them to read to me, I learned that they just do

not have printed matter available to them that they can comprehend. Somebody has to start at the bottom.

Senator COOK. Doctor, let me say in all fairness and with due respect to your remarks, that when you use the term "third grade" we can talk about people being uneducated, and we can talk about people being ignorant, and we can talk about people not having the resources. But you used a word frequently during your remarks that hit me hard and that was the word "primitive." I think it is all right to refer to people as rural. I think it is all right to refer to people as deprived, but somehow or other it just hit me wrong to hear the use of the word "primitive" when we speak about a problem whether it be rural or whether it be urban in this Nation.

Dr. LEASE. I am perfectly willing to have that word removed. But when they do not use or have a bathroom and merely use the backyard, what do you call it?

Senator COOK. This is their status in life, unfortunately but it does not make of that person a primitive person. It makes a situation which I hope we can correct, but I don't think it makes that phrase applicable to the individual.

Dr. LEASE. I stand corrected and happily so. It is a case of getting a more definitive word or description to a situation that I think Senator Ellender was putting his finger on that we need to get them to do what he believes was done in Louisiana.

Senator ELLENDER. Doctor, in that connection when you found these cases, did you report that to the local health officials?

Dr. LEASE. Yes, sir. I worked in the local health office, and I reported this. I am not keeping this in the ivory tower of the University of South Carolina.

Senator ELLENDER. What reaction did you get from them? Did you follow through on this? Was there a remedy for doing something about it?

Dr. LEASE. They are familiar with the situation. They have been familiar with the situation. This is not a new subject to them.

Senator ELLENDER. Judging from the testimony we heard here yesterday from the Senator from South Carolina and a few people, I was not cognizant of any State in the Union in which there was less effort made at the local level to help such people. I was surprised to hear that, especially South Carolina being one of the original 13 States.

Dr. COLES. Senator Cook, I just want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you for your remarks just now. I would like to say I can bring before this committee some tapes that I have accumulated over the years, and we would hear some of these people's wisdom that can challenge the wisdom of anyone in this room.

Senator COOK. I am sure that is true.

The CHAIRMAN. Dr. Lease, I don't want to misinterpret what you said in your testimony, but am I right that you gave at least the impression that you are willing to wait on emergency food assistance until you deal with the sanitation problem, the parasite problem, first? Was that the impression you wanted to leave?

Dr. LEASE. No; I need to explain that a little further. I am glad you brought this question forth. When one has a limited budget—I am speaking now of my budget within the University of South Carolina—we must use our very few dollars as best we can.

I have, to be specific, \$3,000 which I could spend for food and medicine on these children. I take the position that I should not spend my money on food for these children. They need to be dewormed.

The CHAIRMAN. You are not recommending that to this committee?

Dr. LEASE. No, sir. My own position, and what little I can do as a university staff member is, I feel it our job first to get rid of the worms, and go forth with all of the food you can. This has nothing to do with the Federal program. I am recommending that when—

The CHAIRMAN. You have the same feelings that Dr. Coles expressed about getting food down there on an emergency basis even though as you say it may take 10 years to do the educational and sanitation job that needs to be done.

Dr. LEASE. Yes, sir; I agree with that. For the complete eradication of these parasites, it will take us 10 years, but the food should go down there in 10 days.

Dr. LAUTER. Senator McGovern, if the money was available, this situation could be corrected inside of 2 years—if the money and the education was available. The situation could be corrected in less than 2 years. It does not take 10 years.

Dr. LEASE. But it will probably take 10 years.

Senator ELLENDER. It might take longer than that, Doctor, if the people at the local level don't try to help themselves.

Dr. LEASE. Amen.

The CHAIRMAN. There is one thing I raised yesterday that can be done with just a stroke of the pen by the Secretary of Agriculture and that is to declare this an emergency area. Once that is done he has the authorization in the existing law, a law which Senator Ellender and others put on the statute books; he can make food available free from our commodity stocks. It does not take 10 minutes to do that.

I would hope that the people of this area would consider such a request. I know that I and other members of this committee would be glad to help move that along, but I think there should be some expression of interest from the local officials and the local people to indicate that there is an emergency situation here, and they want this food put in there tomorrow.

If there are children there, and you have all attested to this fact, that are getting 800 or 900 calories a day and the worms eat half of that. That is an emergency. It may have existed for 50 years, but it is an emergency for the children and families involved.

Why don't we call on the Secretary of Agriculture and ask that we get food there.

Senator COOK. I might add to that, Mr. Chairman, that if this be done, the Department of Agriculture might have some semblance of knowledge what should be sent. They are liable to be sending the very thing that would not really cure the situation. This is a problem I have talked about in this committee before and have asked on many occasions what items are available for surplus foods; namely, are the proper items being sent, are the right quantities being sent, are we providing the proper diet or are we just sending in foodstuffs out of surplus that really do not do the job.

We can send food. You can nutritionally starve to death and be fat. What bothers me is that even if we declare it an emergency area we do not have the facilities to see that the proper items are sent.

Senator DOLE. I want to comment solely because I have been on the House Agriculture Committee for 8 years before coming to the Senate. I did not know they had as much power as Dr. Coles suggested. In my 8 years I was never a strong defender of Secretary Freeman, but in fairness to Secretary Freeman, Mr. Poage, and others who were mentioned specifically, I am certain they share the concern of all of us about hunger.

I should also point out since the 1930's our food and welfare programs may have been oriented in the wrong direction. They have been oriented toward surplus disposal to boost the price the farmer might receive and perhaps the benefits to the hungry were secondary.

In addition to this, particularly with reference to the food stamp program, there were reports on the House side at least that it was not working properly. Nonetheless I am certain Secretary Freeman and Chairman Poage are as sensitive as anyone in this room about the need to repel hunger where we find it and to do what we can for those who may suffer from malnutrition.

Hopefully it was not the intent of anyone to indict either the U.S. Department of Agriculture or the former Secretary or the present chairman of that great committee. I do feel we might all confess that perhaps we have not been emphasizing the hunger aspects as much as we have the surplus disposal aspects.

Having served on that committee and having known the great concern we have shown not just in America but around the world for the hungry and having voted for bills to authorize a billion dollars in aid to India, for example, in the year 1966, I want to defend the action of the House committee and at the same time point out that we are proceeding in this committee and in the Senate Agriculture Committee and the House Agriculture Committee in a different direction now. I am still constrained to believe, however, that there must be some responsibility on the local level.

If it is all turned over to the Federal Government, we could send 150 people into every county in America, and unless there is some recognition on a local level of the problem and some willingness to cooperate, I doubt we can do enough on the Federal level to really solve anything.

Senator ELLENDER. Mr. Chairman, I am glad Senator Dole put it the way he did about the House and Congressman Poage. The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry did provide authorization of all the money asked for by the Department of Agriculture. We had provided enough in committee and the Senate voted with us to take care of every county in the United States that had made application for food stamp programs.

Unfortunately, when it went to conference the Senate insisted on its amendment. I think there was about \$85 or \$90 million involved, but we had to back up. The House side would not agree with us. It is my considered judgment if the food stamp program, as well as the school lunch program, were properly administered and full cooperation obtained at the local level, we could do away with a lot of what we are talking about now.

It needs the cooperation at the local level. As Senator Dole just said, you can send any number of people out there from different States under the supervision of Washington, and you would have very little

done unless you can get the full cooperation of the local people. That is my prescription, and do it now and not wait for 10 years from now or 2 months.

We ought to be able to put some of this into effect now and not keep on with hearings and exposing what we already know, but essentially the ways and means should be found for doing something now, not 2 or 3 months from now or after we complete these hearings.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Hart.

Senator HART. I think I have no questions, Mr. Chairman. The testimony has been very helpful. I think we ought to close on the note that the monkey should go on everybody's back. It is not just the Secretary of Agriculture or some committee chairman or some local agent.

I guess I am regarded as sort of a knee-jerk reactor to situations like this, but the truth is I think you have made a good case that the greater responsibility is with the Congress. I have never been a Secretary of Agriculture but I can understand what they are talking about.

As we indict the Congress and indict the departments and indict local welfare administrators, and so on, we ought not be hesistant to indict John Citizen either because I get a lot more mail expressing outrage about people dying in Biafra than I get mail about hungry people in Detroit. The fellow who wrote me probably passed the needy house as he went to the post office, if he got off the expressway.

So, it is the conscience of the whole community which can be indicted, and I hope very much that these hearings will make us each more sensitive to the tragically unmet obligation that outraged Dr. Coles who spoke so eloquently.

Mr. Chairman, I am glad you got the money yesterday and I am glad you are going to get busy.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Hart, I think you have made a point that needs to be made. I have tried from the very beginning to see that these hearings did not turn into a vendetta against any one person or any one part of the country because we all have to carry this burden. It is a responsibility that is on us as a country and every citizen is involved, every State in the Union has a problem of malnutrition. We have it in my State. I think the Indian citizens in my State are as malnourished and as poor as they are in the country of any of them and they are in some of these developing countries elsewhere, so this responsibility is on all of us. It is not just a southern problem alone. It is a problem that falls upon the executive branch and the Congress and the American people, and the purpose of these hearings, Dr. Coles, taking note of the impatience that you understandably suggest, is not simply to go over old ground but to try to give us the kind of documentation we need to take our case to the Congress and to the executive branch and to the American people and to get their support for whatever it is that needs to be done.

I would hope you would feel that this is not simply another exercise of going down the road that previous investigations have followed, but that we are leading up to recommendations that will result in action. I would appreciate any advice or counsel that any of you doctors could give us at any time as to how we can best proceed toward that goal.

Dr. COLES. Senator McGovern, I would just like to say I have watched these things develop for the last 2 years, and I can only

say that with all due respect to the information that people like me bring before the Congress, I think it has been a very important experience for some of us to watch the development of this kind of national conscience that you Senators have been talking about, slowly take form and become a living reality. The hearings of this committee and other hearings have been absolutely essential and without these hearings, as a physician, I can say the people would be even more desperate than they are and would feel there is no hope at all, and these hearings have been very energizing as a force in this country in awakening this country.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. The testimony has been most excellent along with the presentation of Senator Hollings yesterday.

The committee will now stand adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

(The committee recessed at 12:15 p.m., to reconvene at 10 a.m., Thursday, February 20, 1969.)

NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1969

U.S. SENATE,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION AND HUMAN NEEDS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met at 10 a.m., pursuant to call, in room 1114, New Senate Office Building, Senator George McGovern (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Senators McGovern, Ellender, Yarborough, Javits, and Cook.

Also present: William C. Smith, staff director and general counsel; Kenneth Schlossberg, professional staff member for the majority; and Clarence V. McKee, professional staff member for the minority.

OPENING STATEMENT BY HON. GEORGE MCGOVERN, A U.S. SENATOR FROM SOUTH DAKOTA AND CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will be in order.

I would like to begin with just a brief statement about what transpired after the committee adjourned yesterday. Members of the committee will recall that the suggestion was made that perhaps emergency action could be taken by the Department of Agriculture to deal with Beaufort County and Jasper County.

Apropos of that, Senator Hollings and I arranged an appointment with the Secretary of Agriculture at 5 o'clock yesterday and spent about an hour and a half with the Secretary and his aides discussing the possibility of emergency action. I had thought possibly commodities could be made available on a direct distribution basis.

Senator Ellender raised the question yesterday, as he has earlier, about the possibility of some kind of emergency action being taken. The Secretary said, after consultation with the legal counsel, that he believed it would be possible to use funds provided under the Appropriation Act last year to make food stamps available and free to those families that are in the very poorest categories.

The Secretary is now exploring that possibility with officials in the State of South Carolina, with the Governor, with the county officials in Jasper and Beaufort Counties, in close cooperation with Senator Hollings.

I was very pleased with the reaction of Secretary Hardin. I know that the previous Secretary, Secretary Freeman, had in mind doing something like this. He had been in conference with Senator Ellender and others trying to work out some kind of an arrangement.

I can tell the members of the committee that some kind of arrangement will be worked out to take care of these two counties, and it probably will be done through the existing food stamp program.

I suggested to the Secretary that he look into the possibility of several pilot experiments of this kind in various parts of the country where you have differing conditions. He indicated that the Department would do that, that they would give serious consideration to it. They have limited funds, but they are going to try to operate pilot programs in several parts of the country, or at least give serious consideration to that.

I think this will be in the interest of the work of this committee and in the interest of the country.

Senator Ellender?

Senator ELLENDER. I wish to say that before Secretary Freeman left office, we had discussed this matter, and I thought we were on the way to arranging for free distribution on a trial basis. I am very glad that our present Secretary will make an attempt to do it.

With all that has been heard before the committee, I think it is obligatory for us to do something now.

The CHAIRMAN. I would like to add further, before we call our first witness, that I have to leave in time to attend an 11 o'clock funeral here in Washington today. But Senator Ellender has agreed to preside in my absence.

We are going to call as the first witness today the Reverend DeQuincy Newman, field director, South Carolina National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

STATEMENT OF REV. I. DeQUINCY NEWMAN, FIELD DIRECTOR, SOUTH CAROLINA NAACP

Reverend NEWMAN. I am DeQuincy Newman, field director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for the State of South Carolina.

The past 9 years as the NAACP field director and 28 years prior as an itinerant Methodist minister in South Carolina has given me the opportunity to observe firsthand the conditions of abject poverty in which thousands live throughout the State.

I wish, at the outset, to express my deep appreciation to the distinguished members of the Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs for the opportunity of adding a word of testimony to those who preceded me and those who might follow.

I speak not as an expert with the ability to render a scholarly analysis of the problems with which the committee is dealing, but, as a lay witness who has looked into the hollow and hopeless eyes of the hungry and seen and smelled the squalor of their surroundings.

Hunger, a want of shelter, minimal hygiene and sanitation, and a sense of rejection is the lot and way of life for thousands of South Carolinians, and they are faced with the dismal prospect of falling victims any day to diseases related to poverty and finally a paupers burial in an unattended potter's field.

In spite of the New Deal, the Fair Deal, the comfortable Eisenhower years, the New Frontier and the Great Society, they are no better off than the poorest of the poor during the darkest days of the

depression of the thirties when cotton was selling at less than 10 cents a pound.

Not one county in the State is devoid of the problems of hunger, malnutrition, and bad housing conditions in both cities and rural areas.

Studies, surveys, conferences, and investigations conducted by Dr. Donald Gatch of Bluffton in Beaufort County, the NAACP, the University of South Carolina, and more lately, U.S. Senator Ernest F. Hollings independently of each other and at various times over the past 2 years reveal the following facts:

1. There is widespread hunger and malnutrition.
2. There are thousands who have diseases attributed to dietary deficiencies with many cases resulting in death.
3. There are thousands of children who are victims of parasites.
4. The very soil of the premises where thousands live is contaminated by the eggs of parasites.
5. There is apathy toward the problems of the poor by many who administer public assistance at the local level, thus rendering a dis-service not only to the poor but to administrators at the State and Federal level.

Hundreds of applicants for food stamps and welfare benefits have complained that they are treated as something less than human by those in charge of programs at the county level.

6. Welfare payments fall far short of providing the basic physical necessities such as house rent, food, medicine, and utilities.

7. A significant number of people who are eligible for food stamps do not know that they are eligible, although they are hungry.

8. The shacks or huts that the vast majority of the poor are required to live in are not fit for human habitation.

However, the amount of rent that many pay would be enough to enable them to occupy FHA rent supplement housing if such were available.

By and large these places of abode are without running water, toilet facilities of any kind, adequate cooking utensils, laundry facilities, or an adequate stove or range to prepare meals.

Minimum health and hygiene standards are unknown.

That human beings are able to survive in these primitive surroundings is a source of amazement.

It is also a source of amazement that these conditions have not led to more violent eruptions, breaking in, looting, and plundering.

It is astounding to one's imagination to note that many of the people, destitute and forgotten though they be, have not succumbed to hopelessness and despair. This is indicated by the pictures of the Kennedys and Martin Luther King that decorate the walls of their homes and the potted plant on the window sill on the sunny side of the house.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Putting South Carolina high on the priority list for immediate Federal action to provide minimum health, welfare and housing.

2. An expansion of the program of the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide direct financial assistance to the needy until such times as Federal and State welfare programs can meet the needs of the hungry.

3. An investigation of racially discriminatory practices and conduct of welfare workers.

4. Inclusion of black community leaders in the planning, programming, and administration of all public assistance programs.

5. Adequate funding of housing programs that would meet the minimum needs and put a decent home within the reach of the poor.

6. Provide a program to communicate to the poor various public assistance and welfare programs designed to meet their basic needs.

This is the conclusion of the statement.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Reverend Newman.

Assuming that the State and local officials agree to cooperate with the availability of free food stamps in these most acute counties that Senator Hollings and others have testified about, and yourself, do you think that is a substantial beginning in dealing with the more serious hunger and malnutrition problems that exist in those areas?

Reverend NEWMAN. I think that this would be an indication of good faith, but there would have to be a renewal, of course, following until the program that you are about to undertake on an emergency basis can become universal, and a day-to-day practice, until the horrible conditions of hunger and bad housing, and the attendant evils, can be wiped out.

The CHAIRMAN. You refer to the attitude of some of the local officials in their treatment of these people. Do you think that we can operate this program satisfactorily even if stamps are made available to the poorest people on a free basis, and if we get sufficient cooperation there to make it an effective program?

Reverend NEWMAN. I think it is a risk that we would need to take, Senator, with a constant reminder coming down from the Federal level that you mean business, and that these programs ought to be administered without favoritism to one class against another, one race against another, and that there should be an insistence that these programs be put into the proper hands for administration—well, that we insist that black people, the people who are the recipients of these programs, have something to do with the administration of these programs. In that way, I believe that we would feel that a fair distribution would be made.

The CHAIRMAN. You mentioned, Reverend Newman, that as matters now stand, even people who are eligible to receive food stamps in some cases are not aware of that.

Reverend NEWMAN. In many, many cases, they are not aware of their eligibility for the food stamp program.

The CHAIRMAN. Couldn't organizations such as yours assist in getting that information out to the people?

Reverend NEWMAN. I dare say that those who are now recipients of the food stamp program were made aware of the program by such organizations as the NAACP, the Human Relations Council, and various other community organizations. There have been no noticeable efforts on the part of responsible administering agencies to get the information out. About all the information that has gone out has been done by volunteer efforts.

The CHAIRMAN. Are the churches involved in that informational effort?

Reverend NEWMAN. They are. But keep in mind that a great many people, the majority of the people who are eligible, are not even able

to get to church or to attend public meetings because of their very poor financial circumstances.

It is a matter of making house-to-house canvasses, and it is difficult to come up with enough volunteers to go around from house to house to acquaint people with their eligibility for the food stamp program and other forms of public assistance.

The CHAIRMAN. In terms of this pilot operation in the two counties that apparently are going to be designated, Beaufort and Jasper Counties, would you have any suggestion to make as to what kind of income cutoff level should be used to determine who gets free stamps and who doesn't?

Suppose those counties are designated in the next 24 or 48 hours as counties eligible for free food stamp assistance. How would we go about setting the level to determine who is going to qualify and who does not? Do you have any suggestion on that, based on your knowledge of the people there and the conditions under which they live?

Reverend NEWMAN. I would suggest, first, the people who are already on welfare, whose welfare checks are so small that they don't really have money to buy the food stamps after they pay house rent and utilities. They just don't have that much left. I think this would be a good starting place. Of course, this is an off-the-cuff suggestion.

I might see it differently tomorrow, but as I see it now, a good place to begin, I think, would be the people who are already on welfare, and the people who are not on welfare but who ought to be on welfare.

I feel certain that those who will administer the program can find out, from various community organizations like the NAACP, who the people are who ought to be receiving welfare.

The CHAIRMAN. I am glad to hear you say that your organization, churches, and other groups in that area have been making a serious effort to get this information out because we are not going to accomplish very much if the Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture authorize the existence of free food stamps if people don't know about it or how to take advantage.

I would hope that there would be additional efforts made by the private, volunteer groups, as well as by the local and State officials to see that this program becomes operative as quickly and as effectively as possible.

Reverend NEWMAN. I am sure this will be done.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Ellender?

Senator ELLENDER. Are there any people not on welfare in those two counties living in conditions where they don't have enough food?

Reverend NEWMAN. I beg your pardon, sir?

Senator ELLENDER. I said are there any people in these two counties, who are not on welfare, who are eligible for food; that is, do you think they need it?

Reverend NEWMAN. Very definitely.

Senator ELLENDER. Who makes the determination of who should be on welfare or not? Do you know?

Reverend NEWMAN. The person who administers the program at the county level.

Senator ELLENDER. And that is a State official, I presume?

Reverend NEWMAN. That would be a State or county official, yes.

Senator ELLENDER. And you are suggesting that those people would be the ones who would determine who should get free stamps or not?

Reverend NEWMAN. I don't believe that they would be competent to make this determination except on the advice of leaders of volunteer organizations.

Senator ELLENDER. You would be willing to use the machinery that is now working there to start this program so that food can be distributed immediately?

Reverend NEWMAN. Yes; with the understanding that the people who administer the program are reminded that the food stamps are being made available and should not be dispensed as if it was the property of the administrator, but that the food stamps are for the people who need help. You want to see to it that the people who need it get it, without having to get down on their hands and knees and crawl in order to get it.

Senator ELLENDER. South Carolina is one of the few States that has a food stamp program in every county.

Reverend NEWMAN. That is true.

Senator ELLENDER. I am disappointed that you good people didn't make that known to them, the church people, the school people. There is somebody at fault on the local level. You would agree to that, wouldn't you?

Reverend NEWMAN. Of course.

Senator ELLENDER. It strikes me that since South Carolina has a food stamp program in each county—

Reverend NEWMAN. Since last August.

Senator ELLENDER. It started out quite a while ago and just added on.

Reverend NEWMAN. This time last year there were 13 of the 46 counties with the food stamp program.

Senator ELLENDER. That is true in other States where there has been a gradual increase, depending on the want of the people.

There is one thing that I believe the local people should do now, and that means you and other ministers and people interested in the community, and that is to rid yourselves of these worms that we heard about yesterday. It is an easy matter to do if you only get to work at it. Get the people educated as to what causes it, and let them follow ways and means by which we can deal with that problem.

We had in my area, as I pointed out yesterday, the same thing. Within a matter of a few years we got rid of it. But they won't go away unless the local people take an interest in it and assist in taking ways and means of doing away with the problem. It is a simple matter to do.

I am very much surprised to see that there are just so many in those two counties. I attribute it to the fact that the local people don't seem to want to cooperate. That goes on not only for the health program but also for the food stamps.

They are all there for us, and it strikes me that if there were proper cooperation among the local people, a good deal of the things that you complain of now would be dispelled in little or no time.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Javits?

Senator JAVITS. Reverend Newman, I am sorry I didn't hear your presentation, but I have run through your statement.

There is one thing which bears on the matter which has just been discussed with you by Senator Ellender. Your statement says—

There is apathy toward the problems of the poor by many who administer public assistance at the local level, thus rendering a disservice not only to the poor but to administrators of the state and Federal Government.

Hundreds of applicants for food stamps and welfare benefits have complained that they are treated as something less than human by those in charge of the programs at the county level.

Those are local people, too, aren't they?

Reverend NEWMAN. Yes.

Senator JAVITS. What do you mean, precisely, by what you have just said in this statement?

Reverend NEWMAN. Well, for example, weather permitting, a large contingency of poor citizens are right now in Columbia from Dorchester County to bring their complaints to the State department of public welfare, if they proceed according to their plans.

People have gone to jail in Beaufort County for demonstrating to call attention of the public to their plight, and that they were not even getting sufficient public assistance, or none at all. It seems to me that people who get paid to administer public assistance ought at least be as much interested as volunteer workers because volunteer workers give up their spare time to the social problems. It is a volunteer act on their part.

It would seem to me that public officials ought to take a greater interest in these problems. To my knowledge, until Senator Hollings began his tours 3 weeks ago, this was the first time that public officials have gone out and investigated the conditions under which people live.

Senator JAVITS. Do you have any complaint on grounds of the white-black problem; that is, the public officials are white and the clients are black?

Reverend NEWMAN. This is a great deal of the problem, and I think, this accounts for a great deal of the apathy. The apathy stems from a lack of sympathy for the poor. I think this is really the crux of the problem, insofar as information getting out as to what benefits are available to the poor.

Senator JAVITS. Up until yesterday's action by the Secretary of Agriculture, what was the minimal amount of money required per month to acquire food stamps in this particular area?

Reverend NEWMAN. I would not be able to answer that question without referring to the handbook.

Senator JAVITS. You have no idea in your mind?

Reverend NEWMAN. Well, it would be a pretty wild guess. I might be nearly accurate and I might miss.

Senator JAVITS. Was there any problem you found among those who should get food stamps about their inability to meet that financial requirement, regardless of how modest it was?

Reverend NEWMAN. Yes, indeed. Many people who have been interviewed at various times said that by the time they get through paying rent and their light bill, their water bill and medicine bill, that they don't have money left with which to buy the stamps.

Senator JAVITS. Would you say, also, Reverend Newman, that your statement is that, by and large, these places of abode are without running water, toilet facilities of any kind, adequate cooking utensils, laundry facilities, or an adequate stove or range to prepare meals? Would you say that the absence of these particular elementary human conveniences is the fault of the slothfulness of the occupants of these dwellings or their inability, economically, to have the things which you described?

Reverend NEWMAN. In most of these situations there are evidences that point to the substantiation of the belief that these people would do better if they could.

In many cases the floor of the home is swept, the beds are made, and there are other indications that they would do better if they had a chance.

Senator JAVITS. Is there any connection, in your judgment, from your investigations, between living under these conditions and hunger and malnutrition? Is the tendency to drop the whole level of caring about life at all, of caring about children, because of the human debasement which is involved in not even having sanitary facilities?

Reverend NEWMAN. It is difficult for me to understand how people can live under these conditions and not give up and lose hope. Of course, when people give up and they lose hope, they do get to the place, or it would seem that they would get to the place where they would not care.

But many of them do care. If you had been with us the times that we have run into people, in spite of their destitution, they have not actually given up all hope.

Senator JAVITS. I think that is a great tribute to the unflagging spirit of human beings, I must say.

Reverend NEWMAN. Indeed.

Senator JAVITS. Aside from the action taken yesterday by the Secretary of Agriculture, which I think is admirable, and much to be commended, and Senator Hollings' activities again, which I think are admirable and much to be commended, and the activities of the committee, we realize how late all of these things are, including our own awakening to the problem, do you have any other direct, practical suggestion for us as to what could be done by Government to help the conditions you have described?

Reverend NEWMAN. I think on the basis of the findings that this committee will make that you could arrive at a determination as to what should be done as a stopgap effort, and then what should be done in terms of a long-range program.

What is to be done, for example, in Jasper and Beaufort Counties insofar as free distribution of food stamps and other depressed areas should be included?

Then, too, realize that what is needed is a greatly expanded program on the part of OEO and HEW, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Labor, to discover job opportunities for people and to bring into being more training programs to equip people for gainful employment.

Senator JAVITS. Is there any welfare program in this area? Does the county give welfare payments to those who are indigent and have no other means of livelihood?

Reverend NEWMAN. I believe not.

Senator JAVITS. None whatever?

Reverend NEWMAN. I don't believe so. I believe that all the welfare comes from the Federal level, with a small supplement from the State level. I don't know to what extent in terms of dollars.

Senator JAVITS. I think, it is right to say, that you shouldn't be called upon to testify to what you don't have direct information about, but do you know—and please don't tell us if you don't know—whether

the public assistance payments which you have described are adequate to keep life together, body and soul together, in these areas?

Reverend NEWMAN. It is not adequate.

Senator JAVITS. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Senator ELLENDER. How much does it amount to; do you know?

Reverend NEWMAN. Of welfare payments?

Senator ELLENDER. Yes.

Reverend NEWMAN. The amount varies. The amount that the welfare recipients receive varies from one case to the other.

Senator ELLENDER. Can you give us examples? You say it is not adequate. I would like to know how you determined that.

Reverend NEWMAN. Well, if it was adequate, the people would not be hungry and would not be living under the conditions under which they live. To see these people, to see the conditions in which they live, it becomes obvious that they are not getting enough food to hold soul and body together.

Senator ELLENDER. That is your yardstick measurement?

Reverend NEWMAN. This is my opinion; yes.

Senator ELLENDER. You don't know how much is being made available through any government agency for welfare between the State and Federal Government?

Reverend NEWMAN. No.

Senator ELLENDER (presiding). Are there further questions?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Reverend Newman, has there been a nutritional survey in South Carolina similar to the ones made in Texas and Louisiana?

Reverend NEWMAN. Nutritional surveys have been made in specific areas. The State of South Carolina now, according to information released to the press within the past week, indicates that a statewide survey as to nutritional needs is going to be made.

Senator YARBOROUGH. It has not yet been made?

Reverend NEWMAN. It has not yet been made.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I have no further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Senator ELLENDER. Thank you very much, Reverend.

Senator JAVITS. Mr. Chairman? The Chair was kind enough to say that he would accommodate me in calling a certain witness.

Senator ELLENDER. I will do that.

The next witness will be Prof. Peter John Caprioglio.

STATEMENT OF HON. JACOB K. JAVITS, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK, INTRODUCING PROF. PETER JOHN CAPRIOGLIO

Senator JAVITS. I would like to introduce Mr. Peter Caprioglio, faculty adviser to Students Organized Against Starvation, Albany Junior College.

The reason for suggesting this witness, Mr. Chairman, is that this group is in the capital of New York, which is not a very large city, certainly, by New York City standards, and has undertaken under its own initiative, without any help from State and local governments a crusade against hunger and malnutrition which included the 4-day personal fast in which they felt the pangs of hunger to dramatize the problem.

They realize that dramatization should be accompanied by action and contacted the State and local welfare officials in New York State. They are prepared to tell the committee the action they could take as young people who are deeply involved and interested, and they make some suggestions as to how we could tap the tremendous amount of constructive energy and unused talent available on college campuses in the fight against hunger and malnutrition in the United States.

The organization, I think, Mr. Chairman, is an excellent example of what can be done and is being done by college students.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to these young people who have shown us what self-starters are capable of doing. When we realize that we have 7 million students on college campuses in the United States, who are deeply and morally moved, the overwhelming majority of them, by what has been seen on this problem, I think we have here a latent power of unmatched capability in this particular field.

If I may say so without offending these young people, probably it is a way to use their energies much more constructively than some of those ways which have been indulged in on some places.

Thank you.

Senator ELLENDER. You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF PROF. PETER JOHN CAPRIOGLIO, STUDENTS ORGANIZED AGAINST STARVATION, ALBANY, N.Y.

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank Senator Javits for extending the invitation to us.

I am grateful and pleased to have the opportunity to present ideas and suggestions, in behalf of Students Organized Against Starvation, to this much needed Senate committee.

The group I am representing rejoices at the fact that some of our leading Senators are committed toward the elimination of this horrible problem of hunger and malnutrition in America. We are assured that the necessary legislation to help solve this American tragedy will be speedily forthcoming.

The major theme in my presentation involves ways in which citizen participation can be instrumental in solving community and national problems of hunger and chronic malnutrition.

COLLEGE STUDENTS—CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN PROBLEM SOLVING

One day in early November of last year, several of my students from a social problems course I was teaching at the Junior College of Albany discussed with me the details of a report we had been reading. The report was "Hunger, U.S.A.," published by the Citizens Board of Inquiry into Hunger and Malnutrition in the United States.

These students were angry at the conditions millions of our fellow American citizens were facing. These students expressed a desire to do something about this injustice. But just what could they do?

They asked a basic question: If it is true that millions of Americans are hurting from hunger and malnutrition and the effects of these conditions—disease, mental retardation, and even death, if this is true, why then is something not being done? How can we as a people allow such a condition to exist?

The students researched these questions and came to the following conclusions:

1. "Something" was being done by the Federal Government in regard to this particular problem through food stamp, surplus commodity, and school lunch programs. But these programs did not seem to reach by any means all of the hungry and malnourished; and even when these programs did reach the poor, still there were many cases of chronic hunger and malnutrition evidenced. What was being done was just not enough of an effort.

I will also state, too, that prior to my instructorship, my wife and I were in VISTA as volunteers. While we were in VISTA, we worked in the northwest section of Florida, along with community action programs, to help solve these particular problems, or at least try to help solve them.

I have evidence in my own mind of many cases where I have seen children suffering very, very badly from this type of condition, malnutrition. This, of course, is one reason why I personally am interested in seeing this problem corrected.

2. The answers to the second question, "How can Americans allow such a condition to exist in our country?" involved two different approaches: (a) most Americans knew about the problem but didn't care or considered it an inevitable condition—"we will always have the poor and the hungry"; (b) most Americans didn't know about the problem but would care if they knew. The students chose to believe the latter.

They chose to believe the point that most Americans just didn't know about the problem, about the nature and severity of the problem, but they would care if they were informed.

The answer to the question, "What can we do?" soon became apparent: Inform the public about the problem and with the aid of the public, press for needed Federal and State legislation. To accomplish this dual objective, the student group chose to dramatize the plight of hungry Americans by conducting a 4-day—100-hour—fast as the First Unitarian Church in Albany.

During this fast, 11 selected students from the group and myself voluntarily denied ourselves food. The fast ended on Thanksgiving Day with the idea that members of the middle class may end a fast whenever they choose; but there are millions of other Americans who cannot—their fast is a constant condition of their lives.

What were the immediate accomplishments of this fast? There were four basic activities during the fast:

1. Over 3,800 citizens from New York State and citizens from outside the State signed the accompanying petitions to Congress demanding that appropriate legislation be enacted.

We have had approximately 11 cities and towns in New York State who had representatives who went out to direct the petitions to the people.

Along with me today are two students who came as representatives of our group, Mr. Mike Koutelis and Mr. Jon Schwamm, both of whom were instrumental in gathering petitions and both of whom were participants in the fast.

2. Many letters were written to members of this Senate committee, as well as other Senators, Representatives, the then President-elect

Nixon, and to various counties throughout the United States which did not have any food programs at all.

3. Several students showed the CBS documentary film, "Hunger in America," to various public gatherings at the church, local colleges, and local high schools. The public response to this film was very gratifying; it made people think.

It also brought forth action. A group in Amsterdam, which is close to Albany, formed a citizens group to see what could be done in their own community to help solve this particular hunger problem.

4. Other students distributed information leaflets to various mass media organizations—radio, television, and newspapers.

The mass media were extremely cooperative in relation to this and were very helpful in publicizing this particular problem.

Another factor, perhaps which I can add here, was that, of course, the students were not working alone in this, we actively enlisted the aid of various community groups. For instance, the South End community action program was contacted in this and Mr. John Rollin, who is the assistant director of that program, is here today. He has been instrumental in terms of trying to evaluate the extent of hunger and malnutrition in Albany among the poor.

Here also is Mrs. Raymond Rouse, who is a resident of the South End. She represents the Welfare Union in the South End and the Public Tenant Housing Association. She, too, has very good evidence, I would say, concerning the extents of hunger and malnutrition.

Before, during, and after the fast, more than 200 citizens of the community—students, Unitarian Church members, and other interested people—were actively working in the project in some way. Thus was the beginning of Students Organized Against Starvation—a group of students committed to do something about an agonizing problem.

A crisis of conscience produced constructive action; as one of my students stated:

I find it difficult to eat anymore, even a hamburger, without thinking about how hungry those people must be.

This particular student was Mike Koutelis.

The second part of my presentation, with the permission of the committee, will be recommendations for further citizen participation in problem solving.

The participation of private groups in the solving of community and national problems has proven to be a vital and dynamic asset in the history of the American society. In reference to the problems of hunger and malnutrition, there are also definite roles to be played by various private sectors.

I have already noted several ways by which college students have participated as citizens should; I believe a few more comments about the involvement of the college institutions are appropriate.

Following those comments, some possibilities for the participation of other institutions and groups will be presented.

COLLEGE PARTICIPATION

There is a lot of unused volunteer energy on American college campuses. Many students as well as instructors do want to become involved in solving some of the poverty problems; but in many cases, they are not provided with the ways and means of fulfilling this desire.

We don't have a structure. We don't have a way by which we can constructively release energies. Therefore, a structural gap exists between members of institutions, of the colleges who want to become involved and the actual way of becoming involved.

Fortunately, more and more colleges are recognizing their responsibilities toward fulfilling community needs and are seeking appropriate and useful structures.

One way of providing the needed structure is by encouraging joint undertakings between colleges and community health and welfare departments. The student volunteer manpower can prove to be important to the functioning of these departments.

For example, in many counties—both rural and urban areas—even when there are Government food programs, a lot of the poor do not know about them or do not know how to participate in them.

College students who are residents of these counties could volunteer to help find the poor and inform them of the programs. With the cooperation and guidance of local health and welfare agencies, college students not only could inform but also could provide means for the poor to help themselves.

These agencies, with a minimum amount of effort and expense, could train college volunteers in nutrition and consumer education—two areas of information much needed by the poor. Student nurses and social science students could probably perform very efficiently in this type of project.

BUSINESS PARTICIPATION

As the Senate committee realizes, one of the greatest problems faced by lower income people in regard to nutrition is their lack of knowledge of correct, efficient, and economical nutritional techniques and consumer practices.

One practical way of solving this problem is to establish nutritional and consumer centers right where lower income people do their grocery shopping. The poor patronize their local grocery stores and supermarkets, and it should be the responsibility of businesses to be attuned to the special needs of this group.

Exhibits illustrating in simple and clear terms proper nutrition and consumer habits could be set up in convenient places in stores. Some of the larger stores could install closed circuit television programs dealing with this subject. Many of the personnel in local health and welfare agencies would be qualified to teach in these centers.

With the cooperation of the involved businesses, these health and welfare employees could establish classes to fit the particular needs of the individual neighborhood residents. Tax deductions to these businesses will certainly help provide incentives.

MASS MEDIA PARTICIPATION

Many of the poor have access to television and radio, so with the cooperation of this media, health and welfare personnel could broadcast regularly scheduled programs on consumer and nutrition education geared to the lower income citizen.

These citizens constitute at least 10 percent of the total American population; the mass media should see a responsibility toward providing for the special needs of this large group.

With the permission of the committee, I would like to advance one last suggestion dealing with the information problem faced by many groups in our society: Please try to disseminate the findings and recommendations of the committee through as many channels in the population as possible.

Distribution of information can constitute a working liaison between Government and citizens. The people have got to know the facts if they are to become involved in the problem-solving process.

More specifically, I strongly urge the committee to summarize into small, readable pamphlets the important findings and to distribute these findings to officials, teachers, and students of all high schools, colleges, and other academic institutions.

Hopefully, these pamphlets, besides describing the nature and extent of hunger and malnutrition, will also suggest what individual citizens and groups can do to help solve this abominating condition.

Thank you.

Senator ELLENDER. Thank you very much for your suggestions. Aside from circulating the petitions, what else did your students do in Albany to find out the conditions there?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. We had a very good meeting with the social service commissioner for New York State and during this meeting he informed us of the various State programs and, in some cases, of the lack of county programs in relationship to hunger and malnutrition.

He talked to us, for instance, about the fact that he would like to see a food stamp program applicable to all of the counties. In Albany County we just have a surplus commodity program.

Senator ELLENDER. Do you mean bulk commodities?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. Yes. Many of the students, as well as myself, have talked to the low income, and they say that this commodity program is just not appropriate for them. It just does not present them with the sufficient amounts of food.

We are encouraging local county groups and local private groups to become involved. Our main idea is to activate the citizen groups in the city so that they will become more and more involved and, hopefully, to bring forth better programs right in the county itself.

Senator ELLENDER. You know the purpose of the food stamp program is to take the place of the bulk distribution because it was felt that a better diet could be provided.

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. Yes.

Senator ELLENDER. How many counties in your area have the food stamp program?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. In New York State, do you mean?

Senator ELLENDER. Yes, that you know of.

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. I am sorry, I don't have the exact number, but the information that I do have is that there are six counties that do not have either a commodity program or a food stamp program. I believe that the majority of the counties in New York State have a commodity program.

Senator JAVITS. There are 62 counties in New York; 56 have food distribution or food stamps, and six have neither.

Senator ELLENDER. How many have bulk distribution? That is only for the few articles in surplus.

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. I am sorry, I don't really know.

Senator JAVITS. We will supply that, Mr. Chairman.

Senator ELLENDER. Very well.

(The following information was subsequently received for the record:)

NEW YORK STATE FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS—USDA

Currently, 54 of New York State's 62 counties participate in either the food stamp or the commodity distribution programs—6 in food stamps and 48 in commodities. By June, however, two more counties will be participating in the food stamp program for a total food program participation rate of 56 out of 62 counties or 90%.

Senator ELLENDER. Did your investigation find any poverty in Albany or in the county in which Albany is located?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. Definitely, yes.

Senator ELLENDER. How is that being treated?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. There is, of course, a community action program, the Albany County Opportunity, Inc., the community action program for the county itself, and for the city we have the South End community action program which is, for example, trying to help solve problems of employment, and problems of housing. Right now, of course, they are taking action in relationship to trying to find the poor and inform them of the food programs.

Senator ELLENDER. Have you any school lunch programs in your area?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. I believe some of the schools have it.

Senator ELLENDER. Is any effort being made to have the school lunch programs in all schools in New York, do you know?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. I believe Commissioner Wyman would be, of course, in favor of this type of program, and I believe there are efforts to do this, yes.

Senator ELLENDER. Why is it that you don't have it? The local people will not participate, is that it?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. I can just quote to you what Commissioner Wyman told me. He said the reason why we don't have a lot of really good food programs on the county level is sometimes because of local political resistance to them.

Senator ELLENDER. I realize that. That is what I wanted to bring out. Those programs are available to any county or area that desires it and which qualifies.

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. Commissioner Wyman stated to me that he is trying very hard to get these six counties that do not have programs to get involved in the programs, but he said that he meets with local political resistance and finds it very difficult.

Senator ELLENDER. Don't you think that if the local people would try to embrace these programs, like the school lunch and the food stamp, that it would relieve a lot of the complaints that you now hear about?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. Yes.

Senator ELLENDER. I have no doubt of that. Of course, any program, in my opinion, should be a cooperative one, the local people and the Federal Government. Otherwise, I don't believe you can make one work.

Senator JAVITS?

Senator JAVITS. I just have one point, Mr. Chairman, and then I must beg to be excused to go to the Foreign Relations Committee.

I think the most important thing the witness brings out is the potential of extra work in finding families and dealing with the problems of superstition, prejudice, and ignorance. I hope very much that he will get a lot of others.

I think you ought to start a correspondence course with as many colleges and universities as you can reach to whip up enthusiasm for this kind of effort.

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. This has been done. We have been trying to contact students in other colleges.

Senator JAVITS. I hope very much this movement will carry on and get much bigger and that our committee may have some stimulation from it. Whatever may be our individual views on this subject, the idea of getting young people involved in the actual work with the poor and those subject to malnutrition is, I think, a very remarkable addition to the strength which we can throw into this struggle.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator ELLENDER. I agree with Senator Javits. Your committee can do a big job in New York City by having the local people embrace some of the programs we now have, if they will take advantage of them.

Senator YARBOROUGH?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Yours is a junior college?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. A public junior college?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. No, a private junior college. It is part of the Russell Sage College.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I think this is rather remarkable, that in a junior college you are showing this leadership and efficiency. That is something that often waits for the senior college and often for students in graduate work.

Has there been any comprehensive, statewide survey of nutritional needs in New York State, such as we have had in Louisiana and Texas?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. I believe Dr. Ingram of the public health department in New York State is right now conducting a study, trying to get more exacting information.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Is it as broad and comprehensive as the one made in Louisiana and Texas? Are you familiar with those?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. Yes.

The way I understand it is that Dr. Ingram is very anxious to get appropriate information, information which is relevant in regard to this problem, and I believe the study will continue for several months.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Has there been a survey of those districts in New York City where the people of the lowest income brackets live?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. I am sure this will be done. I am sure it is at least in the planning stage.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You do not have the available data yet?

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. I believe this is the case.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you very much.

Senator ELLENDER. We are anxiously awaiting that survey.

Are there any further question?

If not, thank you very much.

Mr. CAPRIOGLIO. Thank you very much, sir.

Senator ELLENDER. The next witnesses will be Mrs. Hazel Frazier, Miss Agnes Robinson, and Mrs. Landon Butler.

STATEMENT OF MRS. LANDON BUTLER, JR., SEA PINES PLANTATION CO., HILTON HEAD, S.C.

Mrs. BUTLER. We would like to report on the food stamp program in Beaufort County, S.C.

Senator ELLENDER. Are you from South Carolina?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes, I am. I am from Beaufort County.

Senator ELLENDER. You may proceed.

Mrs. BUTLER. The food stamp program has been operating for 2 years in Beaufort County. There are 17,969 people who receive incomes of \$3,000 or less in Beaufort County, and are thereby eligible for certification in the food stamp program. However, last month only 15 percent of this group actually purchased food stamps.

There are 700 families receiving public assistance in the county who automatically qualify for the food stamp program and are in regular contact with the caseworker from the Department of Public Welfare—so they are aware of the program's existence. Yet only 130 of these families are presently certified to purchase food stamps. Of these 130 homes, 113 actually purchased the stamps last month.

These figures clearly indicate that the program does not reach the vast majority of those it is intended to help. The response I received from a sampling of that 75 percent—those eligible but not participating—was the same, over and over again: "I can't afford it. It costs too much." The lump-sum outlay of cash required to purchase the stamps makes it impossible for the majority of the low-income families to benefit from the program.

The purchase price of the stamps is often 30 to 50 percent of the family's total income. In one home that I visited a family of four receives a total monthly income of \$66.

To participate in the food stamp program the mother is required to spend \$24 for food stamps. This is 37 percent of her total income expended at one time, and at the first of the month. This family also has regular monthly bills totaling \$45, rent, water, utilities.

This means that, if this family participated in the food stamp program, they would be spending \$3 over their total income each month. And there would be no cash on hand for soap powder, insect spray, medicine, clothes, or whatever emergency needs might arise.

Then there are fluctuating months that demand an additional outlay of cash, such as school textbooks—approximately \$15—for the child in high school. This mother has tried the program and she feels that her family did profit some from a more adequate supply of food. "It's a good thing," she said, but she is dropping out because she can't afford it.

I found that families must make some rather crucial sacrifices in order to purchase food stamps, and these hardships can only be endured for so long. Then they are forced to drop out.

One Department of Agriculture official observes that a definite pattern is emerging in most of the 46 food stamp counties throughout South Carolina. There are three points during the year that participation drops, sometimes as much as 18 percent. He attributes this directly to back-to-school expenses, winter fuel bills, and Easter clothes.

For those 15 percent who feel that they can purchase food stamps, however irregularly, there is little evidence of any marked difference in their diet. Local grocers throughout the county observe that, in some cases, the tendency is to purchase higher priced, better foods the first part of the month, but then the stamps run out and the family returns to the normal diet of bread, rice, grits.

For the most part, however, the buying habits remain the same. Perhaps a food stamp participant is able to provide two or three unbalanced meals per day whereas a nonparticipant can only manage one.

The Food Stamp Act of 1964 reads:

The face value of the coupon allotment . . . shall be in such amount as will provide such households with an opportunity more nearly to obtain a low-cost nutritionally adequate diet.

Defendants of the present allotment schedule argue that the key to the effectiveness of the program is education—educating participants on meal-planning and budgeting for a nutritious diet. This is indeed an important phase of such a program, but it could only be meaningful if coupled with a more realistic purchasing-bonus schedule than the current one set by the Department of Agriculture.

As the present schedule exists, we are talking about educating food stamp recipients on the serving of three nutritionally adequate meals per day—in many cases within a maximum allotment of 30 cents per person per day. Perhaps a trained nutritionist with a precise knowledge could plan such economic feedings. It seems doubtful.

This is a situation which Mrs. Hazel Frazier, as a concerned mother, faces daily in feeding her family of 11. Mrs. Frazier is here with us today so I need not elaborate. I can only add that Mrs. Frazier's situation is not a particularly unique one among 41 percent of the residents of Beaufort County.

Living is not cheap in Beaufort County. Rent and utilities are costly. I drive to Savannah, Ga., to buy my groceries, as do most of those who are able. In a food stamp family the stamps usually last the first 3 weeks of the month. During the last week the recipient is dependent on credit purchasing of food. This cycle forces him to patronize a local grocer who gives credit.

The rural family, without transportation, must also buy at the local store. Inevitably, the prices there are higher than chain markets, and the food is less varied and of lower quality—especially in the selections of fresh meats and vegetables.

The USDA-approved groceries—for food stamp trade—are visited periodically by a USDA consumer and marketing representative. The Department of Agriculture conducts annual checks of these approved stores to be sure that the food stamp recipients have not been sold any items prohibited by the Food Stamp Act.

However, in all of the approving, checking, and so forth, there is no protection for the consumer. Much of the hamburger, a great economizer, sold in Beaufort cannot be purchased with food stamps because the beef was not produced in the United States. In several of the stores I visited the choice is between chicken necks, pig's tails, and spoiled beef.

Beaufort County has five issuance centers in outlying areas for the convenience of those residing far from the county seat. Transportation

is still a problem, but it does not appear to be a major one in this county.

In the neighboring county of Jasper, OEO funds have provided a bus which transports all persons to the issuance office for stamps and to the grocery and home again. The bus has been operating since October 1968, and there has been no increase whatsoever in participation in the program.

I talked with mothers whose children never drink milk, and rarely eat vegetables and meat. I found entire families existing on rice, sweet water, and bread—and often that is rationed in small amounts.

In answer to my question, "What is your very favorite thing to eat?" a 7-year-old girl from Dale, S.C., replied: "Vegetables * * * like carrots."

I asked her 12-year-old sister: "Are you hungry when you go to bed? Would you like something more to eat?" She nodded slowly, decisively, "Yes."

There was nothing more I could say to those two children, knowing that they were suffering and would continue to suffer—and knowing that their country is well-equipped to correct their situation.

My findings in Beaufort County are startling, but unfortunately they are considered old news to many Americans. And I found Beaufort County, S.C., to be a relatively progressive, sophisticated county compared to many areas in my home State of Kentucky or other South Carolina counties which border Beaufort.

The food stamp method of food distribution appears to be basically a good one. But with the existing unrealistic price scheduling and inadequate funds it remains a vehicle without enough gas to go very far.

That concludes my report.

Senator ELLENDER. Thank you very much.

We will hear from the other two ladies before we examine you.

STATEMENT OF MRS. HAZEL FRAZIER, BEAUFORT WELFARE RIGHTS UNION, BEAUFORT, S.C.

Mrs. FRAZIER. I am the president of the Beaufort Welfare Rights Union, the mother of 10 children, and I have to pay \$38 to \$46 per month for food stamps. My monthly income is \$125 per month. My light and gas is \$36.26, water is \$8.37 per month, and the rent is \$35 per month.

I feel that the stamps benefit some and others having to pay so much more, and in some cases the larger family is the one who is paying so much and is not getting enough stamps.

I find myself running out of stamps before the end of each month.

A family in one community is unable to get food stamps for the reason that her husband works and brings home \$135 every 2 weeks. She has 20 children and has to pay \$15.48 and sometimes more for lights; \$22 and sometimes more for oil to heat the four-room house they live in; \$18 for insurance for the whole family. Six of the children are in school, three get lunch, and three have to pay, and she has been refused food stamps.

A few weeks before Christmas we asked for Christmas bonuses. One of the demands was \$25 in food stamps. The other was \$50 per child for clothing and toys for Christmas. They said that that was too much.

I feel if the welfare department can give a foster mother \$50 per child every month the whole year round, why not the mother just for Christmas so that she can go out and buy toys and a little clothing for her young ones.

That is the end of my report.

STATEMENT OF MISS AGNES ROBINSON, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION, BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C.

Miss ROBINSON. I am an Outreach worker with the Beaufort-Jasper Economic Opportunity Commission, working with the poor residents of Sheldon community. This is my home community, and I have lived here all of my life.

I have been asked to talk mainly about the food stamp program as I see it in operation among the poor. Most families if asked about this program will say that it helps them some in getting more food for their families, but the problems they face and the difficulties in getting the food stamps cause some poor people to pass it up entirely.

In order to illustrate some of these problems, I shall relate two case histories. These are actual cases, and I have the permission of these families to give the names and addresses to this committee if they are desired.

Mr. and Mrs. "Y" and their three grandchildren live in Sheldon, an extremely rural community in Sheldon, Beaufort County, S.C. Mr. "Y" is totally blind and has been for the past 20 years as a result of an automobile accident coming from his job.

He and his family of five live on an income of \$157 per month which he gets from the welfare. There is no other source of income available to this family in spite of his total disability. The house in which they live is fairly adequate, with an outdoor privy and a shallow pitcher pump in the backyard which furnishes them with water. The nearest store is 6 miles away, and Mrs. "Y" has to pay someone at least \$1 to drive her to the store to buy whatever she may need.

This family applied for the food stamps when the program first came to Beaufort County. In order to apply, Mrs. "Y" had to travel to the welfare department located in Beaufort, a distance of 28 miles away. In order to get there, she had to pay someone \$4 since there is no transportation in the area.

She had to make several trips to Beaufort—at least three—before she was eligible. Many, many questions were asked all of which Mrs. "Y" could not answer satisfactorily.

When she became eligible, she had to travel to the same town to buy the stamps from the county courthouse. However, the latter part of the year in 1968, the food stamps were made available in the community. That was with the help of OEO workers.

Since Mr. and Mrs. "Y" have a fixed income, and they have to sign up and pay into the program only once a month. This family has to pay at present \$56 a month and receives \$80 worth of food stamps.

Until a month ago, this family paid \$60 a month and received \$90 worth of stamps. The change was made without any explanation whatsoever. This is often a practice when people are dealing with the poor. Nothing is explained to them and, of course, they are afraid to ask for fear that they will be cut off.

With \$80 Mrs. "Y" is not able to buy a sufficient amount of food to feed her family for 1 month, so she has to go to the same general store and get food on credit to last for about a week and a half until the check comes in the next month. Therefore, when she gets her check, she has to pay cash for the food that she took up on credit.

Other expenses to this family are: Monthly: fuel for heating and cooking, \$30; electric light bill, \$8; insurance, \$17; furniture dealer, \$20; transportation for 1 month, \$12 and sometimes more. A total of \$77.

In addition to this, lunches for the children in school have to be bought. For the three children to eat each week, it costs Mrs. "Y" a total of \$4.50. Last year and the year before, the children could eat free at the integrated school, but since they have returned to the black school, they have to pay for their lunches.

Clothing has to be bought monthly, especially for the children in school. Shoes especially are worn out regularly. She stated that to clothe her family is very expensive. It is a wonder how this family survives on \$157 a month.

Mrs. "X" applied for food stamps at the Beaufort County welfare office in 1968. She was fortunate to have had the counsel of a welfare caseworker prior to going to the department, so that she carried with her some of the necessary papers needed. These included proof of her husband's employment—a statement from employer—and proof of her electric and gas bills.

The income to this family was \$130 a month. Out of this they had to pay electric bill, \$22; gas, \$21; from there Mrs. "X" went to the courthouse and purchased the stamps. This process was repeated monthly until December 1968.

The arrival of a child to this family causes an increase in the stamps but the cost went up as well. Mrs. "X" states that she has had several difficulties in obtaining food stamps and complains that:

1. She is treated with hostility by the foodstore operators.
2. She is unable to buy soap.
3. There are limitations on certain kinds of meats.
4. On one occasion, November 25 was the cutoff date for the food stamps, and on November 25 the courthouse was closed. Mrs. "X" was told to go to Bluffton, a distance of 35 miles if she wanted to buy stamps.
5. Food stamps need to be taken out of the hands of the welfare.
6. Anyone making less than \$3,000 a year should get stamps free, since the stamps do not bring them up to this level anyway.

One other problem that faces the participants of this program is the very inferior quality of food sold to them by rural merchants. Meats are handled under extremely unsanitary conditions and the meats include pigs' feet, neckbones, all kinds of pork and rarely any cuts of beef except very fat and tough beef for stewing.

The rural stores get their supplies in on the weekend. Whatever meats are left over from the weekend are thrown into the freezer often unwrapped, and when it is bought, the merchants weigh it with all of the ice which gives an inaccurate weight. They also have to pay the same price as they would pay for it when it is fresh.

When inspectors come to these stores that sell food stamps to the poor, the inspectors are interested in whether or not they are having prob-

lems with "these people" rather than concern themselves with the quality of food that is being sold.

Many of the people with whom I work express a desire for better paying jobs so that they can be independent. They do not want a handout as some seem to think; neither do they enjoy it, but conditions are so bad that they are forced to accept charity. There are some men who work all week and go home with \$35 or \$40. I do not see how some families manage to even eat at all with what they have to live on.

Senator ELLENDER. Thank you very much for your statement. I agree with you. I can't see how these families can live on such a small income.

I believe under the food stamp program, the Secretary of Agriculture would have authority to remedy this situation and provide for more stamps for a given amount of money.

You said you have 10 children?

Mrs. FRAZIER. Yes, sir.

Senator ELLENDER. And your income is \$125 a month?

Mrs. FRAZIER. Right.

Senator ELLENDER. Does that come from welfare?

Mrs. FRAZIER. It does.

Senator ELLENDER. What does your husband do?

Mrs. FRAZIER. I don't know what he is doing.

Senator ELLENDER. You don't know?

Mrs. FRAZIER. No.

Senator ELLENDER. You are not living together?

Mrs. FRAZIER. No. I don't even know where he is.

Senator ELLENDER. Do you have any method of trying to get him to help you?

Mrs. FRAZIER. Well, I have tried, but I didn't succeed.

Senator ELLENDER. You are not divorced from him?

Mrs. FRAZIER. No. He left home to work and he never returned.

Senator ELLENDER. I see.

Where do you live?

Mrs. FRAZIER. I live in the city of Beaufort.

Senator ELLENDER. In the city?

Mrs. FRAZIER. That is right.

Senator ELLENDER. You spoke of your rent bill. How much is it?

Mrs. FRAZIER. \$35 a month for a four-room house.

Mr. ELLENDER. How many rooms?

Mrs. FRAZIER. Two bedrooms, a kitchen and a living room.

Senator ELLENDER. How much do you spend for food stamps?

Mrs. FRAZIER. For the stamps?

Senator ELLENDER. Yes, out of this \$125.

Mrs. FRAZIER. Anywhere from \$38 to \$46. It all depends on my light bill and water bill.

Senator ELLENDER. Assuming \$38 cash. How much stamps do you get for that?

Mrs. FRAZIER. \$108 worth.

Senator ELLENDER. \$108 worth for \$38.

Mrs. FRAZIER. Yes.

Senator ELLENDER. The two families that you investigated, that you spoke about, you said they were paying \$56 and receiving \$80 worth of stamps; is that correct?

Miss ROBINSON. That is correct.

Senator ELLENDER. Why is it that this lady receives \$108 worth for \$38 and in the case you spoke of \$56 brings \$80 worth?

Miss ROBINSON. They live about 30 miles out of the city of Beaufort, and they have to pay at least \$4 to get to Beaufort. Her husband has to go have a regular checkup with the doctor once a month. They have to pay for the checkup and pay to get there.

Senator ELLENDER. They have no transportation at all that is available, public transportation?

Miss ROBINSON. No public transportation.

Senator ELLENDER. Is that in the county itself?

Miss ROBINSON. That is just in the community where I work, in Sheldon. There is one Greyhound bus that runs through there a day. It goes toward Beaufort at 10 o'clock and gets into Beaufort at 11:30. The only one that comes back leaves at 10 o'clock. So it is impossible to do anything between 11:30 and coming back at 10 o'clock.

Senator ELLENDER. What kind of assistance do you get from the local people in order to assist you in getting stamps to people that you spoke of? Is any effort being conducted so that this transportation charge can be lessened?

Miss ROBINSON. OEO helps out with transportation.

Senator ELLENDER. When did that start?

Miss ROBINSON. We started working in the Sheldon community last February. The first thing we did was we caused the welfare workers to come out to Sheldon to issue the stamps instead of having the people go all the way to Beaufort. That is the first thing we did.

Senator ELLENDER. Since you obtained assistance from the OEO, are you able to get more stamps for the \$56 that is spent per month?

Miss ROBINSON. Do you mean are the people able to get more stamps?

Senator ELLENDER. Yes.

Miss ROBINSON. No.

Senator ELLENDER. You said that because of the lack of transportation, \$56 would buy only \$80 worth of stamps. I can't understand that.

Miss ROBINSON. I thought you asked if we assisted in the transportation problem. That is the only way OEO assists the people in getting to the center to get the stamps.

We help them to get there, but we have nothing to do with the amount of stamps.

Senator ELLENDER. Did you attempt to find out why it is that the person you are speaking of received only \$80 worth of stamps for \$56 cash, whereas Mrs. Frazier gets \$108 worth for \$38?

Miss ROBINSON. She has more children.

Senator ELLENDER. That is what I am asking you. Is that the reason?

Miss ROBINSON. That is the reason. They give them according to the number in the family.

Senator ELLENDER. It is not due to transportation, then?

Miss ROBINSON. No, it is not.

Senator ELLENDER. Miss Robinson, did you complain to any of the Federal officials about this spoiled meat you spoke of in your statement?

Miss ROBINSON. Did I?

Senator ELLENDER. I meant Mrs. Butler. Excuse me.

You said in your statement that spoiled beef was sold. Did you make that known to the officials who come around to inspect to see that proper food is sold to the people who have stamps?

Mrs. BUTLER. No. I intend to notify them of the stores that I found that in.

Senator ELLENDER. When did you find that out?

Mrs. BUTLER. I found it in three of the stores.

Senator ELLENDER. When?

Mrs. BUTLER. When? Within the past couple of weeks.

Senator ELLENDER. I think any charge of that kind should be made known to the officials so that they can deal with the storekeeper.

The same thing goes for this meat you said, Miss Robinson, that was picked up and thrown into an icebox and sold for the same price. All those are justifiable complaints that should be made to the proper authorities.

Is there much cooperation among the people there to get rid of the worms that we heard about yesterday and the day before?

Are you familiar with the story?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes, I am.

Senator ELLENDER. What is being done in your area about that; do you know?

Mrs. BUTLER. I know I am working with a pilot program in Beaufort County with 13 families. We run into quite a few difficulties. I would have to disagree that it is as easy a problem to deal with as has been suggested.

Senator ELLENDER. What is the chief problem?

Mrs. BUTLER. The treatment is easy to take. Some of the families are treated by the public health department. However, I see that there needs to be a mass treatment program. In other words, they are immediately reinfested with the worms after the treatment. This goes on and on.

Unless there are efforts in housing in all areas of rural poverty, I can't see that it can be eradicated.

Senator ELLENDER. Do you get full cooperation from the local people? Are they willing to do what you suggest?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes, with the families I work with.

Senator ELLENDER. You say you have a pilot program of 13 families?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes, in one geographic area. It is a demonstration to see if we can control it.

Senator ELLENDER. Is this pilot program to find ways and means of treating the situation?

Mrs. BUTLER. Right.

Senator ELLENDER. But in the meantime, is anything done by the housewives to have better sanitation around their homes? That strikes me as one of the essential things to do, to have proper sanitation.

Mrs. BUTLER. Right. There are so many situations, as the ones we described today, where there actually is no money for soap powder or insect spray. Those are two very important items.

Senator ELLENDER. I am informed that we have another witness who will have more specifics on that subject. I will defer until that time.

Senator Yarborough?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Miss Robinson, was the difference in the amount of food stamps a dollar would buy in Mrs. Frazier's case and

the theoretical example you gave us in your statement influenced largely by the fact that Mrs. Frazier has ten children on an income of \$125 a month and the family you narrated has an income of \$157 a month and five children? Are the food stamps on a sliding scale? Do you pay more for your food stamps if you have more income?

Miss ROBINSON. In some cases they do. The man who is in charge of public assistance makes the decision as to how much each person pays.

Senator YARBOROUGH. He makes a determination on what food stamps the money will buy?

Miss ROBINSON. As far as I can see.

Senator YARBOROUGH. He has criteria for that, doesn't he? Isn't it based on some kind of sliding scale, income and the number of children?

Miss ROBINSON. It is based on it, but it varies in some cases. I know a lot of people pay less and get more and some people pay more and get less.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Are you saying that it is not equitably applied?

Miss ROBINSON. Not as far as the people I come in contact with.

Senator ELLENDER. Who administers the food stamp program in your county?

Miss ROBINSON. The welfare department is in charge of that.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I have a question at this point for Mrs. Butler.

Mrs. Butler, in surveying these conditions, did you ever meet with the welfare director of Beaufort County?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Was it a man or a woman?

Mrs. BUTLER. A man.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What did he think was wrong with the program, or did he think anything was wrong? Did you discuss with him any problem of inequity in the distribution of these food stamps?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes. He did say that he thought this was one of the best programs he had to work with. He was enthusiastic about it.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The food stamp program?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Had you heard these complaints of inequity of distribution at that time?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Did you take that up with him?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What was his explanation of the inequity of distribution, one family getting more food stamps per dollar than the others?

Mrs. BUTLER. I think many of these cases are a result of the case-worker simply not being aware of the hardships. In other words, certain shelter expenses and certain light bills which can be deducted to lower the purchasing price of the food stamps.

In many of these cases this was an oversight, and they were not deducted.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Did the director of distribution have discretion to determine how much food each family would get for a certain number of stamps in a dollar?

Mrs. BUTLER. No, he has a scale.

Senator YARBOROUGH. He has a scale. What you found was the case-workers just didn't do a thorough job, and didn't report all the factors involved; is that it?

Mrs. BUTLER. In many cases that is true.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mrs. Butler, you don't work as an official worker with welfare, do you?

Mrs. BUTLER. No.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You live there?

Mrs. BUTLER. Right.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And you volunteered because of conditions in your home county to lend some time to this problem?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I notice that despite the very low income in the case of Mrs. Frazier, and again in the theoretical case—I take it, Miss Robinson, this is not an actual family that you narrated, but it is a theoretical case based on your findings?

Miss ROBINSON. This is an actual family.

Senator YARBOROUGH. In both cases, there was always a certain allowance for insurance, regardless of how little food there was in the family. That insurance was always paid. What type of insurance is that?

Miss ROBINSON. That is life insurance and sickness and accident, hospitalization insurance for the whole family.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do they find that that works very well, to get paid when they are sick and have to be hospitalized? Do they find that of value to them, the people in the poverty bracket, that this insurance is very necessary?

Miss ROBINSON. It is very necessary because when they live out in the country they cannot get a doctor to come out there at all. Doctors will not make home visits out where I live. You have to always go into Beaufort to see a doctor. At night you have to go to the hospital.

If the case is serious enough, they have to admit you. If you have no type of hospitalization insurance, it is very difficult.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You have to take that insurance policy with you?

Miss ROBINSON. Yes, and show it when they admit you to the hospital.

Senator YARBOROUGH. A person in the low-income bracket, on poverty, can they get into the hospital without an insurance policy?

Miss ROBINSON. Yes; but they will have to make a downpayment when they enter.

Senator YARBOROUGH. And they generally don't have that cash.

Miss ROBINSON. They don't have the cash. They cannot save any money on the income they get. They figure if they are paying the insurance, that will be a help.

Senator YARBOROUGH. So that health and accident policy is, in effect, a passport into the hospital?

Miss ROBINSON. If they get sick and have to be admitted to the hospital. If the children get sick and have to have treatment from the doctor, the sickness and accident insurance helps there.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The Secretary of Agriculture has recently said that the average American family spends about 17 percent of its

income on food. Do you think if the food stamp program were so scheduled that it would allow poor people to do the same; that is, spend 17 percent on an adequate diet, more would participate in a food stamp program? If they could get a reasonable diet, do you think the participation would be much greater?

Miss ROBINSON. I don't think so. Some people out in my area get a check from social security, also, and that is only \$51.

Senator YARBOROUGH. But if 17 percent of that \$51—that would be about \$8.67, or something in that neighborhood—if they could get an adequate diet for that with food stamps, don't you think more would participate?

Miss ROBINSON. I imagine more would participate.

Senator YARBOROUGH. If they would just take a flat 17 percent. If they had a \$100-a-month income, and they could take \$17 and get enough food stamps for an adequate diet, do you think they would participate?

Miss ROBINSON. Maybe they would, if they could do it without a whole lot of headaches. A lot of people get discouraged when they have to answer so many questions, I know a family where there are five children and she has little or no income. She only pays, I think, about 50 cents or \$2. But she has to answer the same questions every time she signs, to tell how many children, the ages of all the children, each time she signs. She just gets tired of it.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Is that every month?

Miss ROBINSON. Every month the same questions are asked: how many children, the ages of the children.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Beaufort County is near the coast of South Carolina; isn't it?

Miss ROBINSON. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. These people you described, most of them live in rural areas?

Miss ROBINSON. All of them.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do they have gardens and vegetables?

Miss ROBINSON. They have gardens and vegetables when in season, when it is in the right season.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Are they asked about those gardens, the vegetables?

Miss ROBINSON. No; they are not asked about the gardens.

Senator YARBOROUGH. People on old age welfare payments, are they asked about the gardens?

Miss ROBINSON. They are not asked.

Senator YARBOROUGH. In my State for years people that had gardens or a few chickens for eggs would have their check cut. Does that happen in South Carolina?

Miss ROBINSON. They don't ask them about the garden, not now, but they used to ask them about how much money they would get from the sale of eggs. They used to really cut some.

I have known cases in years back where they would cut them off entirely if they had too many chickens. But now it is a little bit different. If you earned \$2 a day and a neighbor tells them about it, they are going to question and cut your check.

Senator YARBOROUGH. But if a person had enough chickens, eggs, and garden for themselves, and their own family, would they be

reduced on that? Would that be counted against their allowances as it was in the past years?

Miss ROBINSON. Now I don't think it would be.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Do people know they can raise a garden or have chickens and get fresh eggs and not have their payments cut now? Do they know that?

Miss ROBINSON. They know that. They have chickens and fresh eggs.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Gardens and chickens are coming back?

Miss ROBINSON. Coming back.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I think that would be very helpful in their diets.

The Secretary of Agriculture, I am advised, announced yesterday that the Department would permit free food stamps for those who could not afford to pay. I want to ask Mrs. Butler: What do you think this will contribute toward solving the problem of the food stamp program?

Mrs. BUTLER. I think this is very encouraging. However, I would like to suggest that, if it is established, this pilot program, in Beaufort and Jasper Counties, it might be an excellent opportunity to make a total effort in the revision of the schedule and all of the small problems of transportation, education, and so forth that we have talked about in these two counties.

In other words, rather than just attacking this low, low portion of the population, that we try a revision, as you mentioned, of maybe 17 percent of the total income for the whole scale. I understand free food stamps would go to the very low income families.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I have a question for you and Miss Robinson jointly. We have had this information about the insurance premiums. As I understand it, in computing the income of a person for food stamp purposes, you cannot deduct the cost of that insurance in determining income.

They say if your income is \$125 a month and you pay \$17 a month for insurance, the fact that \$17 a month is being paid for that passport to a hospital is not counted.

Mrs. BUTLER. That is right.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully suggest that the Secretary of Agriculture ought to consider that and deduct the cost of the insurance as one of the living costs in hand or an insurance policy to get into a hospital.

Senator ELLENDER. I am sure that in obtaining this information to pass on to the Secretary of Agriculture, I think under the law as now drafted he has the opportunity and the right to change the regulations. He has a lot of leeway.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The reason I asked those questions, Miss Robinson, about the chickens and the gardens, is that there are some counties in the mountains in the South where it is difficult to raise gardens. My experience in Texas is that those counties near the seacoast have soils that are relatively rich and gardens can easily grow vegetables.

I am not familiar with the circumstances in Beaufort County. Is that true in Beaufort County or is that the kind of sandy, pine timber ridges where crops will not grow?

Miss ROBINSON. They will grow very well in that county, in our area.
 Senator YARBOROUGH. In my own State, the garden began to disappear until the old age pensions came in, and the old age assistance. They began to reduce their income. They would go out and count the rows. Some who planted a few rows of beans or peas in their yard didn't have a formal garden, but the inspector would find the few rows of beans and peas in their garden, and they would cut the payments. I hope that has ended by now.

Mrs. Butler, I believe you said you were from Kentucky originally?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. What part of Kentucky?

Mrs. BUTLER. Central Kentucky.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Have you ever been over in the mountain regions of Kentucky?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes, I worked in eastern Kentucky for about 2 years.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The people in the mountains are practically all white people, aren't they?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. The people in the rural areas of Beaufort County are what percentage black?

Mrs. BUTLER. I would say close to 75 or 80 percent, but that is a guess. I don't have the figure.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Is the diet better in those mountain areas of Kentucky in the east and the poorer area there than in the rural areas of Beaufort County?

Mrs. BUTLER. No.

Senator YARBOROUGH. They have just as poor a diet as the black people in the rural areas of Beaufort County?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes, I would say so.

Senator YARBOROUGH. They have poorer soil in the mountains?

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. If you plant corn you get a little spindle about the size of your finger, or a little nub instead of a regular ear of corn.

Mrs. BUTLER. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you.

Senator ELLENDER. Are there any further questions?

If not, thank you very much.

The CHAIRMAN. I am sorry I was not here to hear the testimony, but I will read it in the record.

Thank you very much.

The next witness is Mr. Paul Matthias, director, South Carolina Council on Human Relations.

STATEMENT OF PAUL MATTHIAS, DIRECTOR, SOUTH CAROLINA HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL, COLUMBIA, S.C.

Mr. MATTHIAS. My name is Paul Matthias. I am the executive director of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations, a nongovernmental and nonprofit statewide organization, headquartered in Columbia, S.C. I wish to express my appreciation to the distinguished members of the committee for the opportunity to appear before you.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, when the U.S. Congress created the national school lunch program in 1946, it did so "to

safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation's children." To achieve this end, the program was "to supply lunches without cost or at a reduced cost to all children who are determined by local authorities to be unable to pay the full price thereof."

The framers of this bill were foresighted enough to recognize the interrelation of good nutrition and good education. They perceived, along with a great many educators, that a child's dietary intake can directly affect his scholastic performance. They were affirming the often heard statement that "you can't teach a hungry child."

That statement has special relevance to South Carolina. According to the latest figures from the Federal education office in Columbia, S.C., there are 208,000 school age children in the State—more than one-third of all schoolchildren in South Carolina—from families with incomes of less than \$2,000 per year. These children are at the bottom of the economic ladder.

For the vast majority of these children, the only substantial, balanced meal available to them on a regular basis is the one they are supposed to be receiving each day at school, on a reduced cost or free basis.

The question is, Are they receiving it? I should like to approach the answer from the standpoint of what is happening in one South Carolina county and what is happening in the State at large.

The county lunch program with which I am most familiar is Beaufort. There are 16 school buildings in Beaufort County, and in every one there is a clean, well-equipped lunchroom, competently staffed, where surplus commodities and commercial products are transformed into palatable, nutritious meals under careful supervision. Beaufort is proud of its school lunch program and with good reason.

However, Beaufort County has a school enrollment of 10,351, including 3,987 children from poverty-level families. According to the State director of school lunches, from the beginning of the school year through the month of January, an average of 1,897 of these poor children received a free lunch each day. The other 2,090 either had to pay the full lunch price, bring a bag lunch from home, or not eat at all. There were no reduced-cost lunches in the county until last month when the price was lowered a nickel in some schools.

This lack of a sliding scale, as called for in the new Department of Agriculture school lunch guidelines, has made it very hard on large families especially. We found several families with from six to 10 children whose income was just above the poverty level and who, therefore, had to pay the full price for each child if they wanted to participate. I understand that the county superintendent is considering the implementation of a sliding scale, which if it were effected, would substantially alleviate the squeeze on these already strained budgets.

Even though the superintendent and the county lunch supervisor maintain that no child who cannot pay is refused on that basis, it is apparent that not all of the principals, let alone the parents, have been advised that this is to be the policy.

With the input of section 32 funds in January, the number of free lunches increased by 456 per day in the county over the previous month. There are still more than 1,500 children, however, who are eligible for a free or reduced cost lunch who aren't yet getting it.

Although the county lunch supervisor has been working steadily on the problem, there is still a good deal of improvement needed in

many of the Beaufort County schools with regard to the procedures used for receiving lunch moneys and issuing lunch tickets. The new USDA guidelines for school lunch programs, which have not yet been implemented in Beaufort, declare that the proper steps must be taken to protect poor children from overt identification by their peers as those who are unable to pay. While this practice is not of primary significance in small communities like Beaufort, where most everyone already knows who is poor and who isn't, it nevertheless deserves attention so as to eliminate any embarrassment or stigma that might be associated with those receiving the free or reduced price meals.

As far as the whole State of South Carolina is concerned, out of the 208,000 children from the poorest families, an average of 142,417 children daily were receiving free or reduced price lunches in December. Even though that compares very favorably with the percentages from other States, the fact is that there are still over 65,000 South Carolina children from the neediest of families who are not benefiting from what the law says they are entitled to.

I have already indicated that one reason there are still this many poor children not getting what they are entitled to is because of a communications breakdown—the failure to get the word out to principals and parents.

A second major fault in the national school lunch program is in the area of funding. Financial malnutrition is causing the school lunch program to reach only a portion of the poor. The \$1.4 million extra that South Carolina received this year from section 32 funds will enable the State to increase the number of free lunches for needy children, but it still won't feed all such boys and girls. If South Carolina is to do the complete job that the National School Lunch Act says it is supposed to do, then the U.S. Congress must be prepared to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make even greater amounts available from section 32 funds. Granted that the \$45 million approved this year is a real bonanza for the program, but when divided among all 50 States, its impact is still not great enough. If that sounds like an ungrateful statement, it should not be so construed. It simply states a cold fact about the fiscal realities of feeding 208,000 children free or reduced-price lunches in a State that is hard put for funds to begin with. It also suggests that if the Secretary of Agriculture is ever again confronted with a decision as to whether or not he should return \$200 million to the U.S. Treasury unused, he could do worse than spend at least half that sum on the feeding of American's poor and hungry children.

Moving now to my third and final major point, I wish to comment briefly on the need for an expansion of breakfast programs. Every principal of Beaufort County schools with large concentrations of poor children felt that a breakfast program could help his educational program substantially.

The State lunch director, Miss Kathleen Gaston, concurred and said, "In all of the schools where we have breakfast programs, school principals report that they cause an increase in attendance, reduce disciplinary problems, make the children more alert, and help create better study habits."

Several of the elementary school principals in the poorer sections of Beaufort County estimated that between 35 and 50 percent of their

children came to school with no breakfast, and many either complained of headaches or got sick before lunch. One school, Beaufort Elementary, must begin schoolbus runs as early as 6:30 a.m. every day and get the last children home at 5:30 p.m. after winding over a 100-mile-a-day route.

These same principals pointed out there might be some administrative problems in breakfast programs, such as getting the kitchen workers and the children to school early enough so as not to interfere with classroom time. But they thought the merits of the program would outweigh the disadvantages. An ideal solution here might be the introduction of specially fortified supplementary foods and/or liquids that would require little or no preparation, and could be quickly consumed.

All in all, South Carolina's school lunch program is doing a good job, and it is primarily because of the great amount of hard work that has been put into it by the State director, Miss Kathleen Gaston. In last year's study of the national school lunch program entitled "Their Daily Bread," she was singled out as having one of the three best run operations in the United States. She is still not satisfied, however, and neither should any of us be until this program is feeding all hungry children, and not just part of them.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you for your statement, Mr. Matthias.

You conclude by reminding us that South Carolina has one of the better school lunch programs in the country. It is my understanding that Beaufort County also has a rather strong school lunch program.

If that is the case, what is the explanation for the fact that 22 years after this statute was placed on the books you still have 1,500 children in that one county, in Beaufort County, who do not participate in the program.

Mr. MATTHIAS. I think the explanation is twofold.

First of all, in years past there has not been an enforcement of the School Lunch Act itself. It wasn't until this last October that the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Freeman, put out some guidelines which were designed to implement that which the law called for since 1946.

The second reason is that the program has not been adequately funded. As I pointed out here, even with the additional funds that South Carolina is getting this year, we still don't have enough money to feed all the children.

I think also perhaps a third reason is that, again, the word has not been gotten out to the poor parents themselves. I think the assumption that people are aware of the fact that they are eligible for this program is not well founded. I, myself, found, for instance, parents in Beaufort Elementary where, under title I, they had an allotment of 66 free lunches per day and were only feeding 35. The money had been allocated, and yet they were only feeding 35 out of 66.

I asked the principal what the reason for this discrepancy was, and he indicated that only those parents who were eligible but who actually made application for participation had their children given free lunches. His assumption was that the parents knew about it, yet the parents had not been notified that their children were eligible.

I even followed it up by interviewing two of the parents who happened to be white ladies, both of whom were separated, working in downtown Beaufort, both of whom were making less than \$3,000 a year, both of whom had two children. This was the first time that

either of them had ever heard the fact that their children were eligible for the program, and yet both of them had taken active roles in the PTA and had not ignored their children's welfare in school.

The CHAIRMAN. How does a child or the parent of a child, in the neediest of families, go about qualifying themselves for free or reduced-price school lunches? What is the process that is followed?

Mr. MATTHIAS. The certification procedure is at the beginning of the school year. All parents receive a form put out by the Public Law 89-10 law, or the office of Public Law 89-10, on which they stipulate whether their income is above or below \$3,000. Then on the basis of the returns which come in, allotments are made to each school to feed at least a portion of those children who are from families in these economic brackets.

However, here, again, just because a family is eligible doesn't necessarily mean they will participate, because the parents are not notified that they are eligible—at least in this one school I think that was the exception rather than the rule.

There is supposed to be a committee, including the principal, teachers, the school nurse, if they have one, and some parents, who certify in individual schools, but this is a less than satisfactory situation in many instances.

The CHAIRMAN. In determining the criteria of need, is the number of children in a family taken into consideration? A family with a couple of thousand dollars income and nine or 10 children is certainly in a different position than one with one or two children. Is that included in the criteria?

Mr. MATTHIAS. Here you get into the fact that the program is funded from at least two different sources. Under 89-10, the only children who are being fed are those from families with incomes less than \$2,000. But the national school lunch program, itself, is supposed to be feeding all poverty level families, in other words, all below \$3,000 or \$3,300. There is supposed to be a sliding scale based on the family size and the family income. But this has never been implemented.

Even yet, even though Miss Gaston, the State director, has sent out a suggested sliding scale to all counties in the State, it is yet to be utilized, and the families which do suffer are those which have large numbers of children.

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, you say they are not in compliance with the guidelines in the Federal law?

Mr. MATTHIAS. The date to be in compliance was supposed to have been February 1, and all the counties were notified a month or 2 months prior to that. They were sent instructions as to what was required.

However, the plans to comply with the lunch program which came back in on a universal basis were not satisfactory, and Miss Gaston has returned them to the counties for changes, for more specific information as to how the new guidelines are to be made known publicly. If they are just to be put into the paper, many poor people couldn't afford to buy the paper and wouldn't read them.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Matthias, is there any one person who has the responsibility in Beaufort County to see that all of the eligible children are participating in the program? Where would you affix that

responsibility if you were trying to determine who is at fault for the failure of the county to comply with Federal guidelines?

Mr. MATTHIAS. I think those charged with the responsibility would be, on the county level, the coordinator from the 89-10 office, who I think should be required to see that all families which have been declared eligible are indeed participating.

Secondly, I think the school lunch supervisor and the county superintendent of education have responsibilities to see that the school lunch program, itself, and the guidelines, are operating efficiently and effectively.

The CHAIRMAN. Wouldn't it make sense for the school officials and the county officials to form a parents' committee or a committee in each county that could help disseminate this information? Surely word can be gotten out. It is not that closely a guarded secret, is it, that free lunches are available to needy children? Why can't that information be disseminated through some kind of a citizens committee?

Mr. MATTHIAS. This, to me, would be the ideal solution. I think the parents themselves are the ones who are most aware of their peers' problems. I would not think it would be a great problem, for instance, in each school, to find at least two parents who could see to what degree the program was operating as it was designed to. But our experience has been that we held a series of six meetings across the State after the new guidelines came out, and our experience almost without exception was that none of the people in the State, including the school principals themselves, and including people on the school board in Beaufort County, had even heard that there were new guidelines.

The fact of the guidelines has been a fairly closely guarded secret. I think, in essence, were it not for the fact that we have at least been able to get some people informed, many people would not even be aware that they existed.

The CHAIRMAN. How important in the operation of the program are the Agricultural Department surplus commodities? What role do they play in the overall program?

Mr. MATTHIAS. Without surplus commodities the program couldn't function. I have figures on what the cash value of the commodities were for the last 2 years. They run into the millions of dollars. Without that input of foodstuffs, there would be no possibility at all of the program functioning.

The CHAIRMAN. Is that a fairly broad range of commodities?

Mr. MATTHIAS. Yes. Under the school lunch program there are various types of foods which are made available. Section 32 is surplus commodities. Section 461 is the price-support commodities. Section 6 are the high protein commodities.

I would like to mention that section 6 high-protein commodities are the ones most needed by poor children, but they are not received in as great abundance as necessary. These are the foods which at least to some degree are going in greater proportion to the poorer schools, but I don't think in as great a degree as is really necessary.

The CHAIRMAN. You have indicated that while the \$45 million additional funds made available last year have been very helpful, that that should be increased. Assuming that there is some limitation on the amount of funds that can be made available, would you feel that the highest priority ought to be attached to increasing the scope and

effectiveness of the school lunch program, or would you place a higher priority on starting the school breakfast program?

Mr. MATTHIAS. That is a very difficult question to answer because I think they are both very important. For children whose only source of a balanced meal is at school, I would think perhaps the noonday meal, coming as it does halfway between the hours they spend there, perhaps would be the best one, just in terms of, if nothing else, keeping everyone pacified, which is a difficult way to look at it.

I think it shouldn't be an either-or situation. I think both programs are needed. I think from the amount of section 32 monies which were available, both could have been done on a larger scale.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Matthias.
Senator ELLENDER.

Senator ELLENDER. I have only one question. It is in respect to the paragraph on page 3, in respect to \$200 million from the U.S. Treasury returned by the Secretary of Agriculture to the Treasury.

These seems to be a misconception of that fund. The law simply provides that 30 percent of our tariffs and customs be set aside for use by the Secretary of Agriculture for the purchase of food that is surplus, and for no other purpose. The only way by which the actual cash could be used for the school lunch program is for a direct appropriation by the Congress. That took place in respect to the \$45 million you mentioned on the second page of your statement.

I want to say that the Secretary of Agriculture was without authority to use any surplus except through a special appropriation by Congress.

Mr. MATTHIAS. I recognize that. My point was that the Congress does have the authority and could utilize it to make more than \$45 million available if they so desired.

Senator ELLENDER. It wouldn't have to be taken from this fund at all. They could take it out of the General Treasury. This is \$200 million, back into the Treasury to be appropriated by the Congress. The funds were provided for solely to purchase surplus commodities, such as fruit—all commodities that were not protected under the programs we have to assist the farmers.

I believe it would be possible to probably obtain more of these funds only through appropriation by the Congress.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Yarborough?

Senator YARBOROUGH. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We have another problem there, Mr. Matthias, in that it requires the cooperation of the local school districts to participate. In my own State, some of the wealthiest districts have had the greatest difficulty. Some of the biggest and richest cities said this was socialism and refused to participate for years. Some are beginning now to participate. In some of the biggest and richest cities in Texas 2 or 3 years ago they closed two or three cafeterias.

I would like to see the day when every child in America has a good breakfast and lunch guaranteed in the school system. I don't think we ought to wait another generation to bring it about.

That brings up a point you have in the fourth paragraph of your page 3, where you said that one of the Beaufort elementary schools had the buses running as early as 6:30, getting the last children home at 5:30. The principal pointed out that if they had breakfast there,

they couldn't get the kitchen workers and children in early enough so as not to interfere with classroom time.

Do you think that a breakfast for those children is as important as any other classroom time?

Mr. MATTHIAS. I think it is. Again, it is very difficult, if not impossible, to adequately instruct children who are hungry and, therefore, inattentive, and, therefore, unable to learn.

Senator YARBOROUGH. It seems to me that in that system—and this is not just the Beaufort County, this is one of the better ones—we see a lot of that in this country, where the system is made to accommodate the schedule of the principal rather than to help the lives of the children.

Mr. MATTHIAS. I would agree emphatically. In fact, I think the most appalling thing that I found the whole time I was in Beaufort County, the most appalling thing I heard, was a statement from this same principal in regard to the families over the \$3,000 cutoff level for 89-10. He, himself, said that these families were having difficulty in providing lunches for all their children each day at full cost. If you have eight children, that is \$8 a week; I said, "Well, why aren't these children receiving free or at least the reduced price lunches under the School Lunch Act itself rather than 89-10?"

He said, "I have to be very careful so people wouldn't think of me as encouraging people to be bums." He mentioned the fact that these were the people who could not afford to get medical attention for their children, they couldn't qualify under 89-10.

I said, "Did it ever occur to you that the \$8 a week that these parents are having to pay could be spent on medicine?"

I think he never even thought it through.

Senator YARBOROUGH. You know, the school authorities say that these schools have to be consolidated up, and if you don't get several hundred children in a school, they don't have a good opportunity in visual teaching. Well, I have my doubts about that. I taught in a one-teacher rural school 6 miles from the highway and 6 miles from the railroad for 2 years, and we had no school lunch programs or anything like that, but we didn't run the children up at 6:30 every morning. They were in a district where they didn't have to spend half the day getting to school and back, with this 100-mile route you described.

I think our educational system will have to do some searching to see what is good for the children as well as what is convenient for the school administrators. Above all, this getting a lunch to the children is going to require attention. We have a gray area of Federal-State relations.

I think the Federal Government is far in advance of many cities, counties, and towns in this country who resist this. They have refused their elected school boards to participate on the thing you say there, that "This is State socialism, this is a giveaway program advocated by the do-gooders." We have to have a consciousness in this country that these children must have food if they are to have a good chance in life, in education, in jobs, or anywhere else.

I am glad that this task was started in the Senate 2 years ago, chaired by the distinguished Senator from South Dakota. I think it is helping to arouse the national consciousness to the need for food for children in school, and I think it ought to go a little further and consider the welfare of these children as well as the efficiency in a big consolidation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Matthias. We appreciate your testimony and your statement.

Mr. MATTHIAS. Senator, I have some recommendations and some supplementary material which I wish to insert into the record. With your permission, however, I would like to read one of the five recommendations which I think is pertinent.

The CHAIRMAN. Why don't you read that, and we will see that all of them are printed as part of the record.

Mr. MATTHIAS. I would like to recommend that consideration be given to exempting the cutoff of title I free lunches when a school district's funds are terminated because of noncompliance with the 1964 civil rights law. The recalcitrance of local school officials should not be the grounds for denying the nutrition and health programs to those children who need them most.

The CHAIRMAN. The implication of that is that if there is a lack of civil rights compliance, you are saying you don't want to punish the children in that school by denying them food, no matter what funds might be cut off?

Mr. MATTHIAS. Right. There have been 14 districts which now have been terminated in South Carolina, and all of the children, or virtually all of the children, in those schools were being fed under 89-10; yet 89-10 funds have been cut off. In many instances, there aren't enough funds to feed them from any other source. So the children begin and eat maybe 2 or 3 months, and the funds are cut off, and they don't eat for the rest of the year.

It is psychologically damaging, and I think it punishes the children more than anything else.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I think that is an outrageous course of action, that you would starve people if the schools don't meet requirements otherwise. Aside from civil rights, there are a lot of other legal deficiencies in schools. To cut the food off because they don't or haven't complied with all the laws, and to starve children because they haven't complied with laws, is outrageous. It is cruel and inhuman, and whoever does it ought to have his head examined.

Mr. MATTHIAS. It is punishing the children for the mores and philosophies of their adults.

(The recommendations and exhibits submitted by Mr. Matthias follow:)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That plans be made now to design a free lunch program for all of America's school children. As is stated in *Their Daily Bread*, "Each child should be given his school lunch in the same way that the majority of children receive their books and school equipment. The school lunch should be a basic part of the free public school education to which every child has a right."

2. That consideration be given to exempting the cutoff of Title I free lunches when a school district's funds are terminated because of non-compliance with the 1964 Civil Rights Law. The recalcitrance of local school officials should not be the grounds for denying the nutrition and health programs to those children who need them most.

3. That all P.L. 89-10 County or area coordinators be required to notify in writing all parents whose children qualify for free lunches under this act. The letter should state that unless the parent specifically indicates that he does not wish his child(ren) to participate he (they) shall automatically receive free lunch(es). To leave this kind of responsibility up to local principals is to invite situations such as the one at Beaufort Elementary School where 66 free lunches

a day have been allocated for, but only 35 are being eaten. Eligible children were fed free only if their parents requested it. Since none of the parents had been notified of their children's right to free lunches, many had no idea that they were entitled by law to this benefit.

4. That the United States Department of Agriculture require that all schools receiving Title I or Section 11 funds for the School Lunch Program have at least two parents per school who shall be authorized to see to it that the new U.S.D.A. School Lunch guidelines are administered properly in their school.

5. That those states such as South Carolina which are doing the best jobs of administering the National School Lunch Program be given special grants by Congress to develop model nutritional and food service programs for children and youth in selected municipalities, school districts, or counties. This idea is set forth in *Their Daily Bread* where it says:

"These models should include: a scientific analysis of nutritional needs; a total food service plan for maximum participation, free or at low cost, for children of all ages; experimentation with developments in food technology; increased efficiency and professional upgrading in already existing programs; community involvement in nutrition education; coordination with other community planning efforts for improving health and education."

PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM BY SOUTH CAROLINA'S POOREST CHILDREN

Counties	Number of school-age children from families with incomes of less than \$2,000 per year ¹	Average number of free and reduced price lunches served daily during December 1968 ²	Counties	Number of school-age children from families with incomes of less than \$2,000 per year ¹	Average number of free and reduced price lunches served daily during December 1968 ²
1. Abbeville.....	1,547	1,169	25. Hampton.....	2,779	1,764
2. Aiken.....	5,776	2,527	26. Horry.....	7,805	5,572
3. Allendale.....	1,929	1,154	27. Jasper.....	1,670	1,675
4. Anderson.....	4,939	2,853	28. Kershaw.....	3,835	1,639
5. Bamberg.....	2,409	1,593	29. Lancaster.....	2,117	1,872
6. Barnwell.....	2,442	692	30. Laurens.....	2,842	809
7. Beaufort.....	3,048	2,053	31. Lee.....	4,791	3,508
8. Berkeley.....	4,836	4,216	32. Lexington.....	2,963	9,926
9. Calhoun.....	2,885	2,045	33. McCormick.....	994	916
10. Charleston.....	14,304	12,397	34. Marion.....	5,265	3,330
11. Cherokee.....	2,528	796	35. Marlboro.....	4,699	3,407
12. Chester.....	2,718	2,115	36. Newberry.....	2,480	1,939
13. Chesterfield.....	4,931	1,853	37. Oconee.....	2,365	1,041
14. Clarendon.....	6,008	3,851	38. Orangeburg.....	9,693	7,396
15. Colleton.....	4,170	3,991	39. Pickens.....	1,463	724
16. Darlington.....	6,831	3,254	40. Richland.....	8,998	7,721
17. Dillon.....	5,632	4,166	41. Saluda.....	933	33
18. Dorchester.....	2,630	1,260	42. Spartanburg.....	7,614	4,736
19. Edgefield.....	2,101	1,461	43. Sumter.....	8,545	5,708
20. Fairfield.....	2,690	1,235	44. Union.....	2,077	681
21. Florence.....	10,729	7,693	45. Williamsburg.....	10,006	6,560
22. Georgetown.....	4,884	1,411	46. York.....	4,518	2,337
23. Greenville.....	7,072	3,836			
24. Greenwood.....	2,759	2,414			
			Total.....	208,250	142,419

¹ Provided by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act office in Columbia, S.C. (Numbers of children from families under \$3,000 were still being compiled.)

² Provided by the office of the State school lunch director in Columbia, S.C.

IF YOUR SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM THEY MUST PROVIDE FREE OR REDUCED PRICE LUNCHES FOR NEEDY CHILDREN

THIS IS THE LAW

Meals meeting established nutritional requirements shall be served without cost or at a reduced cost to children who are determined by local school authorities to be unable to pay the full cost.

No physical segregation of or any other discrimination against any child shall be made because of his inability to pay.

NEW FEDERAL REGULATIONS

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations, issued October 1968—
 Declare that your schools have the responsibility to determine individual children who are to receive free lunches, breakfasts and other meals.

Require your schools to—

1. Develop an official policy to be uniformly used in determining eligibility for free and reduced price meals. This written policy statement must include:
 - Standards to be used.
 - Procedures to be followed to determine which children are eligible and how this information is to be kept confidential.
 - Names of officials authorized to determine which children shall receive free meals.
 - Provision for appeal in individual cases.
2. Operate food service programs in such a way that children receiving free or reduced price meals cannot be identified.
3. Publicly announce the policy and procedures and put them into effect by February 1, 1969.

Prohibit your schools from discriminating against needy children—

Children receiving free or reduced price meals may not be required to:

Use a separate lunchroom, serving line or entrance.

Eat a different meal or at a different time from paying children.

Work for their meals.

Use tickets, tokens or any other means of paying which identify them as needy children.

YOUR STATE OFFICIALS MUST—

Your state educational agency has important responsibilities under the new regulations. It must—

1. Inform local schools of their responsibilities by December 1, 1968, and set target dates for compliance.
2. Provide guidance to schools as they develop and implement their policy statements on free and reduced price meals. USDA suggests that states should:

Prepare charts with a sliding scale of lunch prices based on family income and size.

Recommend free or reduced price lunches to children from any family which: (a) is eligible for welfare, Aid to Dependent Children, commodities or the Food Stamp Program; (2) has an income comparable to a family on welfare; (c) has a temporary financial emergency.

Urge simple procedures for qualifying for free lunches which avoid prying and unnecessary questions.

Encourage cooperation with local welfare departments.

3. Monitor performance of schools to ensure full compliance with the law, require assurances and regular reports and conduct investigations.

After February 1, 1969, your state agency may not sign or extend contracts for participation in the National School Lunch Program with any schools which have not complied with the new regulations.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Schools which have not established and implemented a policy for free and reduced price lunches will not be eligible for Federal funds after July 1, 1969.

1. Urge your local school board officials to adopt a uniform, district-wide policy for free and reduced price lunches for needy children in full compliance with the law.

2. Visit your local school lunch director. Ask to see the guidelines from your state agency. Make suggestions for an effective program for free and reduced price meals in your schools. Keep abreast of developments.

3. Advise low-income families of their children's rights under the law. Help parents file an appeal if they feel that their children have been unjustly excluded from the National School Lunch Program.

4. Send a delegation to your state school lunch director to urge leadership for an adequate and uniform program for free and reduced price meals across the state.

5. If you feel that your local school district or your state agency is not complying with the law, file a complaint to: Consumer and Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

6. Keep our Committee informed about developments in your community. Send us a copy of your school district's policy for providing free and reduced price meals to needy children.

Committee on School Lunch Participation, Suite 2030, 10 Columbus Circle, New York, New York 10019 (212) 586-8397

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM,
Columbia, S.C., November 15, 1968.

Memorandum: Special.

To: District superintendents of schools and county school lunch program supervisors.

From: Kathleen E. Gaston, State supervisor.

Subject: Determining eligibility for free and reduced price lunches and other meals—national school lunch program—school breakfast program.

The National School Lunch Act as amended and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 require that:

(a) meals meeting the established nutritional requirements shall be served without cost or at a reduced cost to children determined by local schools and service institutions to be unable to pay the full cost of the meals and,

(b) no physical segregation or other discrimination against any child shall be made because of his inability to pay.

Under the legislation and the regulations, it is the responsibility of the school districts participating in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program to determine the individual children who are to receive free or reduced price lunches, breakfast, or other meals. The State Department of Education is responsible for assuring that the local districts are discharging the responsibilities placed on them.

I. It is the responsibility of this office to inform schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and Breakfast Program of their responsibility to provide free or reduced price lunches, breakfast, or other meals (hereinafter referred to as meals), to children determined to be unable to pay the charge established for paying children in the attendance units under their jurisdiction.

II. It is the responsibility of this office to require school districts to develop a written policy to be used uniformly in all schools (attendance units) under their jurisdiction in determining the eligibility of children for free or reduced price meals.

The policy shall include:

A. A clear indication of the local officials delegated authority or designated to determine which individual children are eligible for a free or reduced price meal under the established policy criteria.

B. Criteria which will give consideration to economic need as reflected by family income, including welfare payments, family size, and number of children in attendance units.

C. The procedural steps to be followed by local officials in making the individual determinations and in providing the free or reduced price meals in a manner to avoid overt identification of children receiving such meals.

D. A provision for appeal to the District office from decisions in individual cases.

E. Inaugurating and maintaining a system of collecting payment of paying children and accounting for free meals in a manner which will protect the identity of children receiving free or reduced price meals in the lunchroom, classroom, or other environ of the attendance unit.

F. A plan for publicly announcing to the patrons of the attendance units and place into effect policy on eligibility for free or reduced price meals by February 1, 1969.

III. The required policy shall include an assurance from schools that the names of children determined to be eligible for free or reduced price meals will not be published, posted or announced in any manner to other children, and that such children will not be required, as a condition of receiving such meals, to:

A. Use a separate lunchroom.

B. Go through a separate serving line.

- C. Enter the lunchroom through a separate entrance.
 D. Eat lunch at a different time from paying children.
 E. Work for their meal.
 F. Use a different medium of exchange in the lunchroom than paying children:
 G. Eat a different meal than paying children.

IV. The policy for determining eligibility for free or reduced price lunches shall become a part of the school district's agreement. *Each school district* must submit an original and two copies of their written policy to the School Food Service Section, State Department of Education, by *January 15, 1969*, for review.

PROPOSED SCALE FOR DETERMINING REDUCED PRICE OR WITHOUT CHARGE LUNCH

Number in family ¹	Total weekly income of family										
	Up to \$30	\$30.01 to \$37.50	\$37.51 to \$45	\$45.01 to \$52.50	\$52.51 to \$60	\$60.01 to \$67.50	\$67.51 to \$75	\$75.01 to \$82.50	\$82.51 to \$90	\$90.01 to \$97.50	\$97.51 to \$102.50
2.....	² 5	10	15	20	20	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
3.....	(4)	5	10	15	20	20	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
4.....	(4)	(4)	5	10	15	20	20	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
5.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	5	10	15	15	20	20	20	(3)
6.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	5	10	15	15	15	15	15
7.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	5	10	10	15	15	15
8.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	5	5	10	10	10
9.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	5	5	5	10
10.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	5	5	5
11.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	5	5
12.....	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	5

¹ Includes all members of the family.

² These figures (5, 10, 15, 20) represent the price to be charged each child daily.

³ Full price.

⁴ Free.

Senator YARBOROUGH. There was another statement I intended to bring up with either Mrs. Butler or Miss Robinson. There were children going to an integrated school and quit and went back to a school that wasn't integrated and lost their lunches.

Was that your statement, Miss Robinson?

Miss ROBINSON. Yes.

Senator YARBOROUGH. As long as they went to an integrated school, they got a free lunch, and when they went back to an all-black school, they cut their food off.

Mr. MATTHIAS. That has happened not just in Beaufort. You have it a little bit backward. The children, while in the black school, get a free lunch under 89-10. When they move to the integrated school, they are told that if they still wish to receive this free lunch, they have to go back to the black school. I can document the fact that this has happened to 62 children in Dorchester County, all of whom were enrolled in all-black schools, all of whom are now in integrated schools, and all of whom are now having to pay the full price, who before that received free lunches. We brought this to the attention last week of the State director of Public Law 89-10, and he said it would be dealt with.

Senator YARBOROUGH. It seems to me that they should all get this lunch regardless of whether they go to an all-black or all-white or integrated school. The food ought to come first. You don't starve children because you haven't regulated other things you want to regulate.

Here is what Miss Robinson said: "Last year and the year before the children could eat free at the integrated school, but since they have returned to the black school, they have to pay for their lunches."

Was that correct, Miss Robinson?

MISS ROBINSON. That is correct.

MR. MATTHIAS. An all-black school in Union County, up toward the Piedmont section of South Carolina, and I think I am correct in saying that all the schools in that county or district are participating in the school lunch program and have been told that they will receive additional funds under section 32 with the exception of this one school. This school has an enrollment of approximately 1,000 high school age young people. It is serving 300 lunches a day, and only 10 of these are on a free basis.

Yet the district superintendent has said that they are not sure that this school can be included or would be given any of the new funds which are now available.

SENATOR YARBOROUGH. Why not?

MR. MATTHIAS. That is the question I have asked.

SENATOR YARBOROUGH. Do you mean this deals with the integration phase of the law? Did you say they couldn't get the lunches because of the integration situation?

MR. MATTHIAS. No. This was an all-black school, but the school is being excluded in that particular county from receiving any additional funds under section 32. The decision as to what schools shall receive additional funds—

SENATOR YARBOROUGH. They weren't receiving them because it was all-black?

MR. MATTHIAS. I can draw no other conclusion.

SENATOR YARBOROUGH. That is some of the worst discrimination I ever heard of in my life.

MR. MATTHIAS. The nurse in that school—

SENATOR YARBOROUGH. It reminds me of a school on an Indian reservation in Texas. They went out to El Paso, and there was some Federal program there, and there were Indians on the reservation. They told them they couldn't participate because they didn't have any whites and Negroes on the reservation.

MR. MATTHIAS. The nurse in that school, a black nurse, whose job, by the way, is provided for by 89-10, was one of the people with whom we met in our series of meetings. She went to the district superintendent and asked why, or if it at least would be possible to get this school some more funds and get more children being fed free or at a reduced price, and the superintendent made the statement to her that, "Well, this might be possible, but if that did materialize, it might also mean the elimination of other jobs under 89-10." The inference was that hers was a job being paid for with funds which she might lose if she pushed this too far.

There are very subtle kinds of discrimination, but, nevertheless, they are there.

SENATOR YARBOROUGH. You don't mean they were taking funds for school lunches and paying the nurse? You just mean she would be punished, is that right?

MR. MATTHIAS. Well, the inference was, at least, from that district superintendent's remarks, as told to me by her, was that in order for the children to get fed, the money she was being paid would have to be utilized to pay them and she would be out of a job.

Senator YARBOROUGH. There was an actual case of a county seat in a rural county where the State audited the school lunch money and they didn't have school lunch money, but the trustees were getting popular by giving a big free banquet twice a month to the whole town. So you have to have Federal auditors. It took a Federal auditor to see that the school lunch money was going to the school.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Matthias.

Our last witness is Charles E. Fraser, president, Sea Pines Plantation Co., Hilton Head, S.C.

(Statement of Charles E. Fraser begins on p. 1278.)

STAFF REPORT

SCHOOL LUNCH IN SOUTH CAROLINA

February 10-12, 1969

SUMMARY OF FIELD FINDINGS

BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

Summary

While Beaufort County is making a sincere and effective effort to reach every child in the county with a school lunch program, human failings and a shortage of funds keep the program from reaching a large number of children in a very needy area.

Major findings

1. It is the stated policy of the county school lunch department that no child will be denied a hot lunch every day for lack of ability to pay. This proved to be news to some of the principals, especially those with a higher percentage of poor children.

2. The state and county directors of school lunch both stated that they would not be able to carry on a lunch program without surplus commodities. The commodities account for about 10¢ per meal of the cost of approximately 6,246 lunches served daily in 16 schools.

3. Every school in the county serves a hot (type A) lunch every day. One school, Daufuskie Island, serves breakfast and lunch. Although some of the buildings are in poor repair, the kitchens are clean and well equipped, and the food as palatable as possible under sometimes pressing conditions of crowding.

4. The Beaufort County government has spent and is spending a relatively impressive sum of money to maintain and improve its lunch program. In many areas, the daily lunch is the only reliable diet for a great number of children, and should therefore be offered free to all children.

5. Only 20 percent of Beaufort school children—one-fifth of the total enrollment of 10,300—are receiving a free or reduced-price lunch every day through a combination of federal and local programs. This figure was lower several months ago before new funds became available under the School Lunch Act and USDA programs.

6. It is our judgment that there are many more children in Beaufort County who should be receiving a free lunch, and a free breakfast, daily if they are to grow and develop fully. The reasons why these children are not receiving a free lunch are treated in the full report.

Statistical Summary of Beaufort County School Lunch Program

Total enrollment.....	10,351
Average daily attendance.....	9,433
Average number of lunches served daily (from September 1968 to January 1969).....	6,246
Average number free lunches served daily.....	1,897
Poverty children in elementary schools.....	3,987
A. Children fed under title I, ESEA, daily.....	1,083
B. Children fed under School Lunch Act daily.....	813
Poverty children not being fed free of charge daily.....	2,090

THE BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, SCHOOL LUNCH SURVEY,
FEBRUARY 9-12, 1969

Beaufort County, S.C., can be described as rural, swampy and poor. More than 80 separate islands make up the county, and contribute to the problems of administering the school system. For example, all of the school principals interviewed were in favor of a school breakfast program but could not see how they would complete bus routes in time to feed children before class.

The county operates 16 schools (20 if high schools count separately), enrolling a total of 10,351 children. Average daily attendance is 9,433. According to the January 1969 census, 5,844 of the children are Negro, as is Daufuskie Island School (35 pupils). Three of the six high schools are either 100 percent or 99 percent Negro. The superintendent is currently debating a paired-school arrangement with HEW.

Of the 55,000 persons in the county, 22,000 are estimated to be living at or near the poverty level. Only about 2,700 of these poor are receiving welfare payments (743 families). Fortunately, the schools have done a better job of certifying the poor, and 3,987 of the 5,500 elementary children are authorized to receive free lunches daily under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and the School Lunch Act, though the latest count shows a daily average of only 1,897 being fed free of charge. High school students may not be fed free under the former law, though one high school (Robert Smalls) alone is known to have more than 900 students from families at poverty level or below.

Beaufort's schools have been using surplus commodities since the Depression. Additional support has come from the county government, the state (none this year) and Title I, ESEA (89-10). At the beginning of the school year, every parent is required to fill out a form stating whether family income exceeds \$3,000 annually; those below are considered eligible for Title I, including lunch money. (High school students receive book money.) As of January, Beaufort was receiving enough funds from PL 89-10 to feed 1,802 poverty children in elementary schools daily. The School Lunch Act was feeding an average of 813 students each day this school year. The remaining 2,090 poverty children were not receiving their entitlement, for various reasons.

There is no problem of facilities in Beaufort: every school has a clean, well-equipped kitchen, adequately staffed and supervised. The county office keeps strict watch over menus to insure good diets. The dining rooms in many cases are overcrowded, and depressing, but the meals served are generally appetizing, and adequate. Mrs. Charlotte Patterson, the county lunch director, said she always received all the commodities she ordered from the USDA railhead 47 miles away, and had sufficient, modern storage and refrigeration space.

Mrs. Patterson and Superintendent Walter Trammel also stated repeatedly that no Beaufort child is refused a daily lunch for lack of ability to pay. This apparently forces the children to beg since we found many cases where this policy is either unknown in the schools, or not enforced.

Two examples: the principal of Beaufort Elementary School was (may still be) feeding only 35 children of 66 allotted as free meals by the 80-10 office. Asked why parents didn't know of their child's entitlement or why he had not been more aggressive about feeding the children, he replied, "I have to be careful not to encourage people to be bums."

At Dale Elementary School, one of the two poorest in the county, the principal said he had long since requested 100 extra free meals daily under Title II of the School Lunch Act, but had heard nothing. He was working a rotation system of the poor children, where some would eat free three days a week and do without the other two so everyone could share. He said he knew nothing of a policy that everyone eats regardless of ability to pay, and his cafeteria manager also expressed surprise at such an idea. She said she would find crust for the very hungry children who came begging in the morning, but was not authorized to give out milk without charging a penny. On the day I was there, the principal had just been told by the Federal Education (89-10) office that he could feed all the pupils for the rest of the year because he had restricted the program so carefully that he would have money left over at year's end.

Who were we to believe? Superintendent Trammel and Mrs. Patterson told us that 75 percent of the school children in the county were eating a hot lunch every day under all programs, or more than 7,000 daily, based on average daily attendance. According to state records, 6,246, or 66 percent is correct. Since the average number of elementary children eating daily in January was 3,735, this

means that about 3,300 meals are being eaten in the high schools, where the average daily attendance is 4,390. Yet at Robert Smalls High School alone there are more than 600 students who are not taking advantage of the hot lunch offered.

The more we checked, the more it became apparent that we had begun our investigation at a propitious moment for Mrs. Patterson. On December 11, 1968, she had met with all principals to inform them the state had received a dividend of Section 32 funds and they could increase their allotments of free meals. January figures for all schools showed a daily increase of 456 meals over December. At Robert Smalls High alone, the principal said he had given free tickets to the needy for the first time, and 210 were eating daily on this basis. (The ticket system being used was in clear violation of all Federal regulations.) He stated flatly that never had he heard of a policy of providing free meals to anyone who asked. He certainly had never publicized such a rule.

This conflict of information raises an important point: when the white establishment was asked why participation was so poor at the junior high and high school level, there were myriad reasons given, such as "embarrassment", "the girls are on a diet", or "the students prefer candy bars." The principals, at least the black ones usually said the students couldn't afford to eat and were ashamed to have that known. Principal Jackson at Smalls High said it was his unwritten policy that 11th and 12th graders were the last to get handouts because they were considered old enough to work after school in local industries if they wanted pocket money. He and every other principal also stationed faculty at the edges of the school yard during noon hour to prevent students from using nearby stores. Canteens are forbidden in the schools, though this was in violation in at least one case.

Where do the children go, and what do they eat, when they are not eating the hot lunch? No one seemed to know. In all the schools visited, I saw very few lunch boxes, and have no idea what was in them. If the general eating habits of the poor are reflected in those lunches, it seems safe to assume that their nutritional value was low, or at least well below the carefully-controlled hot lunch menu in nutrients.

Since the price of the lunch was lowered five cents (to 20 cents) in some schools in January, participation has gone up slightly. There is not a single school using a graduated-scale charge of the type suggested by USDA for use beginning February 1, 1969, and other required guidelines also were not in force.

There was an informal arrangement in elementary schools that seemed to take up the slack for many of the children. When money was collected in the morning, and lunch tickets given out (Hilton Head did not use tickets since about 98 percent of the children were eating daily) a child who could pay more than a few cents and was not entitled to a free meal was often subsidized by a teacher. It is not known how much is spent in this way every day, but it must be substantial as it was a practice in nearly every poverty-area school. About 30 students daily at Smalls High School had been on charity lunch tickets for months before the new fee allotments arrived, the principal said.

It is not fair to conclude from all this that we were deliberately lied to, or that Mrs. Patterson does not want to feed these children. She did say that she could not run any lunch program without the surplus commodities, which account for about 10 cents of the cost of every meal every day. She also could not get along without the cooperation of the county, which pays to transport the surpluses to Beaufort, paid for a modern freezer and cold storage depot to be built, and usually gives her anything she needs. Obviously, she is under budgetary restrictions faced by all school administrations, but she made no effort to appeal to us for more free lunch funds. The picture she painted was too rosy, since there is overt discrimination in some cases, as well as poor participation in some schools. Military efficiency in administration and impressive statistics sometimes seemed more important to her than a human approach to hungry bellies; she should have been out browbeating the principals (who were responsible for certifying the poverty children in their schools) to find and feed all the children in need.

Daufuskie Island: Mrs. Charlotte Patterson urged me to visit Daufuskie Island with her to observe their lunch program. Since the island was frequently mentioned by officials as an unusual responsibility, I accepted, despite time lost on the boat ride.

We hired a small outboard for the 30 minute ride across the inland waterway and landed at a rotting and dangerous dock owned by Constable Lance Burns. He proved to be the only white man I met as the island population (estimated at 35 families) except for two other couples, is Negro. He lent us one of the few

cars on the island, which has no paved roads, to drive to the school about 1 mile away. There I met and talked at length with Mrs. Julia Johnson, the principal teacher, who is the mainstay of the operation. (Burns later told me that if she should resign he is afraid it might be the end of the island community.)

Daufuskie has electric power from the mainland, but otherwise the island lives in another century. There is no running water, except from artesian wells, and no sanitation; the teachers estimated that more than half of the 35 children in the school have intestinal parasites, a fact confirmed by Dr. Gatch some months back. Except for Burns, no one on the island earns as much as \$3,000 a year, including Jake Washington who has 15 children (he is a TB case on pension). A 36-foot boat run by OEO makes three trips a week to Savannah and two to Bluffton from a public landing at the northern end of the island. Food stamps are purchased and groceries redeemed on Mondays three times a month by an estimated 15 families participating; the Friday boat takes those who need it to the Bluffton Health Clinic. Medical emergencies are relayed by Burns' short wave radio to the Sheriff in Beaufort and Dr. Gatch can come over by helicopter if necessary.

Mrs. Burns is paid by Beaufort County to run a school bus service (and postal service), arriving at the three-room school house at 8:30 each morning. The children are then fed a hot breakfast—cereal or grits—but never any fresh milk. Mrs. Patterson says she is reasonably successful at scrounging canned whole milk for this school, but usually has to settle for dry milk. (No attempt is made to send fresh milk over as the boat has no refrigeration.)

A full lunch is served everyone at noon, with one child out of 35 paying 25 cents. The paying guest is a boarder from the mainland whose father makes a good living and the other children apparently believe she pays because she is not an islander. As on the mainland, nutritional advice and menus are followed, but there has been some difficulty with the school cook, who may be fired.

Due to limited time, I was not able to visit with any of the families who had children in the school. However, I asked Mrs. Johnson what she thought the children were fed in the evening and she speculated that most of their food comes from the woods and ocean. Though a paper plant in the nearby Savannah River has polluted the oyster beds, mullet is easy to catch and serves as valuable protein. Most of the island men have guns for hunting rabbit, squirrel and raccoon.

Due to pollution of the oyster beds, Daufuskie has no local industry. One of the few men on the island who appears to have an adequate job, Lawrence Jenkins, works on a government dredge out of Savannah, commuting to the island on weekends, and boarding out a number of his children in mainland homes so they can attend high school. He has twin boys in the Daufuskie School, one of whom is thought to have eye trouble and the other an allergy to milk of any sort. Mrs. Johnson and Burns both maintain that Jenkins could get all the necessary medical care if he would only get the boy on the Friday boat to the mainland clinic; how he is to do that and remain on the job in Savannah I don't know. The case illustrates the unusual circumstances of island existence; the Public Health Nurse, Mrs. Pitts, is well thought of but can't bring sophisticated testing equipment to the island.

Another problem—local initiative—has been difficult to foster because of the wild nature of the island. A horse or a cow is not an uncommon possession for a family, but they must graze off the land because feed is expensive. These animals plus the large number of deer present have frustrated all attempts to grow home gardens since wire is also expensive. Burns has tried to solve this through a farm cooperative, one hundred acres set aside, and the government paying for wire and a tractor. He claims Earl Cherry of the Economic Opportunity Center in Beaufort has failed to move, but I fear that inertia is as much Burns' fault as Cherry's.

EXHIBITS

THE SOUTH CAROLINA COUNCIL ON HUMAN RELATIONS,
1420 Lady St., Columbia, South Carolina 29201,
February 27, 1969.

Mr. BERT WATERS,
Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs,
Old Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR BERT: Enclosed please find all of the information which you requested. I am in the process of trying to obtain reliable figures on the number of

children in South Carolina from families making less than \$3,000 per year, since all of these are supposed to be getting free or reduced-price lunches. But atleast the \$2,000 and under figures give you information on the poorest in the state.

With regard to my second recommendation on page four of my prepared statement (I have included a copy for you so that you will be sure to include all of my recommendations in the record), the following school districts in South Carolina have had their free lunches under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (Public Law 89-10) terminated:

School district	Number of children formerly receiving free lunches under title I of Public Law 89-10	Date terminated
1. Abbeville.....	183	January 1969.
2. Anderson No. 4.....	426	December 1968.
3. Barnwell No. 45.....	1 500	January 1969.
4. Dillon No. 2.....	2,830	December 1968.
5. Hampton No. 1.....	641	September 1968.
6. Lancaster.....	1,237	December 1968.
7. Saluda.....	630	September 1968.
Total.....	6,447	

¹ Plus 200 milk for high school.

Columbia, S.C., March 5, 1969.

DEAR BERT: I thought these figures on South Carolina's federal appropriation figures for this year's school feeding programs might be of interest.

On the basis of my figures on the number of children from families making less than \$2,000 a year, the cost to feed all of these kids free lunches for a year would be:

$$\begin{aligned} & 208,250 \times 180 \text{ (number of school days per year)} \\ & \times .25 \text{ (approximate average cost per lunch in South Carolina)} \\ & = \$9,371,250. \end{aligned}$$

This is, of course, not including any children from families between \$2,000 and \$3,000 a year. If you guess that there are another 100,000 such children in the state, that would be an additional \$4.5 million to feed them free.

It thus becomes quite clear that the program is far from being adequately funded.

Keep me informed of developments.

Sincerely,

PAUL W. MATTHIAS, Executive Director.

PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM BY SOUTH CAROLINA'S POOREST CHILDREN

Counties	Number of children ¹	Number of lunches ²
1. Abbeville.....	1,547	1,169
2. Aiken.....	5,776	2,527
3. Allendale.....	1,929	1,154
4. Anderson.....	4,939	2,853
5. Bamberg.....	2,409	1,593
6. Barnwell.....	2,442	692
7. Beaufort.....	3,048	2,053
8. Berkeley.....	4,836	4,216
9. Calhoun.....	2,885	2,045
10. Charleston.....	14,304	12,397
11. Cherokee.....	2,528	796
12. Chester.....	2,718	2,115
13. Chesterfield.....	4,931	1,853
14. Clarendon.....	6,008	3,851
15. Colleton.....	4,170	3,991
16. Darlington.....	6,831	3,254
17. Dillon.....	5,632	4,166
18. Dorchester.....	2,630	1,260
19. Edgefield.....	2,101	1,461
20. Fairfield.....	2,690	1,235
21. Florence.....	10,729	7,693
22. Georgetown.....	4,884	1,411
23. Greenville.....	7,072	3,836
24. Greenwood.....	2,759	2,414
25. Hampton.....	2,779	1,764
26. Horry.....	7,805	5,572
27. Jasper.....	1,670	1,675
28. Kershaw.....	3,835	1,639
29. Lancaster.....	2,117	1,872
30. Laurens.....	2,842	809
31. Lee.....	4,791	3,508
32. Lexington.....	2,963	9,926
33. McCormick.....	994	916
34. Marion.....	5,265	3,330
35. Marlboro.....	4,699	3,407
36. Newberry.....	2,480	1,939
37. Oconee.....	2,365	1,041
38. Orangeburg.....	9,693	7,396
39. Pickens.....	1,463	724
40. Richland.....	8,998	7,721
41. Saluda.....	933	33
42. Spartanburg.....	7,614	4,736
43. Sumter.....	8,545	5,708
44. Union.....	2,077	681
45. Williamsburg.....	10,006	5,650
46. York.....	4,518	2,337
Total.....	208,250	142,419

¹ Number of school-age children from families with incomes of less than \$2,000 per year. Provided by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Office in Columbia, S.C. (Numbers of children from families under \$3,000 were still being compiled.)

² Average number of free and reduced price lunches served daily during December 1968. Provided by the Office of the State School Lunch director in Columbia, S.C.

STATEMENT OF CHARLES E. FRASER, PRESIDENT, SEA PINES PLANTATION CO., HILTON HEAD, S.C.

Mr. FRASER. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, in an effort to acquire detailed knowledge of the problems surrounding control of intestinal worms in low-country areas, Sea Pines Plantation Co., in the fall of 1968, began the Pope community health project. At that time, the widespread presence of intestinal "worms" among the low-income groups in several Southeastern States was a well-documented phenomenon.

Nevertheless, the subject was a matter of considerable controversy, with doctors, professors, and officials differing publicly and privately over the importance of the problem, best methods of eradication, and who should finance alternative eradication programs if undertaken. Our "worm" involvement, in letterwriting campaigns with Federal agencies, had begun several years earlier.

We undertook our program as a civic effort to gain a better understanding of a problem in our area and to formulate our own recommendations as to practical proposals for correcting the problem. The following testimony presents the issues as we understand them.

THE EXTENT OF PARASITE INFESTATION

It is our opinion that conditions in Beaufort County are typical, rather than unusual. Our conservative estimate, based on available data, is that approximately 1 million persons in the Southeast are infested with intestinal parasites.

In Beaufort County, the rate of worm infestation is well documented. Studies by Dr. Donald Gatch, by the Penn Community Center, by Sea Pines Medical Center doctors working with Headstart, and by professors with the University of South Carolina all indicate that between 70 and 80 percent of the poor in Beaufort County have one or more species of parasites.

Our own tests in a program consisting of 13 participating families (79 persons) indicated that 75 percent had either *Ascaris*, "roundworm," or *Trichuris*, "whipworm," or both.

We should point out that the 13 families in our program were not chosen from among the most impoverished persons in the county. Family income ranged from \$2,000 per family to \$5,000 per family. Forty-one percent of the families in Beaufort County earn less than \$3,000 per year.

Eight of the 13 families are certified to receive food stamps, and six are participants in the Farmers Home Administration's housing programs. Four families have an indoor bath, and five have deep-well pumps. By low-country rural standards, the families in our program were relatively more prosperous than families in regions more remote from expanding job opportunities.

To carry our study further, we attempted to ascertain whether or not conditions in Beaufort County were unusual. A number of State public health departments and Federal agencies were contacted in an attempt to gather data on the extent of current parasite infestation in the Southeast. The scanty information that we received was neither thoroughly prepared nor complete.

It appeared appropriate to base our study on the premise that Beaufort County's soil conditions, climate, and income levels are quite typical of many counties throughout the southeastern coastal regions. Using geographic and economic information, we found that approximately 153 counties in seven States—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina—lie in coastal regions similar to the Beaufort area.

We examined the census data for these 153 counties and found that the number of rural persons, Negro and white, who belong to families that receive less than \$3,000 per year in the 153 counties totals 1,242,000.

If the rate of parasite infestation in these counties is similar to the rate in Beaufort County—and there is no reason to believe from published reports that the rate would differ—then it is clear that a distressingly large number of persons in the Southeast are infested with intestinal parasites. Applying the Beaufort rate of 70 percent to

80 percent to our figure of 1,242,000 results in an estimate of about 1 million persons with parasites.

The data reveals no reason to believe that Beaufort County is in worse condition or better condition than any of the other warm-area counties studied. Beaufort County ranks higher than 124 of the 153 study area counties for median number of years of school completed. Forty-two of the counties issued less public assistance than Beaufort County; 101 counties have a higher percentage of poor families, that is, those receiving less than \$3,000 a year. In brief, geographic, economic, and population statistics indicate that Beaufort County is typical of the counties that we have studied.

In all probability, our estimate is conservative. It does not include such States as Kentucky, where *Ascaris* is known to be widespread. And our own experience indicates that worm infestation is not limited to families earning less than \$3,000 per year.

A carefully prepared study in the 1940's estimated that approximately 3 million persons in North America were infested with *Ascaris*. This estimate would generally confirm our own. No matter how rough the estimate, a lot of people are involved.

THE EFFECTS OF PARASITE INFESTATION

Published medical reports state that the parasites that are common in our area act directly to deprive infested persons of nutrients, and that these parasites are important contributors to malnutrition.

A report submitted by a World Health Organization Expert Committee entitled "Control of Ascariasis," issued in Geneva in 1967, discusses the effects of *Ascaris* on nutrition:

Heavy infections (of *Ascaris*) have . . . been associated with stunting, general undernutrition and avitaminosis. Detailed laboratory work in animals has given ample support to these observations. Diminution in appetite has commonly been observed to occur in infected persons and can be a serious impediment to development, particularly in children living on sub-optimal or deficient diets.

From calculations that have been made in an experimental study in man, it seems that in children infested with 13-40 (average 26) worms, approximately four grams of protein was lost per day from a daily diet containing 35-40 grams of protein, as a result of the deleterious effect the worms have on protein digestion and absorption. In heavy infections, the metabolic demands of the worms themselves may be considerable, and may deprive the host of a further amount of protein, an amount that depends upon the weight of the infection, and may reach critical levels.

These observations are of such public health importance that the need for further studies is immediately evident.

A number of studies indicate that Ascariasis may contribute to vitamin A deficiency: children suffering from night blindness have been found to show rapid improvement in their eye symptoms within a few days of the elimination of the parasites.

Vitamin C deficiency has been associated with Ascariasis. Infected children have been shown to excrete a significantly lower amount of the vitamin, following a test dose, than do non-infected children.

There appears to be little doubt that heavy and moderately heavy Ascariasis infection constitutes a continuing drain upon the host's supply of nutriment, particularly proteins and certain vitamins, and that this is related to chronic undernutrition in young children. This drain may be particularly important in those whose nutritional demands are greatest, that is, young children, who would thus be in a less favorable situation to withstand other acute stresses and infections. The amount of protein lost to human beings throughout the tropical world as a result of these parasites must be of considerable proportions. If diverted from the parasites to their human hosts, it could not fail to bring considerable benefits to their health.

Further, medical texts and journals indicate that the parasites that are common in our area are important causes of infectious diseases, diarrhea, and dysentery. If the texts are correct, then these diseases and conditions, in turn, act "synergistically" with malnutrition to retard growth and development, and to shorten life expectancies.

The importance of *Ascaris* as a cause of disease and death among children has been emphasized in many reports. In the normal life cycle of *Ascaris*, the immature parasite "migrates" from the blood stream to the intestines by way of the lungs. Migration through the lungs is a frequent cause of hemorrhages and pneumonia-like pulmonary infections.

Once in the intestines, an *Ascaris* grows to a length of 6 inches to 14 inches. Fifty worms of this size in a child have been classed as a "moderate" case in a number of medical articles surveyed. The texts state that a wide variety of complications can occur, ranging from mild nausea, diarrhea, and elevation of temperatures to complete blockages of the intestines. A check of the "Cumulated Index Medicus" from 1961 through 1967 revealed articles on 39 suspected complications or direct effects of *Ascaris* infection.

Although less frequently discussed, published medical opinion indicates that *Trichuris* is a "common and unrecognized cause of diarrhea and severe dysentery in most areas where rates of infection are high."

If the texts and journals are accurate, then parasites are a major cause of infectious diseases in areas like Beaufort County, where infestation rates are high.

Perhaps more important, these infectious diseases can then apparently combine with malnutrition in a synergistic relationship to produce those conditions that are typical impoverished areas: high death rates, retarded growth and development of pre-school children, et cetera.

Dr. Nevin S. Scrimshaw of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has described the relationship of malnutrition and infection:

Malnutrition is generally synergistic with intestinal helminths

Any infection, no matter how mild, has a significant and relatively prolonged detrimental effect on persons already in a poor nutritional state. Conversely, malnutrition sufficient to retard growth and development even without clinical signs of nutritional deficiency will so reduce resistance to infection that increased morbidity and mortality result.

The combined effects (of malnutrition and infection) are more serious than would be predicted from the pathological behavior of either one alone. The interaction is truly synergistic.

Many local doctors with whom we consulted, however, indicated that most of the patients with *Ascaris* whom they had treated rarely have the infectious diseases reported in the texts and journals. They state that worm infestation actually results in infectious diseases or complications in an insignificant percentage of cases. Further, in contrast to the World Health Organization's 1967 report quoted earlier, they can see little direct correlation between parasites and malnutrition.

The local doctors' studies indicate direct evidence of correlation between malnutrition percentage rates by income levels of the various Negro communities, but far less evidence of local correlation between *Ascaris* infection and malnutrition rates among Headstart children.

We, as laymen, are not qualified to pass judgment on the relative merits of these varied medical positions. The journals and texts are, in fact, vague on the issue of the frequency with which infections and complications result from parasite infestation. And those few studies which attempt to relate *Ascaris* directly to malnutrition, have been conducted in foreign countries.

If we are correct in estimating that at least 1 million persons are infested with parasites, then we feel strongly that the medical professions and responsible Government agencies should be called upon to provide unambiguous data on the subject of parasite infestation. To allow these areas of knowledge to remain ambiguous is, in our opinion, gross negligence on the part of Federal, State, and private medical research agencies.

CURRENT PARASITE CONTROL ACTIVITIES

It is our firm conclusion that nothing of any substance is presently being undertaken in the United States to eradicate the continuing heavy worm infestation in children of low-income families.

In Beaufort County, the county health department provides free medical treatment with, for example, the drug Piperazine for parasite infestation whenever cases come to the attention of the public health nurses and doctors. In our program we have worked closely with the public health nurses, and we know that they carry out their duties energetically and conscientiously.

But the county health officer is the first to point out that, in all probability, his efforts are having little or no effect on the country's rate of parasite infestation.

He states that high rates of parasite infestation are part and parcel of the conditions of rural poverty. In homes without running water—and in many cases, without privies—children do not receive proper sanitary training and are careless in their defecation habits. The parasite ova contaminate the soil where the children play. The children are infested when they put their hands into their mouths, or when they track the polluted soil into houses and eat with dirty hands.

As a result, administering medicine to rid children of parasites has only a temporary effect. Within days the children are reinfested.

The county health officer maintains that medical efforts alone with individual patients are wasted unless they are supplemented by education in proper sanitary habits and elimination of eggs in the ground around houses, for which no practical method is now available. On this point doctors, health officials, and researchers seem to be in unanimous agreement.

It should be pointed out that, in this country, nothing of any importance is being written or done about the problem which the county health officer faces—how to formulate a program for the control of parasites.

A check of the "Cumulated Index Medicus" for 1961 through 1967 showed that 224 articles on the general subject of *Ascaris* were published in the U.S. journals during that period. Of these, not a single article describes the results of efforts to control *Ascaris* on a wide scale in this country.

The same check revealed that at least 18 articles were published in Russian journals on such subjects as "Results of the Five-Year

Work in Ukrainian S.S.R. in Defestation of the Population from Ascariasis and Prospects of Elimination of This Disease."

Like the general problem of hunger and malnutrition, the problem of controlling intestinal parasites has received more attention abroad than in the United States.

Nor can we find that anything of any significance has been done to provide educational materials which relate directly to parasite control.

A pamphlet published by the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare entitled "Selected Films on Child Life" lists 480 films which are considered to be of value for people and organizations in some field concerned with children. Not a single film in the book is concerned with intestinal parasites in children.

The University of South Carolina has, in the last few months, begun a program to produce educational material. Except for these efforts, we know of no films, lesson plans, pamphlets, visual aids, or curriculum studies which would be useful in any substantial educational program.

Finally, except for the routine treatment provided by public health departments and private practitioners, we were unable to find a single program conducted by a Government agency or a private organization which has as its objective, or lists as one of its objectives, the control of parasites.

MASS TREATMENT

We have sought from local, national, or other organizations a recommended program that we could institute on Hilton Head Island to promptly eradicate, through a privately funded program, the *Ascaris* roundworm so commonly found in local Negro children. We have received many discouraging answers. Yet one rare optimistic report, because of the eminent standing of its author, merits most serious consideration.

In a report for the World Health Organization published in 1961, Paul C. Beaver, professor of tropical diseases and hygiene and head of the Division of Parasitology, Department of Tropical Medicine and Public Health, Tulane University, reported the following eradication method through use of an existing medicine:

While the use of (medicines) in attempts to eradicate the soil-transmitted intestinal helminths as a group must await the development of more ideal drugs for *Trichuris* (whipworms) and hookworms, it apparently would be feasible to begin such a program against *Ascaris* (roundworm) at least in selected areas.

A recent field trial using Piperazine in periodic mass treatment in an isolated village in Mexico produced impressive results. All members of the population were given single doses at intervals somewhat shorter than the prepatent period of the worm, and the dosing was continued until there was no longer evidence of new infections being acquired from the store of infective eggs originally present in the soil.

Since Piperazine is highly effective (removing almost all young and old *Ascaris* roundworms from the intestine), is not toxic, can be made pleasant to taste, is readily available in large quantities, and is relatively inexpensive, and considering that Ascariasis is both damaging to health and extremely difficult to control by other means, mass treatment programs in areas where the *Ascaris* problem is particularly pressing could now be undertaken with the expectation of yielding significant benefits.

We can find, however, no case where Dr. Beaver's recommendation of mass treatment with Piperazine have been undertaken in the United

States. The doctors advising us on the Pope health project point out that Piperazine is a prescription drug in the United States, and cannot be administered to an individual without a doctor's prescription, ruling out, in their view, a local mass treatment program.

Nonetheless, they recommended that all infected Headstart children be treated with "an appropriate drug." Also, as pointed out by both Dr. Beaver and local doctors, infected individuals migrating into "our" areas so treated could reestablish, through their fecal matter, if deposited around a house, a school, et cetera, a new source of reinfection.

ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT AS A WEAPON

Dr. Beaver, in other parts of his 1961 World Health Organization report, sounds many notes of caution against over-optimism on eradication through Piperazine treatments despite the selected mass treatment technique he suggested. For example, he notes :

Control of intestinal parasites may be viewed as a stepwise operation which begins with populations whose major health problems are related to such basic needs as food, housing, and sanitation, and ends when these needs are so nearly satisfied that transmission of infection meets natural barriers. As the basic needs of the individual and community are provided, both the transmission and the effects of the worm infections diminish and eventually lose public health significance.

In transition stages, however, if climate and soil conditions are highly favorable to transmission, the problem of intestinal parasites will be an enduring one and may at times be aggravated by social and economic maladjustments * * *.

Our local studies indicate that improved job opportunities, and resulting improved family incomes among local rural Negroes, shows up quickly in improved nutritional conditions, but only slight worm infestation reductions, casting doubt on Dr. Beaver's view that improvement in basic needs can be depended on to lead to any speedy reduction of transmission of soil transmitted parasites.

In the relatively brief period that resort development on Hilton Head Island has been underway, the resulting increased per family income on this island, as compared with nearby Daufuskie Island—or Bluffton in the mainland nearby—is beginning to produce significant improvements in nutritional standards, but not in parasites.

While data is not totally reliable, it is likely that 15 years ago the nutritional standards of Negro preschool children of Bluffton, Hilton Head Island, and Daufuskie Island were virtually identical. Today there are sharp variations. The carefully conducted Headstart preschoolchildren medical examinations conducted at the Sea Pines Medical Center showed the following :

	Good nutritional status (percent)	Intestinal parasites
Daufuski Island (lowest Negro income group).....	27.0	8 positive/7 negative.
Bluffton (middle-range Negro income).....	64.0	10 positive/7 negative.
Hilton Head Island (above-average Negro income).....	87.0	18 positive/3 negative.
Average.....	70.4	78 percent.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

In our opinion, effective control of ascaris and trichuris in this country has not been undertaken for two reasons:

(1) Professionals disagree over the importance of ascaris and trichuris infestation.

(2) The demands of an effective program—that is, to provide decent sanitary facilities and effective hygiene education, in addition to widespread medical treatment—appears overwhelming.

We would suggest, however, that effective steps to begin to control parasites can be taken now. While we do not pose as “experts,” but as “interested citizens” we urge affected agencies and foundations to concentrate much more effort in this field, within the following zones of activity:

(1) Studies should begin immediately in this country to develop unambiguous data on the relationship of ascaris and trichuris infestation, and intensity of infestation, to malnutrition and to infection.

(2) Procedures for recording the incidences of parasites throughout the United States should be established. As a start, the children in Headstart programs in rural areas across the country should be checked for parasites this summer.

(3) The results of foreign programs to eradicate parasites should be made widely available to health officers in the United States.

(4) The funds and talents of Federal agencies and private organizations should be focused immediately on the need for educational materials and teaching techniques to educate parents on, for example, the relationship of young children’s backyard defecation habits with the stomach worm life cycle.

(5) The housing programs of the Farmers Home Administration should be encouraged. FHA offices in rural counties should receive the additional funds and personnel necessary to expedite their housing programs. Working closely with the FHA in South Carolina, we found that the majority of the families participating in our program were eligible for one or more of the FHA’s programs. These programs can supply either complete new housing or adequate sanitary facilities to a large number of people who now are burdened with parasites.

(6) Tulane University or other groups should be provided funds for demonstration and testing of mass ascaris eradication plans through piperazine dosages—perhaps once every 45 days for 18 months—of all possibly infected families on an entire county basis, to utilize or test the methods employed in certain other countries, or covered in medical research reports. We would welcome such mass medication, under properly supervised conditions, in Beaufort County.

Thank you, sir.

Senator YARBOROUGH. I am astounded at the high percentage of this worm involved. Forty or fifty years ago we used to call them “hookworms.” I gather from your statement that they are not all hookworms.

Mr. FRASER. There are hookworms still prevalent in the Southeast and other areas. They are not as frequent, however, as the ascaris or roundworm and hookworm.

In the test of 70 children for Headstart I believe only one of them had hookworms, but 18 out of 23 had other types of parasites.

The roundworm is a particularly obnoxious worm, growing from 6 to 14 inches in length, and the medical journals describe an infestation of 20 to 30 such roundworms in the intestines of one child as a "moderate" infection.

Senator YARBOROUGH. They call those tapeworms where I grew up.

Mr. FRASER. Possibly so.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Is that the same as a tapeworm?

Mr. FRASER. I have gotten accustomed to call this ascaris, and they say "roundworm." Whether this is the tapeworm that I heard about in my boyhood on the Georgia coast, I am not sure.

Senator YARBOROUGH. Something over 50 years ago there was a test all through the area where I grew up in East Texas, as that was mandatory in schools. They tested the children for hookworms, and they had treatments. We did not have compulsory school laws at that time. Not all children attended school, though most did. I would say 90 percent, white and black.

These were rigid tests, one of the most rigid things I ever saw in the public schools. They required that each child be tested. They were then given treatment for hookworms.

After some tests later, they came back for a survey, and they had eliminated them in that county. Certainly, the health of the children generally was greatly improved.

I had no idea where the money came from. I have been told that that was financed by the Rockefeller Foundation. It had a great and beneficial effect.

I wish you would comment on that.

Mr. FRASER. Some of the medical journals that I have recently read seem to indicate that the Rockefeller-financed hookworm report and efforts did create substantial benefits at that time, and, therefore, everyone went to sleep, assuming that the problem had been eradicated.

Everyone has now forgotten about the problem of intestinal parasites. Our studies indicate that probably at least 1 million children in the United States, heavily in the southeastern States, are infected today by the roundworm and the whipworm.

In our own county of Beaufort, infestation rates can get up to as high as 80 and 90 percent in certain localities.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you for your statement, Mr. Fraser. I read your statement in advance. It is an excellent and complete statement. I think your recommendations are sound and will be very helpful to us.

Is it my understanding that the company you serve as president of is essentially a resort community? Is Hilton Head basically a resort area?

Mr. FRASER. Yes. Sea Pines Plantation Co. is a somewhat deceptive name. We don't grow pine trees. We grow golf courses and tennis courts and things like that.

The CHAIRMAN. So it is a resort area?

Mr. FRASER. Right.

The CHAIRMAN. Do I understand from your statement that it is your view that this worm problem is a generally prevalent problem all across the South?

Mr. FRASER. That is right. Medical journals are full of reports of the problem, but records are not being adequately kept. Records are impossible to obtain on the exact rate of infestation throughout the South. But from studies which we made, trying to take the best available correlations, we estimate that at least 1 million children today have serious infections of either roundworms or hookworms and in many cases both.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you and your business associates involved in agriculture at all?

Mr. FRASER. No, not at all.

The CHAIRMAN. I think you state in your testimony that nothing is being undertaken in the United States to eradicate the continuing heavy worm infestation in children of low-income families.

Mr. FRASER. Other than individual treatment of an occasional child.

The CHAIRMAN. Nothing in the way of a public effort?

Mr. FRASER. That is right. We have had researchers check the medical library journals, the Cumulated Index Medicus, which lists thousands and thousands of different medical journals. We have written to public health departments throughout the country. We have telephoned public health departments throughout the country. We can find no record in print. We can get no correspondence or telephone communication which could indicate to us that any program comparable to that being reported in the foreign-language medical journals as apparently taking place in foreign countries is underway anywhere in the United States today.

If we can find it, we hope it would be medical studies by appropriate agencies and translated into other communities as well.

The CHAIRMAN. Don't you think that is in painful contrast with the fact that for many years we have had a rather extensive and well-funded program to eliminate worms and parasites from our livestock in this country, from cattle and hogs? There is all kinds of literature printed on it, with agricultural yearbooks devoted entirely to that subject. There have been scores of bulletins and technicians available with public financing. Are you aware of that kind of elaborate program with reference to cattle and hogs?

Mr. FRASER. In 1965 I wrote several agencies in Washington pointing out that a poor family could borrow \$1,500 to build a new pig sty under the OEO programs, but could not borrow \$1,500 to install a pump, a well, a bathroom and a hot water heater in their own house. We have ignored the problem. It is a nasty problem.

If I brought in a jar of one child's roundworms, a great many people would be thoroughly nauseated by it. It is not good dinner table conversation. It is the sort of thing that is left unsaid, undiscussed and unreported throughout the United States.

The CHAIRMAN. I must say after listening to these facts, these reports from you and other witnesses who have been here from South Carolina—and we have known generally about this condition, I think, for a long time—I think all of us ought to feel a real sense of guilt, that we have placed so much higher priority on eradicating worms and parasites from our livestock than we have from our children. It is an intolerable situation.

I would hope that every one of us would feel some sense of urgency about developing a little better scale of values in dealing with that problem.

Thank you very much for your testimony, Mr. Fraser.

I just want to say in conclusion that the testimony of all of the witnesses from South Carolina, beginning with Senator Hollings, has been most helpful to our committee, and those who testified today with reference to the food stamp program have given a special insight into the shortcomings of that program.

I think yesterday we scored a historic breakthrough on the hunger front in this country when, for the first time, the Department of Agriculture agreed to provide free food stamps to our neediest families in Jasper and Beaufort Counties. That can become the basis for similar efforts elsewhere in the country. The limitations now, of course, are the funds available to the Department of Agriculture, the cooperation of local and State governments, and the degree of support that we can muster here in the Congress.

But I would hope that in these initial pilot programs in South Carolina we would try to develop the best possible guidelines so that we can gain an operating experience that can be useful elsewhere in the country.

Some of the testimony here today has indicated the need for more than once-a-month distribution of these stamps. Other testimony has indicated the transportation problem, the information problem involved. It would be my hope that since we are pioneering in Beaufort and Jasper Counties, hopefully with the full cooperation of the State and local officials, that this can be as ideally operated a program as we can make it.

I do want to again thank the South Carolina witnesses for being tremendously helpful to this committee.

We will stand adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 12:55 p.m., the committee recessed, to reconvene at the call of the Chair.)

APPENDIX A

MATERIAL SUBMITTED BY MRS. LANDON BUTLER

A REPORT ON THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE FOOD STAMP ACT OF 1964, AS AMENDED

INTRODUCTION

P.L. 90-552, approved October 8, 1968, amended the Food Stamp Act of 1964. Among other provisions, it requires that on or before January 20 of each year, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to the Congress a report setting forth operations under the Food Stamp Act during the preceding calendar year and projecting needs for the ensuing calendar year.

This is the first annual report submitted to the Congress under the provisions of P.L. 90-552.

PROGRAM OPERATIONS DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1968

Number of food stamp areas.—There was a substantial increase in the number of areas operating a Food Stamp Program in the calendar year 1968.

In January 1968, a total of 848 food stamp areas were in operation in 41 States and the District of Columbia. In December 1968, a total of 1,219 food stamp areas were in operation in 42 States and the District of Columbia.

At the end of calendar 1968, an additional 334 areas had been approved for participation and USDA representatives were working with State and local officials to help them finalize their plans for the opening of these new programs.

If State welfare agencies are able to meet their schedules, a total of 1,553 food stamp areas will be in operation by June 30, 1969.

The designation of additional areas for participation in the latter part of calendar year 1969 will depend upon the level of funding authorized for the program for the fiscal year 1970.

Program participation.—At the beginning of calendar year 1968, a total of 2.2 million persons were participating in the Food Stamp Program.

By October 1968, participation had increased to 2.7 million persons. When information is available on the level of participation in December, it is expected to be at least 100,000 more than in October.

Participating Retailers and Wholesalers.—The number of participating retailers and wholesalers increased from 72,000 at the beginning of calendar 1968 to 90,000 in December 1968.

The Consumer and Marketing Service individually authorizes each store that wishes to accept food coupons to insure that store owners understand their obligations under the program. C&MS will authorize any retail food store in the area that wants to accept food coupons and almost all food stores do elect to participate.

Food wholesalers are authorized by C&MS to act as an intermediate coupon redemption agent for a retailer if the wholesale firm wishes to provide this service to retailers. Most retailers redeem their coupons through the commercial banks in the area. Through the cooperation of the commercial banking system, retailers are able to promptly redeem for cash (or for deposit) the coupons they accept from participating families.

C&MS is also directly responsible for the supervision of participating food retailers and wholesalers. Personnel located in field offices—each office covers an average of four or five operating areas—carry out this responsibility at the local level. Every effort is made to obtain voluntary compliance with regulations and restrictions on the use of the food coupons. However, if store owners do violate these regulations, the Act provides that they may be disqualified.

A high level of cooperation is obtained from retail food stores. Since the passage of the Act in 1964, it has been necessary to disqualify only 480 stores for periods ranging from 30 days to three years. Another 1,345 stores have received an official warning because of the minor nature of the violations that took place. On the other hand, a total of 1,152 stores for which available evidence indicated violations might be taking place, were found to be free of violations.

Funding Limitation.—During the calendar year 1968, funding limitations made it necessary to defer the opening of 136 new food stamp areas. These areas had been approved for participation in December 1967, and were scheduled to open during the summer of 1968.

This deferment action was necessary because actions, taken in July 1967, to increase participation in operating areas were more effective than had been anticipated.

The deferment of the opening of these 136 areas was lifted by the Department in October 1968, when final action of the 1969 fiscal year appropriation for the program was completed.

Program Modifications.—The two major program modifications which helped to extend the program to more needy people early in calendar year 1968 were announced by the Department in July 1967. These modifications were:

(a) Reduction in the minimum purchase requirement to 50 cents per person per month (up to a total of \$3 a month for a family of six or more). The previous minimum purchase requirement had been \$2 per person per month, with a family maximum of \$16 a month.

(b) Reduction in the first month's purchase requirement for all families entering the program for the first time to half the regular monthly purchase requirement. This reduction applied to new families purchasing coupons on a semi-monthly or weekly basis as well as to those who purchased coupons on a monthly basis.

In addition to these program changes, the Department had intensified its efforts to assist State and local welfare agencies in an outreach program to bring more eligible families into the program. *In addition to field personnel of the Consumer and Marketing Service—the Department agency responsible for administration of the program—the resources of the State and county Technical Action Panels were used in this outreach effort.* In selected areas, low-income people were employed on a part-time basis to work with other low-income families in their own communities.

During the calendar year additional modifications were made to increase program effectiveness. The two principal administrative modifications were:

(a) authority was provided to State welfare agencies to provide a prompt and preliminary certification to obviously needy families, with a 30-day time period in which to make the final eligibility determination;

(b) increased authority to States to issue coupons by mail. The Department agreed to underwrite the value of any coupons lost in the mail if the State observed minimum security standards. These minimum standards required that the coupons be mailed under the first-class postage rate.

A major program modification was announced by the Department in December 1968—to be effective not earlier than February 1969. The timing of this modification was designed to provide the necessary lead time to State welfare agencies to plan for the local implementation of the modification.

This program modification reduced purchase requirements and increased bonus coupon allotments for families with less than \$70 a month in income. It resulted from an intensive review within the Department of current purchase requirements and total coupon allotments authorized for participating families. The group undertaking the review concluded that low-income families will spend less for food than we had previously assumed if their expenditure patterns were considered over time.

This review, together with our program experience, indicated that month after month, most of the poor would be able to allocate about 24 to 33 percent of their income for food, depending upon family size and level of income. It was also concluded that bonus coupons allotments for families in the lowest income ranges should be increased in order to increase the total food stamp purchasing power of such families. The recommended increase was to be the first in a series of increases which would be necessary to insure that the stamp purchasing power of all participating families was in line with the full cost of a low-cost adequate diet.

When the cost of full implementation of the recommended issuance schedule changes were projected, it was estimated that an additional one million people could be brought into the program. It, therefore, would have required the program to be funded at its authorized level of \$315 million in 1969 and over \$500 million would have been required to provide full-year financing of the recommended modifications in 1970.

A total of \$280 million was appropriated for the program in 1969 and the maximum authorization for the program in 1970 was established at \$340 million. *Within these funding levels, the modifications announced in December 1968 represented a partial implementation of the recommended changes and the changes were limited to families with incomes of less than \$70 a month.*

Table A which accompanies this report shows the specific changes that were authorized in the December announcement.

PROGRAM FUNDING—CALENDAR 1969

The Food Stamp Act now authorizes a maximum appropriation of \$340 million for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, and a maximum authorization of \$170 million for the six months of July-December 1970. Action by the Congress to further amend the Food Stamp Act will be necessary to authorize appropriations for periods subsequent to December 1970.

It is now estimated that it will require about \$325 million in fiscal 1970 to finance the program scheduled to be in operation by the end of the fiscal year 1969, i.e., June 30, 1969. If the full \$340 million appropriation authorized for fiscal 1970 is appropriated, some additional areas can be approved for participation in fiscal 1970. In the absence of any amendment to the Food Stamp Act, the number of additional areas that could be designated in the latter half of calendar 1969 would need to be limited to those that could be funded at an annual rate of \$340 million during fiscal 1970 and the first half of fiscal 1971.

As an alternative in 1970, no new designations could be made—using the unallocated fund of approximately \$15 million to make additional program changes. That amount would not be sufficient to make any major modification in the program in fiscal 1970.

FUTURE PROGRAM NEEDS

Action should be taken now to place the Food Stamp Program on a sound legislative base—one on which concerned Federal, State and local agencies can plan for the future expansion and improvement in the program.

The Food Stamp Program should be operated in every county in the 50 States, replacing the Commodity Distribution Program for needy families.

The cost of the coupons should be reduced as soon as possible.

Bonus levels should be progressively increased until all participating families are provided with the full purchasing power for a low-cost diet.

National minimum eligibility standards should be authorized in the Food Stamp Act.

Authority should be provided to the Secretary of Agriculture to directly operate the program in an area when State or local authorities will not accept responsibility for it.

Consideration should be given to the increased sharing by the Federal Government of the costs of intrastate program administration, especially for the lowest income counties. If such increased Federal payments were provided States and localities should be required to offer certain minimum levels of certification and issuance services to eligible households and should be required to undertake a continuing outreach effort to maximize the participation among those that are in need of food assistance.

Supportive foods and nutrition education program for poor families should be expanded and strengthened.

In addition to the specific legislative changes outlined above, the uncertainties of Federal financial support should be eliminated. Permanent appropriation authorities should be provided similar to those provided in the National School Lunch Act. Congress should also be free to determine during each annual appropriation process the actual level of funds required for the program in the ensuing fiscal year. Limiting several years in advance the maximum amounts that may be appropriated in specific fiscal years substantially limits the ability of the program and its Federal, State and local administrators to meeting the evolving food and nutrition needs of the poor.

TABLE A.—FOOD STAMP PROGRAM: MODIFICATIONS IN THE BASIS OF COUPON ISSUANCE ANNOUNCED IN DECEMBER 1968

Monthly net income	4-PERSON HOUSEHOLD IN THE NORTH					
	Current			Effective Feb. 1, 1969		
	Purchase	Bonus	Total	Purchase	Bonus	Total
Under \$20.....	\$2	\$50	\$52	\$2	\$58	\$60
\$20 to \$29.99.....	8	44	52	6	54	60
\$30 to \$39.99.....	14	42	56	10	52	62
\$40 to \$49.99.....	20	40	60	14	48	62
\$50 to \$59.99.....	24	40	64	20	44	64
\$60 to \$69.99.....	28	38	66	26	40	66

Monthly net income	4-PERSON HOUSEHOLD IN THE SOUTH					
	Current			Effective Feb. 1, 1969		
	Purchase	Bonus	Total	Purchase	Bonus	Total
Under \$30.....	\$2	\$46	\$48	\$2	\$56	\$58
\$30 to \$39.99.....	10	42	52	8	50	58
\$40 to \$49.99.....	16	40	56	12	48	60
\$50 to \$59.99.....	22	36	58	18	42	60
\$60 to \$69.99.....	26	34	60	24	38	62

HANDBOOK ON FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

(The South Carolina State Department of Public Welfare, Revised April 1968)

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Introduction

A permanent Food Stamp Program, administered nationally by the Consumer and Marketing Service (C&MS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was enacted into being by the Food Stamp Act of 1964. The program is a voluntary one, and expansion is based upon request from the states and the amount of funds made available by Congress. The program operates at the county level, utilizing local resources under the guidance and active participation of local, state and federal agencies.

2. Purpose

The Food Stamp Program is designed to improve the nutrition of low-income families by increasing their food purchasing ability and thereby to expand the utilization of the nation's agricultural abundances by enlarging the market for foods. Thus, the program has two basic purposes—safeguarding the health of the nation's low-income families through better nutrition, and increasing the flow of food from the nation's farms through normal trade channels.

Nutrition education is promoted under the Food Stamp Program through local cooperating agencies (such as the county welfare department, county health department, county office of the home demonstration agent, etc.) so that low-income families will have instruction and assistance in utilizing their increased purchase ability. An organized nutrition education committee is encouraged to disseminate information on menu planning, food purchasing, and food preparation.

So that eligible households will boost their food expenditures, they are required to buy some coupons. The amount of coupons the households are required to buy is related to the amount of money they could normally be expected to spend for eligible foods under the Food Stamp Program. They are issued an additional amount of coupons to permit them to purchase more and better foods. Families thus use their coupons to increase their food purchases—not as a substitute for the usual food expenditures.

3. Assurances

(a) The Food Stamp Program is designed to provide *additional* food assistance to both public assistance households and low-income non-assistance households, and shall not be used in any manner to reduce or replace any aid or assistance provided through existing welfare programs.

(b) In the determination of the eligibility of applicant households for the Food Stamp Program, there shall be no discrimination against any household by reason of race, religious creed, national origin, or political beliefs.

(c) The value of the bonus coupon allotment provided to any eligible household which is in excess of the amount charged such households for such allotment shall not be considered to be income or resources for any purpose under any federal or state laws, including but not limited to, laws relating to taxation, welfare, and public assistance programs.

4. Organization

The Food Stamp Program is administered by the South Carolina State Department of Public Welfare through its county departments.

The local county department, under the supervision of the state department shall have the direct responsibility of determining the eligibility of applicants; of periodically reviewing such determination; and of issuing food coupons to those certified.

The Consumer and Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, under its responsibility of the over-all administration of the Food Stamp Program, will work with the South Carolina State Department of Public Welfare, make periodic reviews and evaluations, including audits of all phases of program operation within the designated areas. The Consumer and Marketing Service shall be solely responsible for the authorization of the food trades for participation in the Food Stamp Program.

5. Definitions

For purposes of the Food Stamp Program the following definitions of terms will apply:

(a) *Food Coupons* (referred to interchangeably as Food Stamps) are obligations of the United States Government printed for issuance to eligible households for the purpose of purchasing food under the Food Stamp Program.

(b) *Coupon Allotment* means the total value of coupons issued to a household during each month.

(c) *Purchase Requirement* means the amount to be paid by an eligible household for its coupon allotment.

(d) *Free Coupons (Bonus)* means that portion of the coupon allotment that is in excess of the amount paid by an eligible household for its coupon allotment.

(e) *Household*: A group of related or non-related individuals who are not residents of an institution or boarding house but are living as one economic unit, sharing common cooking facilities, and for whom food is customarily purchased in common, is defined as a household. It may mean an individual living alone who has cooking facilities and who purchases and prepares food for home consumption.

(f) *Public Assistance Households*: "Households in which all members thereof are recipients of welfare assistance under (1) federally-aided public assistance programs, or (2) State or local general assistance program applying the criteria of need which are the same as, or similar to, those applied under any such federally-aided programs, shall be determined to be low-income households, and, therefore, eligible to participate in the Program while receiving such benefits." This definition is deemed to include "Essential persons" so defined in the South Carolina Public Assistance Manual. The presence of a roomer or boarder shall not affect the classification of a Public Assistance Household.

(g) *Combination Households* are households in which at least one member but less than all members are recipients of Public Assistance Payments. "Essential persons" living in Combination Households will be considered as Public Assistance Recipients.

(h) *Non-Assistance Households* are households in which no member is a recipient of a Public Assistance Payment.

(i) *Authorization to Purchase (ATP)* means the form issued to an eligible household by the county department of public welfare authorizing the purchase of food coupons and specifying the amount of the coupon allotment and the period of validity of the authorization.

(j) *Head of Household* means the person who normally assumes the responsibility for the financial support or management of the household. He or she will sign the application.

(k) *Applicant (Recipient)* means the head of the household in whose name application is made for participation in the Food Stamp Program.

(l) *Designated Representative (Agent)* means a member of the applicant's household specifically authorized by the head of the household to purchase and use food coupons for the benefit of the household.

(m) *Authorized Proxy*: "In most instances, the husband or person responsible for the financial support of the household will be designated as the head of the household to make application and to sign the Identification Card (FSP-101). The head of the household may designate other persons of the household to act in his behalf in purchasing and using the food coupons. The head of the household, provided the caseworker approves his request, may designate as a proxy someone outside of the household.

Such request, along with a statement indicating the need of a proxy, will be documented in the case file. Under normal circumstances, a person may not be designated as a proxy for more than one certified household during the eligibility period of the specific household; however, in Beaufort County and other counties as may be designated by the State Director, State Department of Public Welfare, where transportation to and from the issuance office and/or other factors work an unusual hardship on the household, a multifamily proxy can be designated for participating households, not to exceed five households per proxy in a vicinity. Multi-family proxies must be approved by either the County Welfare Director or by a designated representative and their need fully documented in the file. No person who may benefit directly from the Food Stamp Program may act as proxy (i.e., a grocer or any member of his family) unless they are a court appointed guardian.

(n) *Residing in the county* means the maintenance of a living arrangement within the territorial boundaries of the county with intent to remain there during the period of certification of food stamp eligibility.

(o) *Cooking facilities* means the basic necessities for the preparation of cooked foods. They may be available to the household on a joint use basis and not necessarily the personal possession of the applicant. An example would be in separate maintenance households that share cooking facilities.

B. INCOME AND RESOURCES

The prediction of future income is a fundamental precept in determining the need criteria of eligibility for the Food Stamp Program. Normally, the most recent income history is the best indication of what future income may be for the purpose of establishing eligibility and subsequently for determining the basis of issuance of the food coupons. However, there may be cases where the anticipated future income is substantially lower or higher than past income. In such circumstances (caused by loss of employment, lay-off, sudden illness, strike, etc., for lower income or the finding of full or part time employment, raise, etc., for higher income), an estimate of the probable future income of the home should be computed and utilized until such time as it can be verified and documented and until a pattern of the new monthly income is established.

1. *Net income*

Is defined as gross income minus mandatory deductions such as state and federal income taxes, OASDI, union dues and other items not elective on the part of the employee. The monthly net income is obtained by multiplying weekly net by $4\frac{1}{3}$.

2. *Household income*

This is the total net income of all members of the household, including public assistance grants and any other income.

3. *Special considerations*

In arriving at adjusted net income, other income deductions which should be considered in each case are as follows:

Medical expenses.—Such as those for physician and dental services; hospitalization; nursing care in the home; prescribed medication; health insurance and Medicare payments.

Shelter expenses.—If the monthly shelter cost exceeds 30 per cent of the household's monthly net income, deduct the shelter payment in excess of 30 per cent from the monthly net income before testing the income against the exclusion scale, and also before determining the basis of issuance of food stamps. Shelter is defined to include rent charged or costs of ownership on an as-paid basis. It also includes lights, fuel, and water as verified by the bill. Cost of a telephone is not considered a utility unless it can be properly verified and documented as an absolute necessity for emergency purposes due to the health of at least one member of the household.

Care of children.—Wages or fees paid for care of young children in or out of the home, such as those for a maid, day care center, nursery school or in a neighbor's home, when this is required in order to enable the person to leave home and work.

Deductions cannot be made from wages to allow for the care of children to relatives in the home who would normally be expected to give such care. The attendant's individual income is not to be counted as household income. If the attendant lives as part of the household, then he is classified as a boarder (payment already accounted for) and included when determining household size and coupon basis of issuance.

4. *Hardship provisions*

In some instances, a household will have unusual non-food expenditures which will affect either the eligibility of the household for participation in the program, or seriously limit its ability to purchase food at a level normally to be expected in relation to its income. These expenditures may exist because of loss in a disaster, such as fire, flood, or tornado, or loss of tools of the trade. Such hardships or other unusual non-food expenditures may exist and be deducted either for establishing eligibility and/or for adjusting the basis of coupon issuance, if justified and approved by the county director of public welfare or their assigned supervisor(s). All such hardship adjustments shall be documented in the Food Stamp Program Case File, and shall be periodically reviewed to determine the continuing need for such adjustments.

5. *Farm income*

This is the gross income minus the cost of production of crops and deductions for federal and state income taxes and the Social Security self-employment tax. Farm income will be applicable to farm owners, renters and sharecroppers. The income will be prorated over twelve months.

6. *Income from self-employment*

Income from self-employment will be figured on the gross income minus expenses incurred in producing the income, federal and state income tax and social security self-employment tax. This income will be prorated over a 12-month period.

7. *Income from roomers and boarders*

The total payment to the household from roomers and boarders is income and must be considered in arriving at net income and determining eligibility.

The personal income of the roomer and boarder, however, is not of consideration.

(a) *Roomers.*—The total payment by roomers to the household shall be added to any other income of the household, but the roomers shall not be considered as members of the household for purposes of determining the eligibility of the household or its basis of coupon issuance.

(b) *Boarders.*—The total payment of the boarder to the household shall be added to the income of the household and the boarder shall be included as a member of the household when determining its eligibility or basis of coupon issuance.

In cases where a parent or an employed child (over 18 years of age) of the head of the household is (are) living in the household but (by virtue of their proportionate contribution to the household) are an addendum to rather than an integral part of the household, the following amounts of the income of such persons shall be considered as being available to the household:

If the actual contribution is known, this amount will be used regardless of the size of income and such contributions will be verified by a statement from both the relative and the head of the household as to the amount of the contribution to the household. If the actual amount of the contribution is not known the following schedule will apply:

(1) From an income of \$150.00 per month or less, use one-half or \$50.00, whichever is less.

(2) For an income greater than \$150.00 use \$50.00 per month, plus 10% (ten percent) of all income in excess of \$150.00 per month.

8. *Income in kind*

This is money given an individual or family for specific needs such as shelter cost, utilities, etc., by friends, relatives or agencies. This is considered as income whether it comes to the individual or family or is paid directly to the landlord, utility company, etc.

9. Provisions for households participation in programs under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964

(a) The households in which all members are recipients of assistance from grants under the Work Experience Training Program (Title V) will be defined as a Public Assistance Household.

(b) The State Agency is authorized to disregard the following amounts of income in determining the eligibility of households and the basis for issuing coupons to such households:

(1) The first \$85.00 per month plus one-half of the excess over \$85.00 income earned by a member of the household by reason of his enrollment in the Neighborhood Youth Corps. (Title I-B). Any income in excess of the disregarded amount cannot be considered available to the head of the household unless the person who earns the money voluntarily makes the money available.

(2) Any portion of a grant made to a household under the Work Experience Training Program (Title V) which was included as a budgeted need item to meet special costs incurred by reason of participation in such training programs. This might include such items as child care which is actually purchased, cost of transportation, special tools, equipment or supplies.

(3) In determining eligibility for the Food Stamp Program regarding income from Job Corps (Title I-A), Work Study Program (Title I-C), and Community Action Program (Title II-A), the method for disregarding income is as follows:

(a) Deduct non-personal work expense.

(b) Disregard the first \$85.00 per month and one-half of the excess above \$85.00.

(c) Deduct personal work expenses as outlined in the Public Assistance Manual for any other type of work.

(d) Take any remainder into consideration in determining eligibility for the Food Stamp Program.

In determining the basis of coupon issuance, the income received in the household for the Job Corps (Title I-A), Work Study Programs (Title I-C), and Community Action Programs (Title II-A) shall be included as income to the household, except that portion of such income which was included as a budgeted need to meet special costs incurred by reasons of participation in the above programs.

(4) Income earned through participation in the activities under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, will be treated as follows:

(a) In determining *eligibility*, the first \$85.00 earned by an individual in any month for services charged to this program shall be disregarded for a period not to exceed 24 months.

(b) In determining *basis of issuance*, the total amount of earnings under this program will be counted as income to the household.

(5) Income earned through participation in training programs under the Manpower Development and Training Act (MDTA) of 1962 as amended, is to be treated as follows:

(a) *Regular training allowance* (a cash grant to the trainee which may not be paid to a current recipient of public assistance)—Such income is to be considered as any other income of a non-assistance household in determining eligibility and basis of coupon issuance.

(b) *Youth training allowance* (To a youth who is not eligible for a regular training allowance)—Disregard this allowance.

(c) *Training incentive payment* (a payment of not more than \$20.00 per week to a person receiving public assistance payments or on whose behalf payments are being made, who is participating in an MDTA program)—Such payment is disregarded, in accordance with public assistance policy, in determining eligibility but is included as any other household income in determining the basis for coupon issuance.

(d) *Supplemental allowances* (additional allowance made to a trainee under MDTA to defray expenses attributable to training, such as transportation, subsistence away from home or cost of special equipment or clothing)—Such an allowance is to be disregarded both in determining eligibility and in establishing the basis of coupon issuance.

(6) Recipients of Grants Under Title III Projects:

(a) In determining eligibility only, the total amount of any grant made to a family under Title III shall be disregarded.

(b) In determining basis of issuance, the total amount of earnings under this program will be counted as income to the household except that portion of such income which was included as a budgeted need to meet special costs incurred by reasons of participation in the above programs.

(7) Recipients of Loans Under Title III Projects: In determining eligibility and basis of issuance, disregard that portion of a Title III loan which is made under conditions specified by the creditors as to the purchases that may be made, purposes to be fulfilled, or other controls which preclude the recipient from using the funds to meet his current living expenses.

10. Income limitations

(a) Non-assistance households consisting entirely of non-assistance recipients are eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program when the combined net income and resources of all members of the households do not exceed the amounts specified below.

(b) Non-assistance households consisting of public assistance and non-public assistance recipients are eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program when the combined net income and resources of the non-public assistance members do not exceed the amounts specified below:

Number of NPA persons in household:	Net monthly income
1 -----	\$100
2 -----	130
3 -----	140
4 -----	160
5 -----	180
6 -----	200
7 -----	225
8 -----	250
9 -----	275
10 or more -----	300

Total income in any household is not to exceed \$300.

11. Allowable resources

Cash monies in the bank, savings bonds, and all other liquid assets must be considered in determining eligibility of non-assistance households.

(a) A single recipient may retain liquid assets in the maximum amount of \$750.00. Any amount in excess of \$750.00 will cause the recipient to be ineligible until such time that the excess is used.

(b) A man and wife who are living together may retain liquid assets in the maximum amount of \$1000.00. Any amount in excess of the maximum will cause the couple to be ineligible until such time that the excess is used.

(c) A recipient with dependent children may retain liquid assets in the amount of \$1000.00. Any amount in excess of the maximum will cause the family to be ineligible.

C. DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY

The determination of eligibility to participate in the Food Stamp Program will be made on the basis of households. The type of household involved will dictate the procedures to be used in making such eligibility determinations.

For the purpose of determining eligibility for participation in the Food Stamp Program, all members of a household sharing a common eating arrangement including the preparation and purchase of food are considered as a unit, and one application is taken for the group. This process is known as the consolidation of households.

A merchant cannot be authorized to accept food coupons and be a recipient at the same time.

1. Public assistance households

All Public Assistance Households shall be determined to be low-income households and, therefore, eligible to participate in the program while receiving Public assistance payments, provided they are not living on a room and board basis in a private home or a licensed group care facility, and provided they have cooking facilities available. The presence of a roomer or boarder shall not affect the classification of such households.

2. Eligibility factors for combination and non-assistance households

Eligibility of low income non-assistance households and combination households is based on the following six factors:

- (a) Number of persons in applicant household in relation to net income and resources.
- (b) Liquid assets (resources) available to household (as defined on Page 9)
- (c) Total verified monthly income of household
- (d) Residence in participating county
- (e) Availability of cooking facilities
- (f) Work Requirement: All employable members may be required to register with the Employment Service and to accept employment and to report promptly any changes in income or resources. Eligibility will not be affected if refusal to accept offered employment is for one or more of the following reasons: The job is not fitted to the mental or physical capacity of the household member; the work requires skills or training which the household member does not have; the employment is considered dangerous for that member; the place of employment is so far from his house that the family would receive little benefit from such employment; the wage offered is below the standard compensation for similar employment in the area.

3. Determination procedure—non-assistance households

To determine the eligibility of households in which no members receive public assistance payments:

- (a) Total the number of persons in the household, their net income and other resources.
- (b) Refer to the Income Exclusion Scale and Allowable Reserve on Page 9.

4. Determination procedure—combination household

Members of a combination household who are recipients of public assistance payments are, in their own right, eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program. However, since eligibility is determined on the basis of households, and not individuals, consideration must be given to the non-assistance portion of the combination household and their respective income and other resources. The procedure for making this eligibility determination is as follows:

- (a) Itemize all members of the household with their respective income and other resources.
- (b) Separate the household into two categories, assistance and non-assistance, making sure that all persons sharing in the public assistance grant are included in the assistance category. "Essential Persons" shall be included in the assistance category.
- (c) Total the non-assistance portion of the household, their income and other resources.
- (d) Refer to the Income Exclusion Scale and Allowable Reserve on Page 9 to determine the eligibility of this group of non-assistance members under the need criteria.
- (e) If, for any reason, the non-assistance portion of the household is ineligible, then the entire household is ineligible.
- (f) If the non-assistance portion of the household is eligible, then the entire household is eligible and all members of the household (both PA and NPA) are again lumped together and their combined income is used to determine the basis of issuance.

In informal General Programs where no General Assistance agreement exists, the recipients of General Assistance payments will be considered as nonpublic assistance households and treated as such for purposes of establishing eligibility and for issuance of food stamps.

D. APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Initial interview

When the initial contact is made the caseworker will provide a thorough explanation of the Food Stamp Program, explain the eligibility requirements for the Program, determine whether there are public assistance recipients in the household, and answer any immediate questions the applicant may have about the Program. If the applicant then desires that the application be processed the caseworker will continue with the application process.

2. Application procedures

A case number register will be maintained for each office. Each case will be assigned a food stamp number which should identify the county also, e.g., 17-FSP-1143.

A Master Index Card (Form DPW-504) will be prepared on each case for the master index file. Each office shall maintain a master index card for each case and file alphabetically. These cards should be cross referenced when appropriate.

Applications for the Food Stamp Program will be received and certification made by the caseworker. Appropriate notation will be made in the public assistance files to record the receipt of food stamps. An application for the Food Stamp Program (Form FSP-100) will be completed by the caseworker.

3. Disposition of application

At the time the application is approved the Food Stamp Identification Card (Form FSP-101) will be completed for the applicant. The completed Household Record Card (Form FSP-102) will be forwarded to the Issuance Unit.

If an application is denied at intake it will not be necessary to complete forms other than the Application for Food Stamp Program (Form FSP-100) and the Master Index Card (Form DPW-504). Statistical information will be reported on applications that are disapproved. An application will be kept in the pending file until it is approved or denied.

E. VERIFICATION AND DOCUMENTATION

1. Public assistance households

The public assistance case record will be used as a source to verify household composition, income and resources. In those counties having a General Assistance agreement, the GA record will be used as a source of verification. The income shown on the Food Stamp application, Form FSP-100, will be the same as that entered and verified in the DPW case record with the following exceptions:

(a) Income from roomer and/or roomer and boarder (see Page 6).

(b) Support payment not actually received will not be considered as income.

(c) Total net earned income of Public Assistance recipients must be considered for basis of issuance: (No amount of this income may be disregarded).

(d) Total net EOA income from sources other than the Neighborhood Youth Corps must be considered for basis of issuance (See Page 7).

(e) During the month of the initial assistance grant, all income, excluding the grant, will be considered in determining the basis of issuance. Concurrently with initial certification, the worker will recertify the case for subsequent months, using the grant plus any other income for the basis of issuance. Notice of Change, Form FSP-104, dated the first of the following month, will be prepared for the recertification but will not be submitted to the issuance office until the first of the following month.

Home visits will be made on public assistance households on the same basis as required by the Public Assistance Programs.

2. Non-public-assistance households

The applicant will be the primary source of information and will be expected to present documentary proof as required regarding composition of the household, income and resources. In completing the application form, the worker will use the Checklist, Form FSP-103, for income and resources of each household member and to compare total household income with the Income Exclusion Scale and Allowable Reserves on Page 9. The same procedures used in verifying and documenting need in public assistance will be used in the Food Stamp Program for those persons residing in a non-assistance household who are not public assistance recipients. If the information given by the applicant is consistent and complete, a decision on the application may be made during the intake interview. If a definite decision cannot be made, at that time, the application will be held pending further study through home visits, collateral visits or other necessary methods.

Adjustments made because of hardship conditions must be properly documented in the same way as any income and other resources are verified.

Home visits and collateral visits in non-assistance households will be made in accordance with the judgment of the caseworker. Priority will be given those households reporting relatively low income, those against the public welfare

staff have received complaints and any other information that places the eligibility of the household in question. Home visits will also be made on participating non-public assistance households on a random sample basis, and will never be less than 5% of those cases approved on the initial interview.

3. *Combination households*

The information obtained from the public assistance recipients regarding their income and resources will be verified by the public assistance case record. Non-assistance members of the household will be expected to present documentary proof as to income and resources.

4. *Preliminary certification*

A preliminary certification authorizing one month's issuance of coupons may be made pending the completion of any necessary post-interview verifications if in the judgment of the County Department—

(a) Available information indicates that there is a strong likelihood that the household will be eligible when necessary verifications are completed; or

(b) There would be hardship to the household without such preliminary action or its access to program benefits would be unduly delayed.

Necessary verifications and adjustments in the household's participation base will be completed before the second month's issuance of coupons is made.

Complete verification may disclose the household is ineligible or that its coupon basis of issuance needs to be revised. If the necessary adjustment action is promptly taken by the certifying agency, such adjustments will not require a recipient claim determination by the agency unless there is evidence of clear intent on the part of the applicant to willfully misrepresent its status to gain program benefits.

F. DECISION AND CERTIFICATION

1. *Decision*

The worker completing the application form FSP-100 will show the decision on eligibility on the back of this form in the section on "Decision and Certification." Before a decision for ineligibility on the basis of need is made, particular attention should be given to the applicability of Special Considerations and Hardship Provisions as outlined on Page 5. If the household is found to be not eligible for participation in the Food Stamp Program, Notice of Disposition, Form DPW-116, will be sent the head of the household with a brief explanation of the reason for ineligibility. File disapproved applications in the Closed Food Stamp File.

2. *Determination of issuance*

Following establishment of eligibility, the Certification Process includes a determination of:

Frequency of issuance.—In most cases, coupons will be issued on a monthly basis. For households in which income is received weekly, semi-monthly or from odd job day work preventing the accumulation of the Purchase Price on a monthly basis, semi-monthly issuance can be authorized.

3. *Reduction in initial coupon purchase requirements*

"In order to assist new participants to begin and to plan for their continued participation in the program such new participants may be certified to purchase their total coupon allotment during the first month of their participation for an amount equal to one-half of the applicable purchase requirement set forth in Coupon Issuance Tables.

"For purposes of this sub-section a new participant is a household that is purchasing coupons for the first time.

"New participants may be certified for such reductions in the purchase requirements during the initial pre-program certification period and during the first twelve calendar months coupons are issued in each project area. In project areas operating a program at the time the provisions of this sub-section became operative, (September 1, 1967), new participants may be certified for such reductions to August 31, 1968.

"A household may be deemed to be a new participant only once during the period the provisions of this sub-section are operative in project area. The provisions of this sub-section also apply to households receiving general assistance; however, when a general assistance household participates at one-half price, the savings must inure to the household, either through a cash or vendor payment."

4. Implementation

(a) On all new cases, the Household Record Cards should be marked as follows: For households certified for *monthly issuance*, enter (in red) " $\frac{1}{2}$ P", the first month the household participates at the one-half price. For households certified for *semi-monthly issuance*, enter (in red) " $\frac{1}{2}$ P", the first purchase period the household participates at the one-half price. The Household Record Card will not be marked again when the second semi-monthly purchase is made. The " $\frac{1}{2}$ P" entry (in red) on the Household Record Card indicates that the household is no longer eligible to purchase at one-half price, except in semi-monthly cases, they are still eligible for the second consecutive semi-monthly purchase.

(b) When the recipient makes his purchase: The Cashier should enter the exact amount of cash received ($\frac{1}{2}$ the normal purchase requirement) on the Household Record Card and notate the Remarks section "Half-price Participant."

(c) When a review of the Household Record Cards is made, all households inactive as of September 1, 1967 and which did not participate in July and August, should be notified that they are eligible to reapply at the initial one-half price.

(d) *Machine Issuance* (Counties Using ATP Cards): For Counties using Machine Issuance, all of the above procedures will be followed except 4(b). above and in addition—

(1) All ATP Cards for households eligible to participate at $\frac{1}{2}$ price should be marked " $\frac{1}{2}$ P" (in red) prior to mailing to recipients;

(2) When the executed ATP Cards are returned to the issuance control unit, the Household Record Cards will be marked as outlined in 4(a). above; and

(3) If an applicant receives an ATP Card marked " $\frac{1}{2}$ P" but does not participate, subsequent ATP Cards will continue to be marked " $\frac{1}{2}$ P" until the applicant does participate.

5. Period of certification and recertification

(a) *Public Assistance Households*.—It will not be necessary to recertify public assistance households as long as they remain eligible for the public assistance program in effect at the time of certification. Whenever changes in the household size, income or other factors would result in a change in the value of the household's coupon allotment or the cash amount the household shall pay for its coupon allotment, the issuing unit shall be notified promptly through the use of a Notice of Change, Form FSP-104. Change must be verified and documented in case record.

Changes in State maximum payments or automatic increases in Social Security benefits will not require a certification of food stamps. That is, caseworkers may make the necessary change on the application form by marking through the income and basis of issuance amount and writing in the new amount of income and basis of issuance. The change should be initialed, dated and documented as to reason for change. If this results in a change in basis of issuance of food stamps, a Notice of Change, Form FSP-104, should be submitted to the issuance unit for necessary action. A new Identification Card must be issued upon change in basis of issuance.

(b) *Non-assistance and Combination Households*.—Certification of these households will be valid for three months with the following exceptions:

(1) Cases with potential disqualifying income within the three-months period will be recertified as needed. Hardship cases will be set up for recertification review on an individual basis as circumstances may require.

(2) Cases in which there is little likelihood of changes in the composition of the household or income may be recertified every six months. For example, a person with a small OASDI benefit as the only source of income and no likelihood of change in his circumstances or household composition may be certified for six months.

The issuing office shall be notified promptly of changes in the basis of coupon issuance or other certification information through the use of a Notice of Change (Form FSP-104). The information is to be posted on the Household Record Card (Form FSP-102).

6. Recertification process-nonassistance or combination households

At the time of recertification an Application for the Food Stamp Program (Form FSP-100) will be completed. All items must be completed with the excep-

tion of the names of the household member. If the name section remains the same, "no change" is written in. This section should record any changes in the household composition which have occurred since the original application. Any changes noted on recertification will be reported to the issuing unit on Notice of Change (Form FSP-104). An Identification Card (Form FSP-101) is sent or given to the Food Stamp Program recipient covering the new period of certification.

7. *Changes within certification period*

The issuing unit shall be notified promptly of any changes occurring within a certification period in household income or size which would result in a change in the value of the coupon allotment by a Notice of Change (Form FSP-104).

8. *Reapplication*

A reapplication is taken when an applicant reapplies for participation after having been denied or terminated previously. The procedure is the same as for an initial application.

G. IRREGULAR PARTICIPATION

The purpose for determining irregular participation is to assure that a household does not substitute food stamps for their normal food purchase. Failure of a certified household to participate for two consecutive purchase periods or any other pattern of irregular participation results in suspension of the case by the Issuance Unit. The Issuance Unit will notify the Certification Unit of the irregular participation through a Notice of Irregular Participation, Form FSP-4. The Certification Unit will then contact the household and determine the reason for irregular participation. If the worker determines that irregular participation was due to a condition which could be corrected by consideration of hardship provisions, by designation of a representative payee or proxy, or was due to a non-recurring condition and the participant wishes to continue to benefit from the program, necessary adjustments will be made to accommodate the situation. If the irregular participation was the result of a misunderstanding, or the situation has been corrected, the household may continue to participate. In either of the above situations, the Certification Unit will notify the Issuance Unit by a Notice of Change, Form FSP-104.

If, after the corrective interview, irregular participation re-occurs, a decision may be made to determine if the household shall be disqualified for a designated period of time.

H. APPEALS PROCEDURE

1. *Basis for appeals*

The objective of a fair hearing is directed primarily toward safeguarding the interests of the individual applicant or recipient in his right to Food Stamps.

If in the opinion of the applicant or recipient, decisions of the County Department are unjust, or if action on his application has not been completed within sixty days, he may request a hearing before the State Department.

2. *Informing applicant or recipient of right to appeal*

The applicant shall be informed at the time of applying or at the intake interview of his right to appeal for a hearing before the State Department if he should believe the County Department has done him an injustice.

After decision is made following investigation of an application or reinvestigation of a case, notification of action taken is automatically sent to the applicant or recipient which contains notice of right to appeal when application is rejected or amount of award changed. This notification is by Form 116, Form 128 or by letter. However, if there is any indication that there is or will be dissatisfaction on the part of the applicants or recipients in regard to action taken by the County Department, they will be informed further of their right to appeal. This may be done by the worker in an interview, by the director through a letter or interview, or by the State Department in answer to complaints.

3. *Procedure for filing appeal*

A request for a hearing is defined as any clear expression, oral or written, on the part of the claimant to the effect that he wishes to go beyond the usual procedure for adjusting complaints and that he wants an opportunity to present his case to the State Department. For administrative purpose such requests shall immediately be reduced to writing. The written request consists of Form 117 in triplicate and the claimant's letter setting forth his reasons for requesting a hearing. If the claimant requests it, the county director or worker shall assist the claimant in preparing his formal request for appeal.

The request may be filed with the County Department or directly with the State Department if the claimant prefers. This must be done within a sixty-day period after the claimant has received notice of the action from which he wishes to appeal or at any time that he feels there has been unusual delay in clearing his application.

The County Department will immediately forward the request for appeal to the State Department. If the request is sent directly to the State Department by the claimant, a copy will be returned to the County Department.

The State Department will immediately acknowledge the receipt of the appeal to the claimant with a copy to the County Department.

I. CASE RECORD

1. *Organization.*—Forms and correspondence should be filed in chronological order with the latest material on top.

2. *Filing.*—Food Stamp Program case records will be filed separately from Public Assistance records. These case records will be filed numerically.

3. *Availability of case records.*—Food Stamps records will be available to the staff of the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Department of Public Welfare for review.

J. OVERISSUANCE OF BONUS COUPONS

1. It is not always necessary to attempt to collect the amount of excess bonus coupons in every case of overissuance. The county office has the option in making claims determinations, based upon the case circumstances, to recommend that:—

(a) There was *intent* on the part of the household to defraud and collection should be made, or

(b) There was *no intent* on the part of the household to defraud and collection should not be made. A determination of "no claim" may be made in instances where it is considered that there was misunderstanding on the part of the household in regard to its responsibilities in connection with the Food Stamp Program, or in instances where it is considered to have been an error on the part of Certification Personnel.

In those instances where you decide that there was no intent to defraud, the recommendations that a claim is not warranted, should include information to assure the State Office and Consumer and Marketing Service that the necessary corrective action has been promptly taken, i.e., participation of the household has been discontinued or the necessary adjustments have been made on the basis of coupon issuance, the household has been informed of its obligation to report changes in its status, and/or issuance or certification personnel have been instructed in regard to their responsibilities in order to assure that errors may be avoided in the future.

2. In making claim recommendations, it is important to recognize that the economic status of the types of households that are eligible for the Food Stamp Program are subject to frequent change. Although households are instructed to and should voluntarily report changes in their status within the certification period, such efforts can never be fully effective because of the limited educational attainments and language skills of many participants; however, it should be emphasized that continued failure by a household to report changes in status could constitute fraud, depending on the circumstances.

When there are unreported changes in the status of a participating household, certification personnel must make a *determination in the light of all the circumstances* involved. In essence, they must make a determination that the failure to report the change was *intentional* or *unintentional*. Factors that might have a bearing on this are:

(a) Where at the time of certification there was evidence that the status of the household was likely to change (such as expected return to employment) and the household had been specifically told to report back if the anticipated change took place.

(b) The household previously had not reported change and thus had been specifically instructed to report any future change.

(c) Whether the "change" involved was a change in circumstances since the date of certification or the last recertification or whether it was information that was withheld at the time of certification or recertification.

(d) The importance of the type of change in circumstances or information withheld.

3. The county office will make every reasonable effort to obtain payment for the bonus coupons issued under fraudulent conditions. (AT LEAST by issuing two demand letters in order to collect repayment). If the household was ineligible, the total amount of bonus coupons would be collected. If the household would have been eligible on a different basis of issuance, the county office would collect for the overissuance of bonus coupons. Form FSP-105 is to be used in reporting misrepresentation or fraud. All repayment money orders or checks should be made to Consumer and Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and forwarded to the State Department of Public Welfare office. An original and three copies of Form FSP-105 should be forwarded to the State Department of Public Welfare, along with three copies of the two demand letters. When repayment cannot be obtained, or when the recipient has failed to make payment on the claim against him for two consecutive months, send a brief summary to the State Department of Public Welfare office as to the effort that has been made to obtain repayment and any resources that might be available for payment. Any report of misrepresentation or fraud which comes about as a result of an audit should also be forwarded with a case summary and report of efforts to collect repayment to the State Department of Public Welfare office.

4. Finally, of course, a decision that fraud was involved on the part of the household does not relieve the county of its responsibilities for carrying out its certification responsibilities in a manner that will minimize such occurrences. The county office must be assured that participants are being informed of their obligations at the time of interview, and that the interview is completed enough to insure that incorrect information is not provided, or that relevant information is not withheld because the household situation was not thoroughly explored. The application form should contain positive statements regarding relevant items in order to demonstrate that such items were covered, i.e., write the word "none" if a household member over eighteen years of age is not working and if a youth is in school, make a statement to this effect; make the statement "no other household members" to indicate that the applicant was queried about all members, and make any other such positive statements which you may deem necessary to strengthen documentation of the files. In addition, it should be understood that a reasonable number of home visits should be made in order that unreported changes may be brought to light.

5. Issuance unit errors resulting in overissuance

When it is determined that an error made by the issuance unit resulted in an overissuance of bonus coupons, and FSP-105 Form will not be submitted; however, the error should be reflected on the proper C&MS-250 Report. The State will be financially responsible for such errors.

6. Uncollectible determination

When the county determines that a claim is uncollectible and has exhausted all efforts to collect, an uncollectible determination may be submitted to the State along with *at least* two demand letters and a report of any other contacts. An uncollectible determination may also be submitted if a recipient moves out of the county or State. The current or last known address of the recipient should also be submitted with this type of uncollectible determination.

K. ISSUANCE AND SALES OF COUPONS

1. Fiscal controls

See CFP (FS) Instruction 734-2 or CFP (FS) Instruction 734-1 for the recommended procedures and minimum fiscal controls for the issuance of food coupons. Each County Department of Public Welfare office will maintain a complete set of Instructions.

2. Responsibilities of issuance unit

This issuance unit will be responsible for maintaining records of eligible households forwarded by the Certification Unit, reviewing the pattern of participation of eligible households and the compilation of the required monthly reports. Other responsibilities of this unit will vary depending on whether the county selects the Manual Issuance System or the Machine Issuance System. Detailed responsibilities under each of these systems are outlined in CFP (FS) Instruction 734-2 and CFP (FS) Instruction 734-1.

3. The issuance system

Food coupons will be issued to recipients on a monthly or semi-monthly basis as required. The eligible households shall be issued food coupons in accordance

with the information on the Household Record Card for active cases. The issuance office shall maintain a file of the Household Record Cards for households currently eligible and certified for participation. They shall also maintain a file of all "Inactive" Household Record Cards.

4. Sale of Coupons

(a) *Manual system.*—At the time the participant appears to purchase the food coupons, he will present his Food Stamp Identification Card, Form FSP-101, to a receptionist at the Issuance Unit. The receptionist will insure that the person who presents the Identification Card is the one entitled to have it either by being the head of the household, the authorized representative, or the designated proxy of the household. The receptionist will record the case number of the recipient, together with other required information on the Daily Tally Sheet of Individual Transactions, Form FSP-2, and refer the recipient to a designated cashier.

The recipient will then pay the amount of the purchase requirement, and will be issued the allotment of food coupons to which the household is entitled. Upon receiving food coupons and paying the purchase requirement, the recipient will then receipt the Household Record Card, Form FSP-102.

(b) *Machine system.*—Under this system the Certification Unit in the participating counties shall prepare a Household Record Card, Form FSP-103A, for each certified household and forward to the Issuance Control Unit. Each month the Issuance Control Unit shall produce and deliver to individual certified households a Food Stamp Authorization to Purchase, Form FSP-9. Each Food Stamp Authorization to Purchase, Form FSP-9, in addition to the identifying information, shall show the amount of the cash requirement, the total amount of food coupons to be issued, and the expiration date of the Authorization Card. The participants will then present their Food Stamp Identification Card, Form FSP-101, and the cash requirement to any bank and/or other issuing agency which has contracted to act as an issuance agent for the county.

The bank and/or other issuance agency shall ascertain that identification is adequate, receive the cash requirement, obtain the participant's signature on the Authorization Card, and issue the authorized food coupons. Changes in authorization status which necessitate changes on the Household Record Card, Form FSP-103A, will be reported by the Certification Unit to the Issuance Control Unit on Notice of Change, Form FSP-104. The Issuance Control Unit will make changes as required and preserve one copy of all Notices of Change, Form FSP-104.

Executed Authorizations (FSP-9) will be returned by the banks to the county department of public welfare with copies of the Daily Reconciliation sheet and become the basis for recording participation figures and of payment to the bank of the monthly service charges.

After the posting of participation records the Forms FSP-9 should be kept intact by day and filed numerically in a separate file.

It is possible for a recipient to alter an Authorization to Purchase Card to reduce the amount of the purchase requirement or to increase the amount of the total coupon allotment to be received. Upon discovery of an altered ATP Card, a report with the following information will be submitted to the Consumer and Marketing Service, USDA:

- (1) Name of household.
- (2) Signatures on ATP Card.
- (3) Type and amount of alteration.
- (4) Photocopies of both sides of the ATP.
- (5) Other facts (results of state agency investigations, etc.).

No further action needs to be taken until notified by the Consumer and Marketing Service.

Refer to Page 9 for the basis of issuance tables.

5. Frequency of issuance

(a) Coupons shall be issued monthly or semi-monthly to participating households as set out in Exhibit B.

(b) When semi-monthly issuance has been authorized, a household may purchase its entire month's issuance either during the first half of the month, or during the last half if it did not purchase during the first half, if it so desires, and still remain eligible for semi-monthly purchases.

The eligible households shall be issued food coupons in accordance with the information on the Household Record Card for active cases. The issuance office

shall make no changes on this card unless authorized to do so by the receipt of a Notice of Change, Form FSP-104. The issuance office shall maintain a file of the Household Record Cards for households currently eligible and certified for participation. They shall also maintain a file of all "Inactive" Household Record Cards.

The procedures of the Issuance Unit vary, depending on whether the county selects the Machine Issuance System or the Manual Issuance System. Detailed Procedures under each of these systems are outlined in Consumer and Marketing Service FS Instructions 734-1 and 734-2.

6. Daily cash deposits

The procedure for handling and recording daily cash deposits is fully explained in C&MS Instruction 733-1, "Accountability for Food Coupon Books and Deposits of Cash Received."

(a) *Manual system*.—Cash receipts from the sale of coupons shall be deposited in accordance with Consumer and Marketing Service procedure as outlined in C&MS Instruction 733-1, within 24 hours, unless extraordinary conditions prevent deposit within such a period. On a very active day, more than one deposit can be made to insure that the amount of cash on hand at the sales point is kept to a minimum. For those counties not using bank issuance, adequate safeguards will be taken to insure safety to cash receipts at the issuance office and en route to the bank for deposit.

(b) *Machine system (bank)*.—Cash receipts from the sale of coupons shall be deposited in accordance with the Consumer & Marketing Service procedure as outlined in C&MS Instruction 733-1.

7. Participation record

The purpose for determining irregular participation is to assure that a household does not substitute food stamps for their normal food purchases.

In the event a household fails to participate for two consecutive purchase periods or has established a pattern of irregular participation over a longer period of time, the Issuance Unit will notify the Certification Unit of the irregular participation through a Notice of Irregular Participation, Form FSP-4. The Issuance Unit will remove the Household Record Card, Form FSP-102, or Form FSP-103A, from the active file and no further issuance is authorized until the household has been recertified.

The first "skip" in *new* cases will not be considered in determining patterns of irregular participation. In the case of semi-monthly participants, the first half will not reflect a skip on those cases certified after the mid-month cut off (in most cases the 15th calendar day) and the same rule stated above applies regarding the first skip in *new* cases. Otherwise, two consecutive skips, even though they may occur in the same month, are considered the same as two consecutive skips in monthly cases and result in the household being ineligible for further participation until recertified.

In machine issuance systems, since both authorization cards are mailed to semi-monthly participants in the beginning of the month, participant then may establish a pattern of irregular participation by skipping the first half, and since he has the second half authorization card in his possession, he may purchase the second half. Or, he may also skip the second half which might result, in some instances, in three consecutive skips. If irregular patterns of participation occur due to the above situation, it will not be necessary for the Issuance Unit to notify the Certification Unit of the irregular participation until the end of the month.

8. Ordering coupons from C. & M.S.

The procedure for ordering coupons is contained in C. & M.S. Instruction 733-1. The inventory policy governing coupons is included in FS Memorandum 7-3.

9. Storage of coupons

(a) *Manual system*.—Coupons will be shipped to the issuance office, care of a designated local bank. Food coupons will be stored in the vault of that bank, and removed on an as needed basis. Upon initial arrival at the bank, coupons will be checked into inventory by the issuance supervisor and by an employee of the bank. Each removal of coupons shall be checked by both an employee of the issuance unit and an employee of the bank, each of whom will maintain a running inventory of coupons remaining in storage in the vault, using Coupon Book Inventory Record, Form FSP-3. Only limited amounts of coupons will be transferred at any given time, and adequate safeguards will be taken as coupons are being transferred from the bank to the issuance office.

(b) *Machine system (banks).*—In counties using bank issuance, bulk supplies of coupons will be stored in the individual banks having contracts with the county for coupon issuance.

(c) *Machine system (other than banks).*—In counties where issuance is handled under contract with agents, other than banks, the bulk coupon supply will be shipped in care of a designated bank or other approved location and will be stored in the vault of that bank or other approved location to the County Issuance Control Unit which, in turn, will transfer a reasonable supply to the issuance agent (s) under contract with the County. Adequate safeguards will be taken as coupons are being transferred from the bank or other approved location to the County Issuance Control Unit and from the County Issuance Control Unit to the office of the issuing agent. The County Issuance Control Unit and the issuing agent (s) will insure adequate storage of coupons to meet the minimum security standards of the Consumer and Marketing Service.

10. *Cash receipts*

(a) *Manual system.*—Cash receipts from the sale of coupons shall be deposited in accordance with Consumer and Marketing Service procedure as outlined in C&MS Instruction 733-4. Deposits must be made within 24 hours unless the State has elected to adopt the frequency of deposit option outlined in Section VII, Paragraph 2b, of the above regulation. On a very active day, more than one deposit can be made, to insure that the amount of cash on hand at the sales point is kept to a minimum. For those counties not using bank issuance, adequate safeguards will be taken to insure safety to cash receipts at the issuance office and en route to the bank for deposit.

(b) *Machine system (bank).*—Cash receipts from the sale of coupons shall be deposited in accordance with Consumer and Marketing Service procedure as outlined in C&MS Instruction 733-2, Revision 1.

(c) *Machine system (other than banks).*—Cash receipts will be deposited as in Paragraph (a) above in accordance with C&MS Instruction 733-4. (Refer to program Exhibit in the Plan of Operation for any agreement or deviation to this policy.)

L. LOST, DAMAGED, OR MUTILATED COUPONS

C&MS Instruction 880-3 gives the procedures for handling and replacing improperly manufactured or mutilated food coupon books. Refer to C&MS Instruction 880-3.

1. *Coupon shipment/receipt form, form 9955-00 (TMS)*

Prior to coupons being shipped by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, a shipment/receipt form will be mailed to the cosignee. When the shipment is received, the official authorized to receipt for coupon shipments will sign and date the form; return the original to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Budget and Finance Division, Fiscal Branch, C&MS, Washington, D.C., and retain the remaining two copies. Each authorized official must have a signed "Signature Card" prior to receipting for the coupons.

2. *"Accountability for food coupon books and deposits of cash received." Form C&MS-250*

Reference is made to C&MS Instruction 733-1. Seven copies of this report should be prepared with distribution as outlined in C&MS Instruction 733-1 including a copy to Consumer and Marketing Service in Atlanta, one to the Consumer and Marketing Service Officer-in-Charge, and one to the State Department of Public Welfare. One copy will be filed in the county office of public welfare. The consolidated C&MS-250 report will usually be submitted on the last day of each month but no later than the fifth working day following the end of the month.

3. *"Monthly participation report." Form CFP-256*

This report will be completed by the issuing unit supervisor and submitted by the fifth working day from the end of each calendar month. Specific instructions are printed on the form. A copy is to be sent to the State Office of Public Welfare.

4. *"Weekly certification report—new project areas." Form CFP-257*

Submit an original and two copies to Consumer Food Program District Office by Friday of each week. A copy is to be sent to State Department of Public Welfare.

COUPON ISSUANCE TABLES

Effective Date, Feb. 1, 1969

[M. These tables are to be used to determine the basis on which stamps are issued to various size households]

BASIS OF ISSUANCE

Income	Purchase	Bonus	Total	Income	Purchase	Bonus	Total
1 PERSON				5 PERSONS—Con.			
None to \$19.99	\$0.50	\$15.50	\$16	\$50 to \$59.99	\$20.00	\$48.00	\$68
\$20 to \$29.99	2.00	14.00	16	\$60 to \$69.99	26.00	44.00	70
\$30 to \$39.99	6.00	10.00	16	\$70 to \$79.99	30.00	40.00	70
\$40 to \$49.99	8.00	10.00	18	\$80 to \$89.99	36.00	38.00	74
\$50 to \$59.99	10.00	8.00	18	\$90 to \$99.99	40.00	36.00	76
\$60 to \$69.99	14.00	6.00	20	\$100 to \$109.99	44.00	34.00	78
\$70 to \$89.99	16.00	6.00	22	\$110 to \$129.99	48.00	32.00	80
\$90 and over	18.00	6.00	24	\$130 to \$149.99	52.00	30.00	82
2 PERSONS				\$150 to \$169.99	56.00	28.00	84
None to \$19.99	\$1.00	\$29.00	\$30	\$170 to \$189.99	60.00	26.00	86
\$20 to \$29.99	3.00	27.00	30	\$190 to \$209.99	64.00	24.00	88
\$30 to \$39.99	7.00	25.00	32	\$210 to \$229.99	68.00	24.00	92
\$40 to \$49.99	10.00	24.00	34	\$230 to \$249.99	72.00	22.00	94
\$50 to \$59.99	16.00	20.00	36	\$250 to \$269.99	76.00	22.00	98
\$60 to \$79.99	20.00	18.00	38	\$270 to \$289.99	80.00	22.00	102
\$80 to \$99.99	24.00	14.00	38	\$290 to \$319.99	84.00	22.00	106
\$100 to \$119.99	28.00	12.00	40	\$320 to \$349.99	88.00	22.00	110
\$120 to \$139.99	32.00	10.00	42	6 PERSONS			
\$140 and over	36.00	10.00	46	None to \$29.99	\$3.00	\$71.00	\$74
3 PERSONS				\$30 to \$39.99	8.00	66.00	74
None to \$19.99	\$1.50	\$42.50	\$44	\$40 to \$49.99	14.00	62.00	76
\$20 to \$29.99	3.00	41.00	44	\$50 to \$59.99	20.00	56.00	76
\$30 to \$39.99	6.00	40.00	46	\$60 to \$69.99	26.00	52.00	78
\$40 to \$49.99	10.00	36.00	46	\$70 to \$79.99	32.00	48.00	80
\$50 to \$59.99	16.00	32.00	48	\$80 to \$89.99	38.00	46.00	84
\$60 to \$69.99	22.00	28.00	50	\$90 to \$99.99	42.00	44.00	86
\$70 to \$79.99	28.00	22.00	50	\$100 to \$109.99	46.00	42.00	88
\$80 to \$89.99	32.00	22.00	54	\$110 to \$119.99	50.00	40.00	90
\$90 to \$109.99	36.00	20.00	56	\$120 to \$129.99	52.00	38.00	90
\$110 to \$129.99	42.00	18.00	60	\$130 to \$149.99	56.00	36.00	92
\$130 to \$149.99	46.00	16.00	62	\$150 to \$169.99	60.00	34.00	94
\$150 to \$169.99	50.00	14.00	64	\$170 to \$189.99	64.00	32.00	96
\$170 to \$189.99	54.00	14.00	68	\$190 to \$209.99	68.00	30.00	98
\$190 to \$209.99	58.00	14.00	72	\$210 to \$229.99	72.00	28.00	100
\$210 to \$229.99	62.00	14.00	76	\$230 to \$249.99	76.00	26.00	106
\$230 to \$249.99	66.00	14.00	80	\$250 to \$269.99	80.00	26.00	110
4 PERSONS				\$270 to \$289.99	84.00	26.00	114
None to \$29.99	\$2.00	\$56.00	\$58	\$290 to \$319.99	88.00	26.00	114
\$30 to \$39.99	8.00	50.00	58	\$320 to \$349.99	92.00	26.00	118
\$40 to \$49.99	12.00	48.00	60	7 PERSONS			
\$50 to \$59.99	18.00	42.00	60	None to \$29.99	\$3	\$77	\$80
\$60 to \$69.99	24.00	38.00	62	\$30 to \$39.99	8	72	80
\$70 to \$79.99	30.00	34.00	64	\$40 to \$49.99	14	68	82
\$80 to \$89.99	36.00	32.00	68	\$50 to \$59.99	20	62	82
\$90 to \$109.99	40.00	30.00	70	\$60 to \$69.99	26	58	84
\$110 to \$129.99	44.00	26.00	70	\$70 to \$79.99	32	54	86
\$130 to \$149.99	48.00	24.00	72	\$80 to \$89.99	38	52	90
\$150 to \$169.99	52.00	22.00	74	\$90 to \$99.99	42	50	92
\$170 to \$189.99	56.00	22.00	78	\$100 to \$109.99	46	48	94
\$190 to \$209.99	60.00	20.00	80	\$110 to \$119.99	50	46	96
\$210 to \$229.99	64.00	18.00	82	\$120 to \$129.99	54	44	98
\$230 to \$249.99	68.00	18.00	86	\$130 to \$139.99	58	42	100
\$250 to \$279.99	72.00	18.00	90	\$140 to \$149.99	60	40	100
\$280 to \$309.99	76.00	18.00	94	\$150 to \$169.99	64	38	102
5 PERSONS				\$170 to \$189.99	68	36	104
None to \$29.99	\$2.50	\$63.50	\$66	\$190 to \$209.99	72	34	106
\$30 to \$39.99	8.00	58.00	66	\$210 to \$229.99	76	32	108
\$40 to \$49.99	14.00	54.00	68	\$230 to \$249.99	80	30	110
6 PERSONS				\$250 to \$269.99	84	30	114
None to \$29.99	\$2.50	\$63.50	\$66	\$270 to \$289.99	88	30	118
\$30 to \$39.99	8.00	58.00	66	\$290 to \$309.99	92	30	122
\$40 to \$49.99	14.00	54.00	68	\$310 to \$329.99	96	30	126
7 PERSONS				\$330 to \$349.99	100	30	130

over the maximum income shown, add \$4 to the maximum monthly purchase requirement shown and \$2 to the maximum semi-monthly purchase requirement.

(2) Add \$4 to the appropriate monthly bonus coupons, or \$2 to the appropriate semi-monthly bonus for each person in excess of 8.

MATERIAL SUBMITTED BY CHARLES E. FRAZIER

POPE COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT

INTERIM REPORT

In an effort to acquire detailed knowledge of the problems surrounding control of intestinal parasites in low country areas, Sea Pines Plantation Company, in the fall of 1968, began the Pope Community Health Program. At that time, the widespread presence of intestinal parasites among the low-income groups in low country areas was a fairly well documented phenomenon. In 1962, a study published in *Public Health Reports* revealed that 70.8% of 212 individuals tested in Beaufort had one or more species of intestinal parasites. More recently, tests conducted by the Penn Community Center and by the Head Start Program upheld the 1962 study. Despite what appeared to be rather conclusive evidence of a serious problem, we found an appalling lack of specific and useful techniques available to control intestinal parasites.

It is the continuing objective of our program to formulate practical and informed proposals for the eradication of intestinal parasites. The findings and recommendations of our study are being presented to government agencies and responsible individuals at the national, state and local levels.

Participants

Thirteen families containing seventy-four persons were asked to participate in the project. The families were picked on the basis of the Head Start Program findings and geographical proximity. All the families are Negro.

The participants in the program probably represent a good cross-section of Beaufort County's low-income Negro population. The families have an average annual income of roughly \$2,700. Four families have an indoor bath, and seven use shallow-well pitcher pumps. Eight of the families benefit from the Food Stamp Program. In seven families, the father is not living at home.

How widespread are parasites?

As a part of the program, Sea Pines attempted to ascertain how widespread the problem of intestinal parasites might be. A number of state public health departments and federal agencies were contacted in an attempt to gather data on the extent of parasite infestation in the Southeast. The little information that we received was neither thoroughly prepared nor representative of the problem.

Beaufort County's soil conditions, climate, and income levels are quite typical of many counties throughout the southeastern coastal regions; maps and geographical data were, therefore, examined to ascertain which counties in which states had similar geographic and economic conditions to those in this area. We found that approximately 153 counties in seven states (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina) lie in coastal regions similar to the Beaufort area.

We examined the census data for these 153 counties and found that the number of Negroes who live in the rural sections of the counties studied total \$75,273. The number of rural income-receivers who receive less than \$3,000 per year in these 153 counties totals 1,241,799.

If the rate of parasite infestation in these counties is similar to the rate in Beaufort County—and there is no reason to believe the rate would differ—then it is clear that a distressingly large number of persons in the Southeast are infested with intestinal parasites.

The data—reveals no reason to believe that Beaufort County is in worse condition or better condition than any of the other counties. Beaufort County ranks higher than 124 counties for "median number of years of school completed." Forty-two of the counties issued less public assistance than Beaufort County. One hundred and one counties have a higher percentage of families receiving less than \$3,000 a year than Beaufort County. In brief, geographic, economic, and population statistics indicate that Beaufort County is typical of the counties we studied.

How serious is parasite infestation?

The two types of intestinal parasites which are found in Beaufort County are *Ascaris* and *Trichuris*. *Ascaris* is commonly known as roundworm and *Trichuris* is known as whipworm.

The importance of *Ascaris* as a cause of disease and death among children has been emphasized in many medical reports. In 1943, it was reported that *Ascaris* was the third ranking cause of death among children in Ceylon. It has also been reported in the medical journals that *Ascaris* is occasionally a cause of death among adults, and under certain conditions it is a major cause of pulmonary disease among people of all ages.

Although less frequently reported, clinically severe *Trichuris* is known to be common in Central America, South America, the Caribbean, Southeast Asia, and the Southeastern United States. It is a common but unrecognized cause of diarrhea and severe dysentery in most areas where the rates of infection are high.

Ascaris can normally be treated effectively with a drug known as Piperazine. For *Trichuris*, however, the best drugs are only considered to be about 40% effective.

Because *Ascaris* lives a relatively short time in the body, probably eight to twelve months on the average, it would be possible, in theory, for a blanket eradication program conducted over a period somewhat longer than a year to completely eliminate this species of parasite. In reality, however, the overwhelming problems of administering such a program would make eradication very difficult. Nevertheless, since Piperazine is highly effective, is not toxic and can be made pleasant to taste, is readily available in large quantities, and is relatively inexpensive, and considering that *Ascaris* is both damaging to health and extremely difficult to control by other means, a mass treatment program could now be undertaken with the expectation of yielding significant benefits.

Test results

As part of the Sea Pines Program, all of the participants in the program were asked to submit fecal samples for examination. Fifty persons submitted samples. About three-fourths were infested with some form of intestinal parasite. Fifty percent showed evidence of *Ascaris*, while thirty-three percent showed evidence of *Trichuris*. These results generally uphold the findings of earlier studies.

The testing served to point out quite clearly the shortcomings of the present testing methods. To the best of our knowledge, fecal samples are the only practical way to determine worm infestation. Collecting fecal samples, however, is an extremely erratic process. Fecal samples, unlike blood samples and urine specimens, can seldom be obtained immediately. Adults are often reluctant to produce their own samples, although they are usually quite cooperative in producing the samples for their children. But a mother in a home which has only a pit privy has understandable difficulty in obtaining her children's fecal samples.

Testing for worms on a large scale is, therefore, a difficult and time consuming matter, and the results in individual cases are likely to be quite unreliable. It is our belief wide-scale programs for eradicating parasites cannot rely heavily on testing for worms until improved testing methods are developed.

We have been unable to find any information on reliable and practical ways to test and treat for parasites in the soil. It is generally agreed that soil plays an important part in parasite transmission. The techniques which have been developed for treating worms in farm yards are generally not applicable to treating worms on soils that will be used by humans. Turning the soil is generally felt to have little effect. The lack of any adequate means to treat the soil is another one of the many problems which must be overcome if worms are to be effectively treated on a large scale.

Housing study

An important concern of the Sea Pines program was to determine the availability of the current federal programs to persons in the income levels covered by our study. In December, we began working closely with state and local officials of the Farmers Home Administration in an effort to apply the housing programs of that agency to the thirteen families in our project. In early January, the FHA sent a state official to Hilton Head who worked full time for two weeks to process loan applications.

The findings of that effort, we believe, have important implications for future programs. Of the thirteen families in the study, six have already taken advantage of one or more of the housing programs sponsored by the Farmers Home

Administration. A seventh family is eligible for the programs, and will probably build a new home this spring. Of the remaining six, three would be eligible for programs, but are not interested. Two other families would probably not be eligible because their incomes are extremely low. Only one family was found ineligible because title to the land is not clear.

The cooperation of the state and local FHA officials in this program was highly gratifying. Nevertheless, it must be recognized that the special efforts which they made to survey the thirteen families would probably not be a practical solution on a state-wide level. Two FHA officials spent two weeks processing the paper work and interviewing the families in the study. At present, the FHA has neither the funds nor the resources to carry out such a program on a large scale basis.

In general, it is our conclusion from this study that, in all likelihood, the majority of the persons in low country regions who are susceptible to worm infestation are eligible for the benefits of the FHA housing programs. The FHA officials in South Carolina appear to be an exceptionally competent and professional organization. If the FHA state and county officers in other states are as well-qualified as those we have met in South Carolina, then the Farmers Home Administration may well be an excellent choice to carry out any future wide-scale efforts to eradicate intestinal parasites.

Education

Any program to eradicate parasites must contain as an important element an effective educational program. In general, the families in our study were extremely receptive to information about the nature and sources of intestinal parasites. They were quite willing to learn, and anxious to do what they could to ease a problem which they knew existed.

We found, however, that there is absolutely no educational material on the subject of controlling intestinal parasites. A pamphlet published by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare entitled "Selected Films on Child Life" lists 480 films which are considered to be of value for people and organizations in some field concerned with children. Not a single film in the book is concerned with intestinal parasites in children.

Similarly, we know of no lesson plans, pamphlets, or visual aids which would be useful in any substantial educational program. An effective program for the eradication of worms must provide for the development of effective educational materials.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY DR. E. J. LEASE

INTESTINAL PARASITES AND NUTRITIONAL STATUS

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I. INTRODUCTION

During recent years much emphasis has been placed on the needs of the lower socio-economic classes. Testimony and local publications (1,2) indicate that the nutritional and medical needs of the Negro in the southeastern part of the state of South Carolina have not been met. Jeffrey et al. (3) reported a very high incidence of helminth infections among the inhabitants of the rural coastal South Carolina area. Ledesma and Lease (4,5,6) have investigated the existence of nutritional deficiencies among low income mothers throughout the state of South Carolina; however, these studies deal primarily with nutritional deficiencies among urban dwellers.

The subjects for the present study were 178 pre-school Negro children between the ages of two and eight who were residents of the Bluffton-Hilton Head Island area of South Carolina. The inhabitants of this rural region, in most cases, lived in dilapidated, unpainted, two-to-six room dwellings. Seldom were there adequate sanitary facilities, the absence of even outside privies was not uncommon. Water was a scarce commodity; some families of eight to fourteen members have only a few gallons of water per day to satisfy all their needs.

The purpose of this study was to determine the extent of intestinal parasite infection and the nutritional status of the children, also the nutritional and medical assistance required to elevate this population to minimal health and nutritional standards.

II. METHODS

One hundred seventy-eight pre-school children and their mothers or guardians were brought to the Public Health Centers at Hilton Head Island and Bluffton, South Carolina, for medical examinations. A physical examination of a type approved by the County Health Officer was made on each subject by senior medical students from Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee. The examination routine is outlined in Exhibit "A."

An experienced interviewer used the 24-hour recall technique (7) to obtain information on the dietary intakes. Since the subjects were so young, it was necessary to interview their mothers or guardians to obtain, as closely as possible, the daily food intake of each subject. The daily intake of specific nutrients was then computed by referring to the United States Department of Agriculture Home and Garden Bulletin No. 72, "Nutritive Value of Foods." The adequacy of the diets was determined by comparison with the recommended dietary allowances of the National Research Council (8).

Where feasible, 10 ml. of blood were collected from each child by venous puncture. The blood was drawn into 15 ml. syringes and part of it was immediately placed in 10 ml. vacutainer tubes containing 10 mg. EDTA in powdered form. This part of the blood was packed in ice and transported to the University of South Carolina laboratory in styrofoam containers. Another part of the blood was allowed to clot and then centrifuged. The serum was packed in ice and shipped to Meharry Medical College.

A hemoglobin determination was performed on 0.02 ml. of blood by the cyanomethemoglobin method of Hainline (9). Microhemocrit determinations (10) were performed in order to determine the volume of packed red cells and to serve as a check on the hemoglobin determination. The vitamin C content of whole blood was assessed on a 2 ml. sample using a modification of the procedure described by Bessey and Associates (11).

Procedures employed for carotene, vitamin A, and protein determinations in serum are those designated in the Interdepartmental Committee on Nutrition for National Defense Nutrition Surveys (12). The proteins of the plasma or serum were precipitated with alcohol, and the carotene and vitamin A were extracted with petroleum ether. The carotene concentration was determined by measuring the absorption of the extract at 450 mu. Following evaporation under nitrogen, the vitamin A was determined by reading the intensity of the blue color produced by the addition of trifluoroacetic acid chloroform-chromogen. A correction was made for the amount of carotene present, since carotene contributes to the total color.

Total serum protein was determined by the biuret technic. Another aliquot of the same serum was added to a solution of sodium sulfite, which precipitated the globulin. The clear centrifugate which contained "true" albumin was then withdrawn and analyzed by the biuret method. The electrophoretic patterns of the serum proteins were determined employing the microzone technique on cellulose acetate films (13).

Fecal samples were collected from each subject in plastic coated paper containers fitted with snap lids. Examinations for ova and parasites were performed on location and were verified upon being transported to a laboratory at the University of South Carolina. The direct smear technique was used to establish the presence of helminth ova. A modified zinc sulfate flotation method was employed to concentrate helminth ova from fecal material (14). Flotation was accomplished with zinc sulfate solution of specific gravity 1.180.

Soil samples were collected from the top 1 to 1½ inches of moist soil in the vicinity of the homes of the subjects investigated. This was done to locate one of the major sources of helminth transmission. The soil samples were transported to the laboratory in sealed containers where the sedimentation test of Headlee (15) was utilized to concentrate helminth ova for examination under magnification of 100X and 400X using a binocular microscope.

Since bio-statistics indicated in a preliminary evaluation of the data certain inadequacies in presenting a comprehensive interpretation of the data on physical health in this region, certain additional analyses will be performed. A sub-group of thirty children were selected for the egg-counts by a biostatistician in order to get a meaningful frequency distribution.

Determinations of hemoglobin, carotene, vitamin A, and electrophoretic pattern of serum proteins will be performed on those subjects not tested in the Phase I. The vitamin C content of the blood will be repeated on all subjects available to compare seasonal food intake patterns. A 15 ml. sample of venous blood will be withdrawn to assure an adequate volume for the following additional analysis: folate, serum iron, TIBC, transketolase, and alkaline phosphatase. The supplementary analyses will be performed at Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt University.

Determination of the average worm burdens for *Ascaris* and *Trichuris* in this region as well as a quantitative check for the spectrum of intestinal protozoa present will be performed by the Department of Biology, University of South Carolina. Attempts will be made to correlate the *Trichuris* worm burden with anemia as well as to correlate both the *Ascaris* and *Trichuris* burdens with deficits in height and weight. Also other possible correlations will be investigated.

III. INTERPRETATION OF DATA (PHASE I)

In an overall review of the analyses performed (Table I), it is evident that a significant number of subjects fall below the acceptable normal values of the constituents of the blood. On the other hand, the blood constituents that do fall within the acceptable range are on the low side (Table I). One out of five children has a blood level of vitamin C that is below normal. The blood levels of vitamin A are generally low in most of the children. Fifteen out of fifty are in the low or deficient range with four of these fifteen children exhibiting deficient levels. Of the thirty-five children in the acceptable range, eight are bordering on low level which brings approximately one-half of the children into borderline, low to deficient nutrition in vitamin A. No children are found to have high vitamin A levels. In the case of carotene, the interpretation of data is not as evident. No children are found to be in the low or deficient serum carotene level. In fact, thirty-seven out of fifty are considered to be in the high carotene range. This lack of correlation between serum vitamin A and serum "carotene" is undoubtedly due to the presence of non pro vitamin A carotenoids in the serum. Chromatographic separation of the pigment in several instances indicated the presence of a high percentage of lycopene and lutein. During the period of this study, the diet of the children consisted to a great extent, of tomatoes and watermelons. Both of these foods are rich in lycopene. This could explain the comparatively large number of acceptable and high values obtained for carotene.

From the electrophoretic data (Table II) it was seen that the mean values for albumin, alpha₁, alpha₂, beta and gamma globulins were: 58.6, 3.0, 9.2, 12.2, and 17.3 percent of serum protein respectively. On the average, the alpha₁ globulin level were slightly lower and the gamma globulin levels higher than normal accepted values. Seventy-three percent of these children were found to have the intestinal parasites, *Ascaris* or *Trichuris* or both (Table III) which may account for the elevation of their gamma globulin level.

Averages from 151 dietary recalls (Chart I) show that the daily nutritional intake of the children is below the Recommended Daily Allowance for individuals of their age with the exception of protein intake. If one considers that 66.6% of the RDA is a minimum diet, then these children are undernourished in over one half of their needs with only protein, vitamin A, riboflavin and thiamine falling between 66.6 and 100 percents and all other nutrients calculated (i.e.: calories, calcium, iron, niacin, and vitamin C) being below sixty percent.

It should also be noted that these children are situated in a rural area and many of the foods that were consumed during the first phase of this study were seasonal (tomatoes, watermelons, fresh fish, etc). There exists a real question in the minds of the investigators if they would continue to have even this minimal nutritional intake throughout the winter months.

An adequate number of soil analyses for a comprehensive study were not examined for parasite eggs; however, of the yard samples examined, infestation was observed in all samples.

VI. SUMMARY

It is quite evident from the data presented that a high degree of parasite infestation is prevalent in the area surveyed. Although the scope of this study was limited to one segment of the population, the indications were overwhelming that this is a critical and crucial health hazard affecting the dignity as well as the well being of all the citizens in this area.

The nutritional status was in most cases inadequate and in all instances minimal. The general knowledge in basic nutritional needs for growth and de-

velopment as well as proper purchasing and preparation of foods left a great deal to be desired.

This lack of education coupled with the inadequate sanitation facilities and poor personal hygiene not only hinders any progress toward helminth elimination but indeed contributes toward further infestation and continued "undernutrition".

Thus it is apparent that education, together with sanitation and chemotherapeutic treatment, is the key to open the door of health to these victims of environment, habit, and heredity.

The results of the clinical and physical examinations of the children, along with additional biochemical data to be obtained in Phase II of this study will be presented in a subsequent report.

VII. PROSPECTUS

Here is an instance of unparalleled opportunity where, by providing fundamental information and technical services, a people can be made fully knowledgeable of the causes of their plight and when given the assistance and encouragement necessary to eliminate these, rise above their dilemma. In so doing this populace will serve as a model and incentive to others in similar environmental, educational, and economic bondage.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of private practitioners, the Beaufort County Departments of Education, Public Health, Office of Economic Opportunity, and the many citizens who demonstrated their concern and interest. Special mention is made of Mrs. Laura Ann Bush and Mr. Thomas Barnwell, Jr., whose community organization made it possible to get the children to the clinic and improve the conditions causing reinfection.

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EXHIBIT A

Number _____ Name _____ Parent _____ Date _____
 Address _____ Head of house _____ Occupation _____ Mo. income _____
 Age to 3 mo _____ Ht _____ Ht Age _____ Wt _____ % Std. wt _____ Sibs _____

HAIR

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. dry | 43. splenomegaly |
| 2. dyspigmented | 44. diastasis recti |
| 3. pluckable | 45. umbilical hernia |
| 4. abn. texture or loss of curl | |
| 5. fungus | |

SKIN

SKELETAL

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 6. dry or scaling (Xerosis) | 46. chest deformity |
| 7. hyperkeratosis (Follicular) | 47. bleeding of ribs |
| 8. Hypopigmentation of face and hands | 48. bowed legs |
| 9. thick pressure points | 49. epiphyseal enlargement |
| 10. acne | 50. bossing of skull |
| 11. fungus | 51. flat occiput |
| 12. nasal labial suborrhea | 52. parietal protuberance |

NAILS

GENERAL

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 13. pallor | 53. normal |
| 14. clubbed | 54. obese |
| 15. spooned | 55. slender |
| | 56. undernourished |

EYES

SKIN FOLD THICKNESS

16. xerosis conjunctivae
 17. circumcorneal injection
 18. conjunctival injection
 19. Bitot's spots

LIPS

Triceps _____
 Subscapular _____
 Head cir _____
 Chest cir _____

20. angular lesions or scars
 21. cheilosis

REMARKS

GUMS

Laboratory High _____

22. periodontal disease
 23. bleeding gums

57. <8
 58. 8-10
 59. >12

TEETH

Hct _____

24. missing teeth
 25. carious teeth
 26. fluorosis

MCHC _____

60. <30
 61. >32

TONGUE

Serum Iron _____

27. papillary atrophy
 28. smooth
 29. fissured
 30. glossitis
 31. magenta
 32. pallor

62. <40
 63. >70

TIBC _____

64. <300
 65. >350

Folate _____

66. <4
 67. >7

GLANDS

Vit. A _____

33. parotid hypertrophy
 34. palpable thyroid
 35. visible, head normal
 36. visible, head extended
 37. Goiter WHO I
 38. Goiter WHO II
 39. Goiter WHO III
 40. Goiter WHO IV

68. <10
 69. >20

TSP _____

Alb _____
 70. <2.78
 71. >3.5

URINE

41. prominent
 42. hepatomegaly

Creatinine _____

Hydroxyproline _____

Hydroxyproline _____

Creatinine _____

72. <.20

TABLE I.—BEAUFORT COUNTY, S. C., SUMMER 1968

Preschool Negro children	Age	Hemoglobin, gram percent by—		Ascorbic acid mg. per ml.	Parasites ³	Carotene ug. per 100 ml.	Vitamin A ug. per 100 ml.	Protein gram percent	
		Cyan. ¹	Hematocrit ²					Total protein	Albumin
1. Driessen, Kenneth	2	11.9	12.5	0.6	A++++	131.0	26.3	6.7	5.1
2. Green, Margaret	3	11.0	10.1	.4	T++	120.0	36.0	7.4	4.8
3. Bryan, Julia	5	13.9	12.7	.8	A+++ T++	127.0	21.8	7.7	6.9
4. Bryan, Leatha	4	12.2	12.0	1.0	A+ T+	95.0	25.2	7.2	4.7
5. Gadson, Norman	4	12.2	11.6	.8	A+ T+	105.0	31.8	7.1	4.7
6. Fuller, Jerome Nat.	5	12.6	11.6	.8	-----	83.0	45.4	6.4	4.9
7. Frazier, Angelo	3	12.6	11.9	1.1	-----	156.0	34.5	7.6	4.3
8. Ford, Vivian	4	11.6	11.9	1.1	A+	122.0	30.9	7.1	5.5
9. Stevens, Leroy	-----	12.6	12.0	.7	-----	146.0	9.1	-----	-----
10. Robinson, Shela Ann	-----	12.9	12.5	1.2	-----	107.0	36.0	5.6	-----
11. Jenkins, Michael A.	5	12.6	10.9	.8	-----	97.2	40.3	-----	-----
12. Jenkins, Mary Frances	4	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
13. Dupont, Eugene	4	10.9	10.6	.40	A+ T++	-----	-----	8.2	5.2
14. Dupont, Sharon	3	8.0	7.4	.75	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
15. Dupont, Johnny	1	11.0	11.2	.80	T+	64.8	35.3	6.9	4.2
16. Major, Melvin	2	12.9	13.0	.75	A+ T+	129.6	36.3	6.9	4.8
17. Lawyor, Michael	3	11.0	11.3	1.1	A+++++	124.4	15.3	-----	-----
18. Lawyer, Warren	4	12.6	12.6	1.3	A+++ T+	110.8	22.6	-----	-----
19. Miller, Earline	2	()	()	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
20. Miller, Jacob	3	11.6	12.5	.9	T+	153.4	27.4	6.4	4.3
21. Murry, Harriet	2	11.9	-----	-----	A+ T++	98.4	10.5	6.1	3.9
22. Murry, Albert	3	11.6	12.3	1.0	T++	128.4	14.9	6.9	4.1
23. Green, Lucille	4	13.6	12.6	1.1	-----	118.0	29.8	7.4	5.1
24. Driessen, Angela L.	5	-----	13.0	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
25. Cohen, Kenneth	4	()	()	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
26. Frazier, Victor	4	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
27. Murry, Stephanie	3	()	()	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
28. Murry, Frankie Mae	4	()	()	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
29. Holmes, Rodney	2	()	()	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
30. Bush, Carol	4	()	()	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
31. Stoney, Vascula	3	10.0	10.5	1.0	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
32. Stoney, Nathaniel	5	10.0	10.7	.9	T+	130.2	22.7	7.2	5.6
33. Bush, Robert	2	()	()	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
34. Polite, Daniel	3	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
35. Hamilton, Michelle	3	11.9	11.6	.90	Neg.	76.4	46.7	8.3	4.6
36. Brown, Josephine	2	12.2	11.8	.85	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
37. Brown, Elizabeth	4	11.9	12.7	.90	T+	111.4	26.0	8.5	4.0
38. Green, Terry E.	4	7.5	9.0	.8	-----	71.2	8.7	8.0	5.6
39. Murry, Eckeron	4	12.6	11.0	1.12	A+ T+	94.0	8.7	7.2	4.8
40. Washington, Rodney	2	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
41. Perry, Lasonta	2	()	()	-----	A++++ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
42. White, Sherry A.	4	12.6	13.0	.96	A+++ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
43. White, Luvetha	2	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
44. Bush, Joyce	4	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
45. Fields, Alice Marie	4	11.2	11.8	1.28	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
46. Fields, Sharon	5	()	()	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
47. Fields, Carol Ann	2	()	()	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
48. Smith, Sherry	2	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
49. Fields, William	2	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
50. Jenkins, Larry	4	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
51. Jenkins, Saide A.	3	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
52. Chisolm, Patricia	5	()	()	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
53. Fields, Earnest	6	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
54. Fields, Joseph	8	()	()	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
55. Jenkins, Nathaniel	9	()	()	-----	A+ T++	-----	-----	-----	-----
56. Fields, Elaine	5	()	()	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
57. Frazier, McCarroll	7	()	()	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
58. Simmons, Luke, Jr.	2	()	()	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
59. Miller, Johnny	5	()	()	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
60. Brown, Christopher	7	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
61. Brown, Lisa	2	()	()	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
62. Brown, Kerry	5	()	()	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
63. Brown, Liza	3	()	()	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
64. Simons, Ann Marie	3	()	()	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
65. Mitchell, Verna	4	10.7	11.5	1.04	T+	-----	-----	8.3	4.4
66. Kannaic, Lucille	5	11.9	12.3	1.52	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
67. Kannaic, Alneatha	3	()	()	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
68. Kannaic, Linda	3	()	()	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
69. Mitchell, Pamela	3	()	()	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
70. Brown, Audrea	1	()	()	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
71. Powell, Carroll	2	()	()	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE I.—BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C., SUMMER 1968—Continued

Preschool Negro children	Age	Hemoglobin, gram percent by—		Ascorbic acid mg. per 100 ml.	Parasites ³	Carotene ug. per 100 ml.	Vitamin A ug. per 100 ml.	Protein gram percent	
		Cyan. ¹	Hematocrit ²					Total protein	Albumin
72. Powell, Pearl.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
73. Johnson, Linda.....	2	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
74. Williams, Audrey.....	6	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
75. Young, Glenn.....	7	11.6	11.7	1.52	A+ T+	-----	-----	8.4	4.4
76. Young, Jerome.....	3	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
77. Williams, Leola.....	7	(0)	(0)	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
78. Green, Lonnie.....	5	(0)	(0)	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
79. Green, Durwin.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	T+ A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
80. Frazier, Vernal.....	8	11.6	12.6	1.36	A++ T+	165.2	25.8	7.8	4.2
81. Frazier, Joseph.....	8	11.2	11.0	1.44	T+	145.8	25.8	8.2	4.7
82. Anderson, Nellie.....	3	(0)	(0)	-----	T+ A++	-----	-----	-----	-----
83. Frazier, Michael.....	7	12.6	12.0	1.76	A+ T+	184.6	33.1	8.8	4.8
84. Williams, Carletta.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
85. Anderson, Teresa.....	5	11.2	11.6	1.04	T++	78.4	21.8	7.9	4.1
86. Anderson, Abraham, Jr.....	10	11.2	12.3	1.84	T+	102.4	38.7	8.8	4.1
87. Mitchell, Larry.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
88. Mitchell, Richard.....	7	(0)	(0)	-----	A+ T++	-----	-----	-----	-----
89. Hamilton, Lillie Mae.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
90. Mitchell, Doris.....	9	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
91. Mitchell, Herbert.....	6	11.9	12.0	1.20	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
92. Mitchell, Angela.....	3	(0)	(0)	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
93. Mack, Terry Marie.....	3	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
94. Mitchell, Amos.....	3	(0)	(0)	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
95. Grant, Thomasina.....	-----	(0)	(0)	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
96. Grant, Thomasetta.....	-----	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
97. Grant, Thomas.....	-----	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
98. Grant, Odell.....	-----	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
99. Chisolm, Ladell.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
100. McCown, Anthony.....	6	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
101. Chisolm, Paul.....	2	(0)	(0)	-----	A+T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
102. Frazier, Ezekial.....	7	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
103. Graham, Thresa.....	2	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
104. Aiken, Eunice.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
105. Aiken, Alisha.....	1	(0)	(0)	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
106. Adult, Mystery.....	-----	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
107. Cleveland, Alan.....	5	11.9	12.3	-----	A+	162.0	12.9	7.6	3.7
108. Bush, Kelvin.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
109. Bush, Linda M.....	7	10.0	12.3	-----	Neg.	165.2	37.9	7.7	3.9
110. Collins, Frankie M.....	5	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	217.0	29.9	10.0	-----
111. Brown, Gideon.....	4	11.9	12.0	-----	Neg.	139.4	32.8	7.5	3.9
112. Brown, Agnes.....	5	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	155.6	25.0	8.9	4.8
113. Bush, Jessie M.....	6	(0)	(0)	-----	A+	178.2	16.9	7.1	4.3
114. Bush, Rufus.....	8	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	108.8	26.6	7.4	3.5
115. Brown, Karoy.....	3	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
116. Cleveland, Sarah.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
117. Bush, Barbara.....	2	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
118. Mitchell, Carla.....	2	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
119. Mitchell, Ruth.....	3	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
120. Bush, Wesley.....	3	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
121. Hamilton, James A.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
122. Young, Linda Marie.....	8	13.2	12.9	-----	-----	129.6	28.2	9.1	4.6
123. Young, Queen Esther.....	5	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
124. Young, Randolph.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	A++ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
125. Campbell, Gwendolyn.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
126. Campbell, John Glenn.....	4	(0)	(0)	-----	A+	148.0	1.6	8.1	5.0
127. Young, Walter.....	6	(0)	(0)	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
128. Green, Howard.....	3	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
129. Green, Karen Denise.....	2	(0)	(0)	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
130. Simmons, Rodger.....	6	12.9	13.0	-----	-----	90.0	16.1	8.0	4.2
131. Mrs. B.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
132. Jackson, Rosa.....	4	-----	-----	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
133. Rivers, Willie.....	6	-----	-----	-----	A+	154.2	46.8	8.8	4.1
134. Chisolm, Clarence.....	4	-----	-----	-----	T++	-----	-----	-----	-----
135. Chisolm, Jackie.....	7	-----	-----	-----	-----	148.4	23.4	8.3	5.6
136. Rivers, Eugene.....	7	-----	-----	-----	Neg.	52.4	23.4	7.7	4.4
137. Rivers, Clarence.....	4	-----	-----	-----	A+	113.4	29.1	8.8	5.0
138. Jones, Karen.....	4	-----	-----	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
139. Cohen, James.....	7	-----	-----	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
140. Jones, Ray Anthony.....	9	-----	-----	-----	A+ T++	-----	-----	-----	-----
141. Jones, Lillian.....	7	-----	-----	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
142. Jones, Cynthia.....	10	-----	-----	-----	T++	-----	-----	-----	-----
143. Stewart, Alvin.....	9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
144. Drayton, Elvis.....	3	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
145. Cohen, Marlin.....	5	-----	-----	-----	A+ T+	-----	-----	-----	-----
146. Stewart, John.....	4	-----	-----	-----	A+	-----	-----	-----	-----
147. Brown, Terri.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----
148. Brown, Ronnie.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	Neg.	-----	-----	-----	-----

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE I.—BEAUFORT COUNTY, S.C., SUMMER 1968—Continued

Preschool Negro children	Age	Hemoglobin, gram percent by—		Ascorbic acid mg. per 100 ml.	Para-sites ³	Caro-tene ug. per 100 ml.	Vita-min A ug. per 100 ml.	Protein gram percent	
		Cyan. ¹	Hema-tocrit ²					Total protein	Albu-min
149. Brown, Lisa					Neg.				
150. Ford, Keith Rodney	4				A+ T+				
151. Ford, Stephanie	3				A+				
152. Murray, Edward S.	2				A+++				
153. Green, Marie Antonette	3				A+ T+				
154. Green, Rebecca	4				A+ T+				
155. Mervin, Cynthia	3				Neg.				
156. Mervin, Jonathan	5								
157. Hamilton, Melvin					A+				
158. Hamilton, Elisa	8								
159. Simmons, Bettye	5				T				
160. Simmons, Brenda	2								
161. Givens, Zettie Mae	3				T				
162. Weldon, Terrance	6								
163. Weldon, Myron	5					108.9	21.0	7.9	5.0
164. Weldon, Debra	4								
165. Pinckney, James									
166. Patterson, Otis									
167. Turner, Barry									
168. Hollis, Ronald	6		11.7		T	111.5	11.6	8.5	4.6
169. Bush, John Wesley	5		10.7		A+	126.4	28.2	8.4	4.2
170. Edwards, Joan	8		10.7		A+	101.9	17.3	7.9	4.1
171. Edwards, Thomas	5		11.3		A+	90.7	16.1	8.1	4.3
172. Grant, James Albert	7		11.0		Neg.	97.2	16.9	7.5	4.6
173. Edwards, Raymond	9		10.3		A+	106.9	16.9	6.9	3.8
174. Byrd, Willie	4				Neg.				
175. Bryant, Christine	3				A+				
176. Edwards, Carolyn	2				A+				
177. Bush, Wesley	3								
178. Bush, William	4				A+				

Accepted normal range:⁶

Age of child:	Cyan. ¹	Hematocrit ²	Ascorbic acid mg. per 100 ml.	Para-sites ³	Carotene ug. per 100 ml.	Vitamin A ug. per 100 ml.	Total protein	Albumin
1 to 3	11.3	11.7	.77	Neg.	6-312	15-27	6-8	4-5.5
4 to 5	12.6	12.3	.77	Neg.	6-312	30-90	6-8	4-5.5
6 to 8	12.8	12.5	.77	Neg.	6-312	30-90	6-8	4-5.5

Percentage of subjects below normal:

Age of child:	Cyan. ¹	Hematocrit ²	Ascorbic acid mg. per 100 ml.	Para-sites ³	Carotene ug. per 100 ml.	Vitamin A ug. per 100 ml.	Total protein	Albumin
1 to 3	50.0	50.0						
4 to 5	61.9	65.2	18.43		(*)	(*)	2.0	14.0
6 to 8	63.6	73.3						

¹ Cyanomethemoglobin method.² Hematocrit value divided by 3.³ A = Ascaris; T = Trichuris.⁴ No blood.⁵ 1 ml. serum used.⁶ Authority: "Modern Nutrition in Health and Disease," edited by M. C. Wohl and R. S. Goodhart, Lea & Febiger (1955).⁷ 80 percent below 150.⁸ 20 percent below 20.

TABLE II.—BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA—SUMMER 1968

Serum Protein (Electrophoretic)¹

	Age	Albumin	α_1	α_2	β	γ	Total
1. Driessen, Kenneth	2	64.1	3.1	8.6	11.0	13.2	6.7
2. Green, Margaret	3	63.7	3.7	10.1	10.5	12.0	7.4
3. Bryan, Julia	5	58.4	4.2	8.3	8.3	20.8	7.7
4. Bryan, Leotha	4	62.1	2.8	10.2	6.7	18.2	7.2
5. Gadson, Norman	4	67.1	0.7	8.7	16.8	16.7	7.1
6. Fuller, Jerome, Nat	5	66.9	2.3	7.2	9.5	14.3	6.4
7. Frazier, Angelo	3	64.7	3.3	7.0	13.0	12.0	7.6
8. Ford, Vivian	4	71.1	2.2	6.6	7.3	12.8	7.1
9. Stevens, Leroy		63.3	2.6	6.6	14.4	13.1	
10. Robinson, Shela Ann		66.3	2.1	7.0	9.1	15.5	5.6
11. Jenkins, Michael A.	5	61.1	3.7	6.8	8.6	19.8	
13. Dupont, Eugene	4	55.4	3.6	3.6	11.5	25.9	8.2
15. Dupont, Johnny	1	61.2	3.0	5.9	11.2	18.7	6.9
16. Major, Melvin	2	70.5	3.3	7.4	9.0	9.8	6.9
17. Lawyor, Michael	3	70.3	2.8	7.5	9.7	9.7	
18. Lawyer, Warren	4	62.4	4.3	6.5	11.8	15.0	
20. Miller, Jacob	3	68.3	3.4	6.8	9.4	11.1	6.4
21. Murry, Harriet	2	64.3	3.4	11.4	9.5	11.4	6.1

TABLE II.—BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA—SUMMER 1968—Continued

Serum Protein (Electrophoretic) ¹							
	Age	Albumin	α_1	α_2	β	γ	Total
22. Murry, Albert.....	3	58.7	4.3	13.1	10.1	13.8	6.9
23. Green, Lucille.....	4	69.7	2.5	7.6	8.4	11.8	7.4
32. Stoney, Nathaniel.....	5	57.3	2.6	8.9	14.8	23.4	7.2
35. Hamilton, Michelle.....	3	52.2	3.6	13.0	11.6	19.6	8.3
37. Brown, Elizabeth.....	4	50.9	3.5	11.8	8.8	25.0	8.5
38. Green, Terry E.....	4	58.2	3.1	10.0	13.9	14.8	8.0
39. Murry, Eckeron.....	4	54.0	3.3	11.4	13.3	18.0	7.2
65. Mitchell, Vernal.....	4	51.4	3.4	10.6	14.5	20.1	8.3
74. Williams, Audrey.....	6	56.0	2.5	10.4	14.1	16.6	-----
75. Young, Glenn.....	7	53.0	3.7	7.9	13.4	22.0	8.4
80. Frazier, Bernal.....	8	55.5	2.4	6.7	9.8	25.6	7.8
81. Frazier, Joseph.....	8	54.1	2.5	8.2	13.2	22.0	8.2
83. Frazier, Michael.....	7	50.5	3.6	9.3	11.9	24.7	8.8
85. Anderson, Teresa.....	5	51.6	3.1	8.5	10.5	26.3	7.9
86. Anderson, Abraham, Jr.....	10	49.1	2.3	9.1	12.6	26.9	8.8
107. Cleveland, Alan.....	5	52.9	2.3	11.5	13.8	19.5	7.6
109. Bush, Linda M.....	7	50.5	3.6	11.3	15.5	19.1	7.7
110. Collins, Frankie M.....	5	53.6	2.9	10.7	14.3	18.5	10.0
111. Brown, Gideon.....	4	54.1	3.2	8.8	13.8	20.1	7.5
112. Brown, Agnes.....	5	57.2	2.8	11.0	11.7	17.3	8.9
113. Bush, Jessie M.....	6	57.9	2.1	10.7	15.7	13.6	7.1
114. Bush, Rufus.....	8	51.8	2.4	9.6	16.9	19.3	7.4
122. Young, Linda Marie.....	8	55.3	3.3	11.6	12.7	17.1	9.1
126. Campbell, John Glenn.....	4	55.9	3.8	10.2	14.0	16.1	8.1
130. Simmons, Rodger.....	6	51.0	3.4	10.5	14.9	20.2	8.0
133. Rivers, Willie.....	6	55.2	2.4	9.1	13.3	20.8	8.8
135. Chisolm, Jackie.....	7	62.8	2.9	7.9	13.6	12.8	8.3
136. Rivers, Eugene.....	7	55.5	3.2	9.7	12.2	19.4	7.7
137. Rivers, Clarence.....	4	54.4	3.2	6.9	14.6	20.9	8.8
163. Weldon, Myron.....	5	65.8	2.0	10.1	12.1	10.0	7.9
168. Hollis, Ronald.....	6	57.0	3.2	12.0	12.0	15.8	8.0
169. Bush, John Wesley.....	5	54.4	2.5	8.7	13.8	20.6	8.4
170. Edwards, Joan.....	8	58.9	2.7	6.9	13.7	17.8	7.9
171. Edwards, Thomas.....	5	58.6	2.5	12.3	12.3	14.2	8.6
172. Grant, James Albert.....	7	61.4	3.5	6.9	15.2	13.1	7.5
173. Edwards, Raymond.....	9	57.1	2.6	8.4	13.6	18.2	6.9
Versatol.....		61.1	3.6	9.3	11.4	14.6	-----
Average.....		58.6	3.0	9.2	12.2	17.3	6.9

GUIDE TO INTERPRETATION OF BLOOD DATA

	Deficient	Low	Acceptable	High
Total plasma protein: gm/100 ml.....	<6.0	6.0-6.4	6.5-6.9	>7.0
Serum albumin: gm/100 ml.....	<2.8	2.8-3.51	3.52-4.24	≥4.25
Plasma ascorbic acid mg/100 ml ¹	<1.0	1.0-1.77	.77-----	-----
Plasma vitamin A μ g/100 ml.....	<10	10-19	20-49	50
Plasma carotene μ g/100 ml.....	-----	20-39	40-99	100
Hemoglobin gm/100 ml ¹ :				
Ages:				
1 to 3.....	<10	10-11.2	≥11.3	-----
4 to 5.....	<10	10-12.5	≥12.6	-----
6 to 8.....	<10	10-12.7	≥12.8	-----
Hematocrit ¹ :				
(PVC) (percent):				
1 to 3.....	<30	30-35.0	≥35.1	-----
4 to 5.....	<30	30-36.8	≥36.9	-----
6 to 8.....	<30	30-37.4	≥37.5	-----

¹Data from those analysis performed in your laboratories will be interpreted as you suggested. However we feel that in the case of results from the hemoglobin, hematocrit, and ascorbic acid evaluations, the criterion listed will be more indicative of the existing situation.

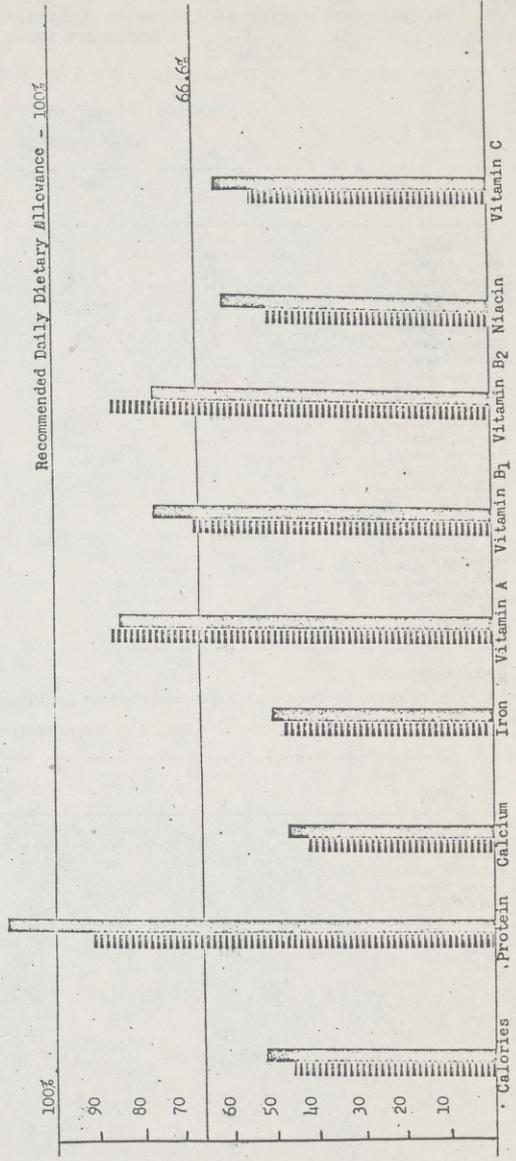
TABLE III.—INTESTINAL PARASITES IN PRESCHOOL NEGRO CHILDREN, BLUFFTON-HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. AREA

	Number of children	Percent of children
Infected with ascaris only.....	28	21.4
Infected with trichuris only.....	33	25.2
Infected with both ascaris and trichuris.....	35	26.7
Not infected with ascaris or trichuris.....	35	26.7
Total number of stools examined.....	131	100.0
Total number of children infected with parasites.....	96	73.3

CHART I
 RELATIVE NUTRIENTS IN DIETS
 151 PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN
 HILTON HEAD ISLAND-BLUFFTON AREA OF S.C.
 SUMMER 1968

 Average of Subjects
 From Table I

 Average of All Subjects
 Studied



SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

NUTRITIONAL STATUS AND INTESTINAL PARASITES IN PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN,
DECEMBER 1968

(Surveys and evaluations done by The University of South Carolina)

BEAUFORT COUNTY, DECEMBER 1968

NEGRO CHILDREN

Name	Age	Sex	Ascaris eggs/gram	Trichuris eggs/gram
Vernal Frazier	8	M	2,600	4,732
Michael Frazier	7	M	0	5,598
Durwin Green	4	M	49,266	9,200
Nellie A. Anderson	4	F	7,800	17,732
Carol A. Fields	2	F	133,098	0
Kenneth Drislesson	2	M	141,300	3,699
Clarence Rivers	4	M	(¹)	(¹)
Michael Lawyer	3	M	0	600
Stephanie Ford	3	F	17,266	0
Keith R. Ford	5	M	244,100	1,800
Norman Gadsen	4	M	5,132	24,800
Abraham Johnson		M	0	4,600
Angela Drissen	5	F	4,299	5,298
Nathaniel Jenkins	9	M	0	176,466
Nathaniel Stoney	5	M	0	1,320
Eugene Dupont	4	M	53,700	69,300
James Cohen	7	M	9,600	25,466
Lisa Brown		F	0	26,866
Carol A. Fields	2	F	45,400	0
Vernal Frazier	8	M	5,200	8,000
McCarroll Frazier	7	M	26,400	11,100
Keith R. Ford	4	M	273,200	2,800
Charles Reynolds	4	M	2,000	0
Paul Chislem		M	9,000	5,400
Michael Frazier	7	M	0	3,800

¹ Not enough stool.

Note: Some names are listed more than once because the specimens were collected more than once in those cases.

NEGRO AND WHITE CHILDREN

Name	Age	Sex	Ascaris eggs/gram	Trichuris eggs/gram
Desmith Drissen			61,000	1,000
Normon Gadsen	4	M	49,200	30,000
Randolph Young	4	M	42,800	14,800
Audrea Brown	1	F	27,600	900
Lori Nettles	4	F	0	11,200

WHITE PRESCHOOL CHILDREN, BEAUFORT COUNTY, DECEMBER 1968

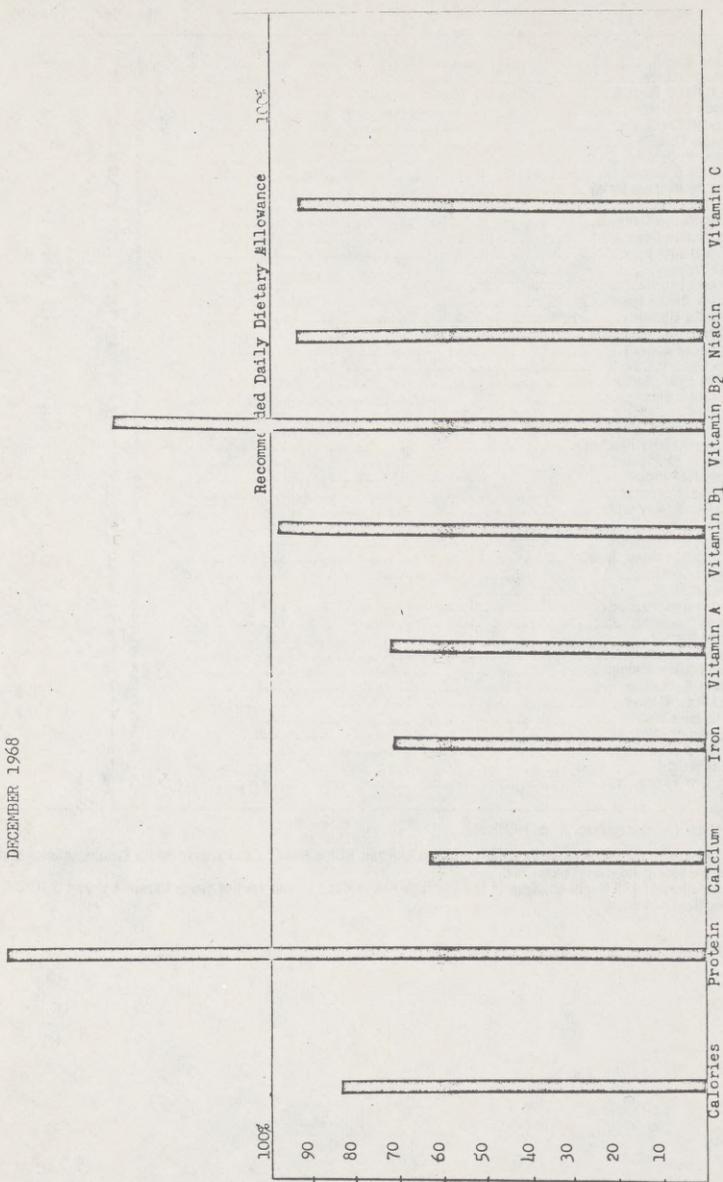
Name	Age	Sex	Ascaris	Trichuris
Donna Beach	4	F	-	-
Harvey Bethea	5	M	-	-
Jean Marie Bunton	3	F	-	-
Wendy Cooler	3	F	-	-
Wendell Creel	5	M	-	-
Charles Criddle	6	M	-	-
James E. Crosby	4	M	-	-
Michael S. Crosby	2	M	-	-
Beverly Michele Daley	3	F	-	-
Charles Dean	4	M	-	-
Dawn Renee Dean	2	F	-	-
Gay Jenine Dean	4	F	-	-
Mark Disquay	3	M	-	-
Lori Graves	6	F	-	-
Karen Lynn Heath	2	F	-	-
Jimmy Randy Heath	4	M	-	-
Priscilla Hopson	5	F	-	-
Rebecca Ann Hopson	2	F	-	-
Michael Kennedy	5	M	-	-
Lisa Lonson	5	F	-	-
Debra Lynn Nettles	2	F	-	-
Lori Ann Nettles	4	F	-	+
Richard E. Peavy	2	M	-	-
Raymond J. Peavy	2	M	-	-
Denise Adlena Pinckney	4	F	-	-
Mary T. Pinckney	2	F	-	-
Anita Gay Propst	4	F	-	-
Michael Reynolds	3	M	-	-
Charles A. Reynolds	4	M	+	-
Hugh Riner	6	M	-	-
Wayne F. Sheppard	2	M	-	-
Phillip Simmons, Jr.	5	M	-	-
Danna Smith	3	F	-	-
Lee Smith	5	F	-	-
James Spence	4	M	-	-
Susan Spence	2	F	-	-
Helen Tarver	5	F	-	-
Melissa Waldorf	6	F	-	-
David Allen Walker	4	M	-	-
Jamie A. Walker	3	F	-	-
Lisa Ann Walker	2	F	-	-
Sara Jane Walker	3	F	-	-
Bernadette Wilson	5	F	-	-
Richard Wise	4	M	-	-
Toni Wright	4	F	-	-
William Young, Jr.	5	M	-	-

Note: (- is negative, + is positive).

The above survey of 46 white children in the Bluffton-Hilton Head Island area of South Carolina shows that less than 5% are harboring intestinal parasites.

A survey of 131 Negro children in the Bluffton-Hilton Head Island area of South Carolina shows that 73% are harboring intestinal parasites.

RELATIVE NUTRIENTS IN DIETS
 56 PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN (White)
 HILTON HEAD ISLAND-BLUFFTON AREA OF S.C.
 DECEMBER 1968



A P P E N D I X B

PRESS REPORTS AND ARTICLES

[From the *New Republic*, Nov. 30, 1968]

THE WAY IT IS IN SOUTH CAROLINA—STROM THURMOND COUNTRY

(By Robert Coles and Harry Huger)

Robert Coles, a contributing editor of this journal and a research psychiatrist at the Harvard Health Center, is the author of *Children of Crisis*. Harry Huger is a lawyer on leave from the Washington law firm of Arnold and Porter to study government poverty programs.

No Southern state can match South Carolina's ability to resist the claims of black people without becoming the object of national scorn. Since 1954, cities like Little Rock and New Orleans, or small towns like Clinton, Tennessee, have become discredited as riots and mobs formed and did their ugly work. It was in relatively progressive North Carolina that the sit-in movement began. It was in proud, sophisticated (and boss-dominated) Virginia that a county closed its entire school system to prevent "race mixing" among the vulnerable young. It was in Jacksonville and St. Augustine, Florida, that bloody racial fights took place over and over again. Mississippi's notoriety needs no mention, nor do Alabama's Selma and Birmingham. In Albany, Georgia, one of the decisive battles of the early civil rights movement was fought. Through it all South Carolina remained relatively untouched and unnoticed, an island of unyielding segregationist defiance—managed and run, though, by exceptionally clever and cool political leaders who long ago learned how to dress up the rankest kind of hate and exploitation in those lovely, old, "fine-appearing" clothes that go under the name of "southern gentility."

Things were not always so shrewdly done in the state. Early in this century "Pitchfork Ben" Tillman and Cole Blease and "Cotton Ed" Smith went up to Washington from South Carolina and easily set the standard for any young, aspiring Southern politician who wanted to know the ins-and-outs of racist demagoguery. Back home, the state until recently was caught in a series of vicious and stormy feuds: between "city folk" and the farmers; between the highland, the industrial piedmont section, and the low counties along the coast; between mill workers and millowners; between proud, haughty, lovely, more than faintly decadent Charleston and the rest of the state, thought to be so boorish by the old seaport's self-conscious aristocrats, who have always known that a taste for azaleas, palmetto trees and antique furniture can keep the mind off those touchy political issues; and most of all, between the races, the whites and the many hundred thousand blacks who until around 1930 made up a majority of South Carolina's population.

It used to be that, in Rupert B. Vance's succinct words, "the ability to make a class appeal without offering a class program" took a skilled and loudmouthed politician to the governor's chair in Columbia and then up north, where the floor of the United States Senate had to be turned into the cheapest of backwoods stumps so that the "good white people" back home would feel racially redeemed if not well fed. Now a senator or congressman from South Carolina can take the home-front for granted and keep his eyes on much larger things—in the case of Rep. Mendel Rivers, the whole military establishment, and in the case of Sen. Strom Thurmond, the men Republicans nominate for President and Vice President.

Recently, and by no means for the first time, we traveled through Mr. Thurmond's state, and went through a saddening, yes a gruesome series of experiences in Mr. Mendel Rivers' congressional district. To be exact, we visited

Jasper and Beaufort counties, both south of Charleston; and just off the mainland, we spent time on Hilton Head Island, one of a number of colorfully named islands—St. Helena, St. Simon, Jekyll, Racoon, and most important, Parris—that hover over the coasts of Georgia and South Carolina. Once pirates escaped to Hilton Head and Parris Islands; now Marines by the thousands are there, and also rich tourists, who come to places like the Sea Pines Plantation for golf and sun and swimming, and often enough remain there forever in attractive homes purchased from the Plantation, which is both a resort and a company that among other things develops land, builds houses, plans whole communities. We had lunch at Sea Pines, but we also went to other parts of Beaufort County, to the homes of white and black people who live near the Plantation or the famous Marine base on Parris Island, or a Naval hospital at Port Royal, three miles away. With us was Dr. Milton J. E. Senn, a distinguished pediatrician, Sterling Professor of Pediatrics at Yale, and for a long time, head of Yale's Child Study Center. Also with us was Dr. Donald Gatch, a hard-pressed general practitioner, a white man who works among the poor of both races—alone, day and night, often for nothing.

What did we see among those poor? More to the point, how can we possibly convey the truth of what Dr. Gatch sees every day, convey it in such a way that a rich, powerful nation will pay even a token of attention? In fact, the nation is paying a kind of attention—to Dr. Gatch if not to his patients. Mr. Jamie L. Whitten represents Mississippi in the Congress and is chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture. In the past few weeks he has sent investigators all over the country to ask men like Dr. Gatch exactly why they have the gall to say that thousands of Americans are hungry, malnourished and disease-ridden. Dr. Gatch was closely questioned, as was Al Clayton, a first-rate photographer from Nashville, whose 200 or so photographs, taken all over the South and in Appalachia, recently shocked the Senate Subcommittee on Manpower, Poverty and Unemployment.

"I told those investigators to go look at my patients, dozens and dozens of them," Dr. Gatch told us. "I told them that it's a disgrace that investigators are sent down by the government to bother me—I work about 18 hours a day with those people and I don't live in a big fancy house—rather than the conditions here, the way these people have to live. There's a lot wrong here, but there must be a lot wrong in Washington, too."

In 1968, as Lyndon Johnson's Great Society comes to an end, as Richard Nixon's Presidency, dedicated to so-called "forgotten Americans," get ready to begin, we saw "a lot wrong" all right, and we saw "forgotten Americans" all right: "Well, no sir, there just isn't no work for me. There isn't. So, I don't have any money coming in, none. I have my neighbors and my brothers and they help. And I hope maybe soon I can get some work. Now my wife, she's sick, real bad sick, and I don't know what I can do. What can you do if you don't have a dollar and your woman, she's bleeding and your kids they seem sickly a lot of the time?" He is white, a white South Carolinian, a member of Mendel River's constituency. Mr. Rivers makes sure that billions of dollars go to arm this nation, but he certainly isn't going to do all that, only to let communistic schemes develop in Beaufort County—schemes that would provide that proud white Southerner with food and medical care and the work he craves.

Down the road we visited another family in Mr. River's district. The home stands on cement blocks, a wood and tar-paper shack, with newspapers stuffed in cracks here and there. There is no running water, no central heating, no electricity, not even an outdoor privy. Water is toted from afar, and it is bad water, pumped from a well that does not go deep enough, and is contaminated. The fields nearby take human waste; and flies and mosquitoes are everywhere. The house has no screens. In winter a small coal stove provides all the heat that eight American citizens will get. Beaufort County has a food stamp program—unlike some other counties in the state—and here is how that works: "You've got to have money to buy the food stamps, and if you don't have any, you can just go and starve to death. My husband is with me, and so we can't get any welfare, not a penny of it. He can't get work, and we don't know what to do. I guess you go north or you starve. If it wasn't for the little we grow and the fact we all try to look after each other, we'd be dead right now; yes, sir, most of us would be dead and gone."

Beaufort and Jasper counties are full of disease and hunger and extreme poverty. "We need a hundred Dr. Gatches," the woman in that cabin went on to tell us. "When you're born, you haven't much of a chance here. Chances are you'll die before you should. I can't believe God meant for us to bring children into

the world, only for them to go hungry all the time, and be sick every last day of their life." Her doctor agrees with her. Dr. Gatch describes the conditions in the county so grimly and sadly that he can easily be dismissed as hysterical or overworked and fatigued—until his listeners become his companions as he makes his medical rounds: "They're born in those shacks, hundreds and hundreds of children every year. If I don't deliver them, no one does—except the husband or a relative or a woman who calls herself a midwife, but has no training whatsoever, and keeps on shouting 'push, push' at the poor woman. Then from the day they're born they know trouble, the kind of trouble I once would never have dreamed existed in this country. Their mothers are poorly nourished. If they have a good milk flow, that's lucky; but you don't see bottles here, or many bottles of milk in these homes. The infant gets sick and there's no one to see him, no hospital for him to visit, no doctor or nurse—unless they get to me. Pretty soon the baby becomes hungry, then undernourished, then malnourished. His body doesn't have enough protein, or vitamins or minerals. His bones don't develop as they should. His muscles become weak and flabby. His joints are swollen. His skin is covered with sores and infections. He may get a cold—and die, die in a matter of hours; or they live on, but with all kinds of things wrong with them. You wonder how they do manage to live on."

We saw many of those children, and we saw the things wrong with them. We saw the food they eat: old, stale bread and grits and more grits and gravy over the grits. We saw sick children, sick with not one or two but a whole series of diseases. Dr. Gatch claims that every day he sees diseases like rickets, scurvy, beri-beri and pellagra. Medical students are taught that those diseases no longer exist in America; and upon our arrival Dr. Senn questioned Dr. Gatch very carefully about his patients, about their problems and symptoms. Then we all went to see them, the men and women and children we had talked about in a doctor's office; and we did indeed see what those medical textbooks describe: weak, lethargic children, with swollen legs and swollen bellies; children whose skin was dry and rough and infected and discolored and ulcerated and excoriated; children whose muscles were wasted, whose bones were quite obviously deformed; children who were no longer hungry, because they were too ill to desire food. Later, we discussed the blood tests that had to be done to clinch a diagnosis of this or that vitamin-deficiency disease—in contrast, that is, to such "routine" diseases as anemia or pneumonia or the worm infestations. But tests or no tests, Dr. Senn could only say, "Yes, the clinical picture is not only one of malnutrition, but vitamin-deficiency diseases—which really aren't supposed to exist in this country."

Not that we need any new and fancy medical or sociological studies of Beaufort County or dozens of counties like it in South Carolina and elsewhere. The facts are all there: 17,536 people in that one county have an income under \$3,000 a year; 11,064 see less than \$2,000 a year; 1,145 families get less than \$1,000 a year; only 898 people receive public assistance; in 1965 the infant mortality rate, among the very highest in America, was 62.4 per 1,000 births, the kind of figure one expects to see beside the name of an underdeveloped nation in South America, Asia or Africa; about four percent of Beaufort's people have health insurance; about half the county's people have less than eight years of education and 20.4 percent have been declared "functional illiterates"; over a third live in houses called "substandard"; and among blacks about four-fifths of the population has not gone beyond elementary school, and many have never had any schooling at all. "One third of a nation is ill-housed, ill-fed, ill-clothed," said Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1933. The white people of Beaufort County still have reason to say amen, and as for the black people, they must insist that the figure be doubled at the very least.

We doubt that Senator Thurmond or Representative Rivers will be much troubled by all those facts—obtainable from federal agencies located virtually next door to their offices—or by reports that thousands of their constituents are hungry, sick, jobless and penniless. But neither of those two honorable men can afford to ignore the implications of another set of medical statistics. In 1962, an article appeared in Public Health Reports called "Study of Intestinal Helminth Infections in a Coastal South Carolina Area." Hundreds of people were tested for worms, tested in order to determine the prevalence of parasitic infections in Beaufort County. Over 70 percent of the people examined carried worms inside them, and over 80 percent of the children were so infected. Dr. Gatch can show his visitors X-rays in which long worms are seen happily and snugly rooted in the intestinal walls of both young and old, black and white

American citizens. He estimates that over 90 percent of his patients suffer from round worms. Naturally the parasites have to live, so they feed off their hosts, who develop anemia, lassitude, weakness—and worse, because the eggs of some worms are carried through the blood to the lungs, where they incubate and frequently cause pneumonia. Of course, children in Beaufort County are always getting pneumonia, or so the socialistic Dr. Gatch says: "They'll be weak, anemic, underfed, and living in those shacks. A freezing spell comes; and they've had it; a baby dies here, another one there, next door. And the worms, they go all over the body—to the eyes, the lungs, the stomach, the liver. The other doctors here never see any of these people; and then when I describe conditions like these, they turn on me and call me every name in the book."

He has indeed been called every name in the book, and threatened with death again and again. For testifying before the Citizens Board of Inquiry into Hunger and Malnutrition in the United States, at hearings held in Columbia, South Carolina in November of 1967, he earned the additional contempt of his colleagues, who can't see why he "bad mouths" his neighborhood. If he is shunned by other doctors, he has a devoted following among people of both races—and his ideas are for a project that has so far cost the Plantation over \$15,000. A number of families have been singled out for an educational and medical program whose ultimate purpose is to determine how the county can essentially be freed of the worms that plague its people. The rich and powerful (and rather liberal) owners of the Plantation know that medicines alone cannot solve the problems. So long as houses lack decent sanitation and clean water the eggs and worms will reappear, however successfully eradicated (for a while) by a program of chemotherapy for everyone. Poor, badly educated people can be taught better habits, but they also need better homes if they are to stay well—and come to work as cooks, janitors and maids at places like Sea Pines Plantation, or for that matter, the Marine Base on Parris Island. At Sea Pines they are examined every six months for worms, which in Beaufort county can only be considered a tentative and ineffective effort at medical surveillance, all of which the men who run Sea Pines know very well. They also know that the tourists who come to their lovely and even spectacular resort would not take kindly to the news that worms are all over Hilton Head Island and Parris Island and Bluffton and other places in Beaufort county. Nor do the thousands of American soldiers and sailors stationed in the county deserve exposure to worms—which a nonmilitary employee can always bring in. We have heard a lot these days about the role of private enterprise—and the Department of Defense—in the war against poverty. Perhaps the people who run Sea Pines Plantation and our Marine Base on Parris Island will persuade their congressman and senator that a lot has to be done nearby—not to further communism, but protect a lot of free-enterprise in their state.

Certainly the poor people of Beaufort County, for all their sadness and weariness, would respond to any help that came along. In the midst of a very gloomy stay we happened to notice a sign that announced "Hilton Head Fishing Cooperative, Inc." Perhaps we were looking for something, anything to distract us, to divert us from the overwhelming misery—so much of it, and present everywhere, in shack after shack after shack, without let-up. We drove down a long, dusty road and met a strong, well-spoken man who is one of the Cooperative's officers. "It's bad here," he started out, but he also had a little hope for us: "A lot of people here they're gone. They're as good as dead. A lot of others, they go north—and then white people down here laugh, because they've got rid of us. And in the north, they get angry with us, and they forget it was down here that they treated us like this, and drove us so hard that we're half-dead, more than half-dead, by the time we get up there. I know, because I see people leaving here all the time. They carry South Carolina up to New York, and down here, the white people say 'good, good we got rid of them,' and up there, the white people don't get angry at the white people down here, no sir. They take it out on us. Yes sir, that's the way."

"A few of us, we figured we'd stay. We figure we'd build a few shrimp boats and try to get together; you know, work side-by-side and pitch in for one another. Then we heard we might get some help from the government, an FHA loan, so we could build a dock and a little railway to unload in, and carry the fish, and a place to work and store what we catch."

Eventually they got their FHA loan, and now the dock is built and a processing house is half done. We walked on the dock and on a beautiful southern midafternoon we could see those shrimp boats coming out of the Atlantic into the nicely protected cove. One boat had already docked and been emptied. Its crew worked busily on deck; the head of each shrimp had to be separated from its meaty tail,

the part we eat. The men took the shrimp between thumb and forefinger and in a flash the head was gone, and the rest of the shrimp at rest in a growing pile. Later the cargo would be washed, weighed, put on ice—and inspected by visiting buyers, from Charleston and as far away as Tampa. Yes, the sea was refreshing, and its quiet, uninterrupted blue, its gentle wind, and its sandy edges offered a brief respite from all we had seen and were to see. But we had other reasons to feel good. The black shrimpers appeared vital, confident, proud and industrious. They talked easily with the white buyers, and with some white shrimpers who were asking to join them. They also were showing some tourists around, guests at the Hilton Head Hotel, which is part of Sea Pines Plantation. For a moment, in front of the sea, all the barriers of race and class and region meant nothing. For a moment poor black men could help poor white men and even teach a few things to rich white men.

Yet up there in Charleston, that same day, *The News and Courier*, which seems to look upon the 20th century as one giant conspiracy, had other things to shout about than Beaufort county and its problems: "For 20 years, ever since Nixon exposed Alger Hiss, the master communist spy, the communists have hated and feared Richard Nixon. Hanoi would do anything to block Nixon's election. The communists know that with Nixon in the White House they would be in serious trouble." Now that Mr. Nixon will be going to the White House perhaps *The News and Courier* and Senator Thurmond and Congressman Rivers will be able to relax, sure at last that the Republic is no longer about to go communist. Perhaps they will look at other threats—at the death that stalks their state: death of infants; death of bones; death of muscles and skin; death of the mind and heart and spirit of thousands and thousands of American citizens. The day after his victory, before he headed south, Richard Nixon said he wanted to bridge various "gaps," between the young and the old, between the races, between his supporters and his critics. If he is interested, if he means what he says, he will find no wider gaps than the ones that prevail in his friend Strom Thurmond's South Carolina. At last South Carolina's distinguished Senator will have influence in the White House, because at last Mr. Nixon has got there. We have been promised real leadership from a man who aims to forget the political deals and maneuvers of the past and turn his eyes to the history books. The people of Beaufort county, who have their own history to live with, every single day, can only sit and wait.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Jan. 25, 1969]

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED—DR. GATCH: DEDICATED TO HUNGRY

(By Robert McHugh)

Controversy swirls about the head of Dr. Donald Gatch, soft-spoken physician who has dedicated himself to treating impoverished Negroes in Beaufort County.

Gatch, who came to South Carolina a dozen years ago from Nebraska, says children are literally starving to death in rural Beaufort County. They suffer from worms and diseases like rickets, scurvy, beriberi and pellagra, which medical students are told no longer exist in these affluent United States.

Dr. Gatch has described the plight of his Negro patients for national television networks, South Carolina newspapers, the New York Times and writers from *The New Republic* and *Esquire Magazine*.

The article in the *New Republic* was not a sociological study aimed at uncovering the causes of this extreme poverty and prescribing remedies for the condition. It was, rather, an indictment of South Carolina and the South in general, loosely pegged to the situation in Beaufort County.

Curiously, the article engendered a great deal of animosity directed at Dr. Gatch, despite the fact that a casual reading makes it clear that it is the authors, not Dr. Gatch, who castigate the South and South Carolina.

In fact, Dr. Gatch retreats from positions taken by the authors who view South Carolinians as callous people indifferent to the suffering of Negro children. Gatch, in fact, said in a recent interview that the Beaufort County legislative delegation has visited the Bluffton area where the poverty is most intense and has been making efforts to do what it can to alleviate the problem.

And the entire matter, he feels, is one in which the state and federal government must involve itself in a "crash program" to provide food, basic health

education, decent housing and jobs. He recognizes the vast scope of the problem and is more interested in solutions than in placing blame.

Asked if he thought race is a factor, he replied with quiet candor, "I find it hard to believe that if these children were white nothing would be done."

But on the other hand, he acknowledges that Negroes in ghettos such as Harlem are also suffering and he sees little difference between worms feeding on Beaufort County infants and rats feeding on the babies of Harlem.

And he says of the state of liberal Sen. Javits, "Racism is racism no matter where you find it."

Whether race is involved or whether it is not, here is a home in Beaufort County described by Dr. Gatch without emotion:

"They live in a wooden shack heated by a wood fire. The inside is smoke-filled. For supper they are eating cornbread and diluted coffee. There is one man, four women and each has a child. One was born just a couple of days before and has had no post-natal care. The cord has not even been tied. There are no baby clothes, and pieces of an old sheet are used for diapers.

"One mother is holding another baby who is four months old and has been sick for several days. The child has a large head, its eyes stare into space and it has not eaten for two days. They know the child is sick and might die. There is another child on the floor who has not been acting right. It can't stand very well and cries when it is touched. They are both very ill and could easily die."

These and other children Dr. Gatch describes are suffering from vitamin deficiency diseases and malnutrition. They may also have worms because the shacks they live in lack not only inside toilet facilities but don't even have outside toilets.

For those who do not believe such conditions exist, Dr. Gatch offers a simple suggestion: come to rural Beaufort County and see.

And he adds, "I have to believe America doesn't know what's going on. If it is aware of the starving people in Beaufort County or Harlem and doesn't want to do anything about it, America is a very sad country."

Dr. Gatch had done all that he can to point out the conditions of starvation as they relate to South Carolina. More, he has dedicated himself to treating as many of these people as he can see in an 18-hour day with little or nothing in return financially.

The South Carolina General Assembly is now in session. If it chooses not to believe Dr. Gatch it can easily dispatch a committee to study rural South Carolina's nutritional needs. And if there is one starving child of 10,000 the State can do nothing less than take immediate action.

No taxpayer any place in this great nation is so burdened that he can't afford to feed children who are dying of diseases related to malnutrition.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) Evening Post, Jan. 28, 1969]

CHARLESTON AREA HARBORS "ISLANDS OF MALNUTRITION"

(By Dora Ann Reaves)

There are "islands of malnutrition" in Charleston County.

Dr. Leon Banov, physician of the Carolina Lowcountry Blood Center, explained that "it isn't a question of what we have available, but of what we eat."

Several weeks ago Dr. Banov noted four women in a row who were rejected for blood donations because of low hemoglobin, or iron deficiency.

He questioned the women and discovered that three of the women were from a certain area of Mount Pleasant. The fourth was from another county; however, she had been living there only one week. Originally, the fourth woman was from the same area of Mount Pleasant.

"As a nation, America is very well fed," said Dr. Banov.

"The northeast portion of the country has the most iron rich diet. Next come the Southern States, and the other states trail.

In the past, Charleston County was noted for recurring outbreaks of pellagra. The reason was the large number of persons who ate a regular diet of butts meat and hominy.

"On that sort of diet you can expect all types of diseases," Banov said.

"Today, it is a question of proper habits.

"We have the makings of good nutrition," he said, "but people eat an improper selection. Money and nutrition is wasted on food fads, and diets specializing in 'health foods'.

"People develop a taste for a certain food. They think that, as a matter of instinct, they will select proper foods. That is not true.

"We learn in childhood what to eat. Our problem is here," Dr. Banov said.

"The groundwork for health is good nutrition. The basis for good nutrition is education."

Dr. Banov continued his story of the four women and others he had observed with iron deficiencies. The cause for the "pockets", he said, is that people within areas will develop a similar dietary pattern.

He presented each of the persons involved with an iron rich diet.

This consists of beef liver, beans, lean beef, pork chops, spinach, apricots, ham, green peas, prunes, chicken, eggs, oatmeal, sausage, broccoli and other foods.

"They don't have to go far to enrich their diets. In most cases they come back in a few weeks and are all right."

In some cases, diets are fortified by the intake of packaged vitamins. But with more and more education in proper diets, people see that these vitamins can be taken in foods."

Continuing nutrition education will bring about a disappearance of malnutrition, other than personal diet idiosyncrasies.

Banov also directs his donor rejects to the Charleston County Health Center where he serves as consultant, since retiring as its director.

The center services the homes of those having deficiencies and finds children suffering from the same malnutrition.

"The nation, the state, the county and the city generally are well fed," Dr. Banov said. The islands of malnutrition can be obliterated by proper habits."

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Jan. 29, 1969]

THOSE NEEDING HELP MOST CAN'T GET IT, SAYS OFFICIAL

(By Margie Odom)

"The people that really need help the most can't get it," said Wallace M. Taylor, associate director of the International Creative Research Foundation (INCREF).

Taylor was speaking of the thousands of persons in South Carolina whose incomes are far below the poverty levels set by the federal and state governments, but who for various reasons are qualified to receive little if any government aid.

The aim of INCREF, according to Taylor, is to raise these persons to the level where they can meet the minimum requirements to receive state and federal aid. In South Carolina public assistance payments reach only about 6 per cent of persons with family incomes under \$3,000, one in 10 of the children in families with incomes below \$2,000, and one-third of the families and one-half the individuals with incomes below \$1,000.

Taylor said that he wished to emphasize that South Carolina is not the only state with problems of this sort. Florida, Texas, Louisiana, Kentucky and other states have similar problems. If a workable plan can be developed to help these abjectly poor persons in South Carolina, it is possible that it might be used as a prototype for programs in other areas.

"We have the support of many influential state officials and both Sen. Fritz Hollings and Sen. Strom Thurmond have promised to give full support to our programs when we get ready to take action," continued Taylor.

The INCREF is concentrating at the moment on the Beaufort County area where Dr. Donald Gatch is working with many impoverished people.

"We plan to attack where federal money and outside money are not authorized. It is up to the private citizenry to take care of these people and not enough local money is available. Funds are badly needed. For instance, Dr. Gatch in December had to spend over \$4,000 for drugs alone while his number of paying patients is rapidly diminishing," Taylor said.

Gatch has had a great deal of response such as medical students volunteering to aid him in his work, but the volunteers have to be able to support themselves because there is not enough money available to pay their living expenses.

Many persons outside South Carolina such as Sen. Jacob Javits, R-N.Y., are very interested in the problem. The McGovern Committee which is a Senate committee on malnutrition and human needs has promised to come to South Carolina to observe the progress of INCREF if it can get something positive going.

Taylor said that his group has to turn from a research group into a service group.

"We don't want to waste time and money arguing over statistics, we want to take action," said Taylor. "When we raise these people to meet the minimum government standards for aid we can obtain money for various programs from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Department of Agriculture, and other government sources.

"South Carolina, for many years, has invested a great deal of money in its technical and economic resources, now the state must do everything it can to develop its human resources," Taylor said.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Jan. 29, 1969]

DO STARVATION, MALNUTRITION EXIST IN STATE?

(By Kent Krell)

Do starvation and malnutrition exist in South Carolina and to what extent?

Those questions were placed squarely before the legislature Tuesday by Rep. Travis Medlock, D-Richland.

He sponsored a resolution calling for creation of an eight-member committee to study "conflicting reports" of widespread "malnutrition, hunger and parasitic infestation" in the Palmetto State.

He cited articles in several national publications which reported victims of hunger and malnutrition were suffering from such parasites as intestinal worms in the state.

The articles generally mention Beaufort County, and report starvation and malnutrition are most prevalent among Negroes, especially children.

Medlock said preliminary studies by a team from the University of South Carolina, and statements by Dr. Kenneth Aycock, state health officer, point to the existence of malnutrition and parasitic infestation.

"There appears little evidence that starvation exists," he said, "but this charge should be completely investigated and a full disclosure of facts disseminated to the public at large.

"If the health of one child is seriously jeopardized by such reported conditions, the work of the committee will have been for good cause."

Medlock said that if the proposed committee concludes that news reports are totally without foundation, or that they are inaccurate or biased, "It will behoove the state of South Carolina to answer the charges in order to counteract national publicity which is damaging to this state."

But, he added, "If such conditions exist to any degree, all state programs relating to the problems, including the recently enacted food stamp act, should be evaluated and recommendations made as to their possible improvement.

"There is clear evidence that the program is not reaching nearly as many citizens as are eligible for its benefits."

Medlock's proposed committee would be composed of two House members, two senators, two gubernatorial appointees, the state health officer and the director of the State Department of Public Welfare.

Medlock's resolution was sent to the Ways and Means Committee.

MEDLOCK INTRODUCES PLAN—MALNUTRITION PROBE URGED

(By Levona Page)

Displaying a foot-long parasitic worm to prove his case, Rep. T. Travis Medlock, D-Richland, cited Tuesday a need for a legislative investigation of malnutrition and parasitic infestation in South Carolina.

Medlock introduced a resolution in the S.C. House of Representatives calling for an eight-member study committee to make a report either this session or next.

WIDESPREAD REPORTS

He said the already widespread reports of worm infestation in some counties could go so far as damaging the state's fledgling tourist industry. "The Depart-

ment of Parks, Recreation and Tourism and the Tri-centennial Commission are attempting to lure people to South Carolina, but on the other hand, there are adverse reports coming from the news media that there are hazardous health conditions in this state," Medlock commented.

The worm which he displayed in a small bottle was the product of a study of parasitic infestation in Beaufort County by a University of South Carolina research team.

The researchers, Dr. E. John Lease of the Pharmacy Department and Dr. Felix H. Lauter of the Biology Department, said preliminary findings of their study confirmed a high incidence of intestinal parasites in Negro children between the ages of two and five. Their study found 73 per cent of the Negro children infected, compared to five per cent of the white children.

COASTAL AREA

In an interview Tuesday, the two researchers said they had no statistics to compare the rate of infection in other areas of the state, but said the warm climate of the coastal area increases the likelihood of infestation. "It is prevalent in rural areas and anywhere there is an absence of sanitation," said Dr. Lauter. He added that the problem is not unique in South Carolina.

Medlock's resolution calling for the study followed what he said were "conflicting reports" in the New York Times, the New Yorker, Saturday Evening Post, New Republic and on NBC television about severe problems of malnutrition and hunger in South Carolina.

"The purpose of the committee is to ascertain whether or not there exists any substance to reported problems of malnutrition, hunger and parasitic infestation and if so, what steps can be taken by state government toward alleviating such conditions," Medlock said.

"If the committee concludes that the various reports are totally without foundation or that they are inaccurate or biased, it will behoove the state of South Carolina to answer the charges in order to counteract national publicity which is damaging to this state," he added.

Medlock said State Health Officer Dr. E. Kenneth Aycock has said there is a problem of malnutrition in the state.

"There appears little evidence that starvation exists, but this charge should be investigated and a full disclosure of facts disseminated to the public at large," Medlock said.

[From the State (Charleston, S.C.), Jan. 30, 1969]

HOLLINGS TO LOOK AT BEAUFORT CONDITIONS FRIDAY

(By Levona Page)

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., has scheduled a trip to Beaufort Friday to look into reported conditions of hunger and parasitic infestation there.

The senator's visit, which was confirmed by his Washington office, comes on the heels of a request earlier this week for a legislative study into malnutrition and parasitic infestation in the state.

ENOUGH

Meanwhile, a Beaufort County lawmaker contended Wednesday that these conditions in his county have been studied enough and now is the time for statewide action.

However, Rep. J. Wilson Graves, D-Beaufort, said he would not object to a legislative study into the matter if it will "focus attention on this condition statewide in a way that we can get action from the Legislature, the governor's office and Washington.

Another Beaufort legislator, Sen. James M. Waddell, Jr., has said he will speak on the Senate floor Tuesday to air facts concerning alleged hunger and worm infestation conditions in his county.

Earlier this week, Rep. T. Travis Medlock, D-Richland, introduced a measure in the House asking for an eight-member legislative committee to investigate reports of malnutrition and parasitic infestation in the state.

SPECIMEN

Medlock said his resolution was not aimed specifically at Beaufort County, but he displayed a parasite specimen that was collected in that county by University of South Carolina researchers who did a study there. Beaufort has been singled out in national news stories as having a serious malnutrition and infestation problem.

Graves said he thought an eight-member committee would be too small to adequately tackle the study. Medlock proposed that there be two members each appointed from the Senate, the House and by the governor and that the State Health Officer and State Welfare director be ex officio members.

"Personally, I think the committee would be too small," Graves commented. "If the purpose is to accept the findings of the university study and the health and welfare departments, and focus attention to this condition statewide in a way that we can get action from the Legislature, the governor's office and Washington, I think it will serve a good purpose."

"If the committee just gathers statistics, I don't think that will do any good."

EXAGGERATED

Graves said he thinks that the conditions have been exaggerated in national news accounts and he said Beaufort officials have been working to correct the problems. "The Board of Health and the Welfare Department have been aware of the problem that exists in the state and the South as a whole, and are willing to do all in their power to gradually eliminate the problem."

He noted that Beaufort was the third county in the state to put the Food Stamp program into effect and "to my knowledge it has been used successfully."

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Jan. 30, 1969]

THE POOR IN BEAUFORT COUNTY

Off the New York-Miami highway in Beaufort County is a road that leads to the coast. After a few miles this road divides, with one route leading to Hilton Head, the other going to Bluffton.

Not many years ago Hilton Head was a wild, deserted, isolated island. A bridge connected it with civilization, and astute development turned it into one of the most glowingly popular and luxuriously appointed resorts on the Atlantic seaboard.

The Bluffton area has been brought into the national limelight recently for what it has not done to keep pace with modernity. Time has passed it by. Many of its people, principally black, live primitively.

They are in a pocket of poverty and ignorance. They lack the essentials of sanitation, proper medical care, and healthful diet. Attention has been directed to them by Dr. Donald Gatch, who came from Nebraska 12 years ago, dedicating himself to treating impoverished Negroes in Beaufort County.

Interviewed by Managing Editor Robert McHugh for his Saturday column in The Columbia Record, Gatch said that "children are literally starving to death in rural Beaufort County. They suffer from worms and diseases like rickets, scurvy, beriberi and pellagra, which medical students are told no longer exist in these affluent United States."

The physician cited the need for a crash program by state and federal governments to provide food, basic health education, decent housing and jobs as a solution to the crisis.

Ironically, one of the major problems is improper diet that relies on starchy foods. The children need vegetables and milk. Yet Beaufort County is one of the leading truck growing areas, and tourists going to the beach ride by verdant pastures that are the feeding grounds for herds of fat cattle.

The most immediate needs for the poor of the Bluffton area are clinical attention for children and expectant mothers, and parental education to correct sanitary and dietary deficiencies.

Private enterprise has worked a physical miracle in the re-creation of Hilton Head from a primitive state. Government and concerned organizations should do no less in the re-creation of environment for the new generations of neighboring Bluffton.

[From the News Courier, Jan. 31, 1969]

HOLLINGS TO HEAD TOUR TO INVESTIGATE HUNGER

(By Rudolph A. Pyatt Jr.)

WASHINGTON.—U.S. Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., will lead a fact-finding tour today in Beaufort County to determine the extent of widespread hunger reported in that area of the State.

Hollings will be accompanied on the tour by State Sen. James M. Waddell Jr. of Beaufort County; State Health Officer Dr. E. Kenneth Aycock; the Rev. I. Dequincy Newman, S.C. field director for the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); William Smith, executive director of the U.S. Senate's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, and Beaufort County officials.

Today's fact-finding tour comes at the height of a growing nationwide controversy over published reports of hunger. It also precedes in South Carolina, phase two of the National Nutrition Survey ordered by congress in 1967.

South Carolina is one of five states in which phase two of the national survey will be conducted. The survey probably will begin sometime within the next month or two, a spokesman at the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare said.

Attention was focused on Beaufort County after Dr. Donald E. Gatch of Beaufort disclosed findings of a study he made alleging serious cases of malnutrition among children, often causing death.

Hollings, Thursday, had doubts about reports of widespread hunger in Beaufort and nearby Jasper counties.

"You have a problem really not of hunger but malnutrition," the senator said.

By visiting the area in question today, Hollings said he hopes to find what the problem really is and then determine how it can be solved.

"We are going to try and focus on the problem and then give direction to solving it. And I think I can find a way," he said.

Hollings observed that it is common to find isolated cases of hunger or poverty in a community. "But when you have 1,500 families involved, then it's time for the government to act," the senator said.

There have been volleys of charges and counter-charges with various groups, agencies and individuals attempting to place blame for alleged conditions existing in Beaufort County.

Hollings said he wants to determine the answers for himself.

Beaufort County, in all probability, will be one of the sample areas of the state selected for the National Nutrition Survey.

The chief of HEW's nutrition program, division of chronic diseases, told the Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs last week field activities or sampling had not begun in South Carolina.

Dr. Arnold E. Schaefer testified that initial contact had been made and that a single briefing conference was held at the request of Gov. Robert E. McNair.

In lengthy testimony before the committee headed by U.S. Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., Dr. Schaefer defined malnutrition as a "generic term encompassing undernutrition, overnutrition, and nutrient imbalance."

Dr. Schaefer appeared before the committee to give senators a progress report on the national survey. He said early results from phase one have yielded "definite signs of malnutrition."

The first five states covered in the survey are Texas, Louisiana, New York, Kentucky and Michigan.

California, Washington, West Virginia, Massachusetts and South Carolina will be surveyed in phase two.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) Evening Post, Jan. 31, 1969]

HOLLINGS VISITS BEAUFORT TO SEE HUNGER PLIGHT

(By Jack Leland)

BEAUFORT.—Action "now" to help Beaufort county poor people is needed, Negro community leaders said here today.

They made their plea to Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., during a whirlwind "look see" tour of Beaufort and Jasper counties' rural area.

Hollings was accompanied by William Smith, executive director of the special Senate Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs. They were met here by state, county and community officials.

They visited a number of "poverty pockets" on Ladies', Hilton Head and St. Helena Islands and Burton and Bluffton.

Typical of the individuals visited were Mrs. Sarah Smith on Warsaw Island, Murray Holmes, 83, Saxe Village, and Mrs. Annie Holmes, 38, of Frogmore.

In each case poverty was obvious. Mrs. Smith is an 86-year-old invalid. She lives in a rickety, one-room frame house, 16 by 10 feet, and takes care of a ten-year-old grandson whose parents abandoned him and "went north."

The house has no electricity and no water supply. Water must be toted by hand from a neighbor's house about a half mile away. There is no toilet. A small wood-burning stove is used for both heating and cooking. Another grandchild, a teenage girl, comes by after school and cooks for the pair.

Murray Holmes has a five-acre farm which shows no signs of having been farmed recently. He has a horse and a wagon and a television set, but very little income. He is not qualified for social security and was placed on welfare only last month. However, he says, the "people" took \$35 out of his first month's \$40 check to pay for medicare.

The erect and alert Holmes does yard work occasionally and is paid three dollars a day plus lunch. Holmes and his wife take care of two grandchildren, 10 and 12 year old boys. These get hot lunches at the school by paying 35 cents a day. The children's parents live "up north", Holmes said, and send money for school books—but that's all.

At Frogmore, Mrs. Annie Holmes held her 15-month-old daughter Sandra on one hip as she talked with Sen. Hollings and the Beaufort County medical director, Dr. H. Parker Jones. She said her older children were victims of worms the size of a six-inch pencil. Dr. Jones explained that the parasitic worms are distributed through human feces and eggs can be picked up on bare feet. He said lack of toilet facilities helped spread the worms.

"It's a pretty hard thing to control. The adult worm lays as many as 200,000 eggs at a time, he said.

Thomas C. Barnwell Jr., a leader of the Hilton Head pilgrim community, was vociferous in his request for immediate action.

Barnwell told Hollings, "There has been too much talking and not enough action. If you come down here just to talk. You might as well forget it."

When Hollings said the free lunch program had been extended last year and should now provide a free lunch for all pupils, not just the lower seven grades, Barnwell said, "Well, Senator, that hasn't trickled down this far yet. Maybe we're too far down the coast. Anyway we haven't got it yet."

Hollings said the visit was a fact finding one and that he would report his findings to the committee in Washington.

The visit today grew out of charges made during the last 18 months that there was widespread malnutrition and even starvation in Beaufort County.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Jan. 31, 1969]

HUNGER CHECKED

BEAUFORT.—Sen. Ernest F. Hollings visited Beaufort County today to investigate reports of hunger and malnutrition among low income families.

Questions of whether hunger and malnutrition exist in the coastal county were raised last year after a private organization made a nationwide survey which included Beaufort.

During legislative sessions this week, the lawmakers were asked to create a committee to study the reports and determine what action should be taken, if any.

Sen. James M. Waddell, Jr., D-Beaufort, has served notice he plans to present the facts concerning alleged hunger and parasitic infestation in his county when the Senate reconvenes Tuesday.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) Evening Post, Feb. 1, 1969]

IGNORANCE A PRIME FACTOR IN BEAUFORT NEGRO POVERTY

(By Jack Leland)

BEAUFORT.—Ignorance, poverty, mis-information and apathy emerged as prime factors in cases of extreme poverty among Negroes investigated here Friday by Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C.

The state's junior senator's car ran out of fuel early in his 156-mile "look-see" visit to the area, but Hollings finished the day ahead of a following pack of newsmen.

Expressing "shock" at what he saw, Hollings said, however: "I'm encouraged because of the fact the community at large tended to strengthen Dr. Gatch's 1967 charges that poverty, malnutrition and starvation were prevalent among Beaufort County's poor Negroes.

One of the first area problems brought to Holling's attention was that of domestic water supplies on Warsaw Island, a peninsula enclave of about 45 families on St. Helena Island. Barnwell told Hollings: "These people have been asking for a water system for 10 years. Their shallow wells produce only brackish and sometimes salt water. They need to be tapped in to the Beaufort-Jasper Water District system right now. We've had enough talking. This is a federal, state and county responsibility."

Asked by a newsman if any community or individual efforts had been made to create a cooperative water system, Barnwell said: "These people need help from the outside."

The tour passed or visited such places as Foot Point, Saxe Village, Whale Branch, Okatee, Distant Island, Land's End and other remote "corners" in the Sea Island area.

In an area where the earth produces food readily and climate permits year-round vegetable production, hardly any green crops were seen.

* * * * *

The tour is a preliminary to "Phase Two" of a National Nutrition Survey ordered by the Congress two years ago. South Carolina is one of five states to be studied. Five already have been surveyed by agents of the "McGovern Committee," so-called because of its chairman, Sen. George S. McGovern, D-S.D.

With Hollings was William Smith, the committee's staff director. The area they toured first, Ladies Island, was the first Southern area to be "liberated" by Federal troops in the Civil War. The Negroes living there today are descendants of the first slaves to be freed.

The touring group was led to "poverty pockets" and individual cases were cited as indicative of the needs of the residents. Dr. E. Kenneth Aycock, S. C. state health officer; Sen. James M. Waddell, Jr. of Beaufort County; the Rev. I. De Quincey Newman, S. C. field director for the NAACP and Charles E. Corley, director, S.C. Environmental Sanitation Division, came here for the tour.

They were directed to the "specimen cases" by three area Negro leaders. These were Thomas E. Barnwell, Jr. of Hilton Head Island, former assistant director, Beaufort-Jasper Office of Economic Opportunity; A. J. Brown, Frogmore merchant and county health board member, and William Grant, Beaufort NAACP official and chairman of Beaufort's Grassroots Rehabilitation Involvement Program.

Dr. Donald E. Gatch of Bluffton joined the group there. A medical survey report made by a Navy doctor was produced by Courtney P. Siceloff, director of Penn Community Services and a long-time worker in the civil rights movement in Beaufort County.

[From the Charleston State (S.C.), Feb. 1, 1969]

BEAUFORT COUNTY—S.C. POVERTY AREA TOURED BY HOLLINGS

"FEDERAL PLANS POSE BOTTLENECK"

(By William D. McDonald, Staff Writer)

BEAUFORT.—Sen. Ernest F. Hollings led a fact-finding tour through poverty areas in Beaufort County Friday, and afterwards said the biggest bottleneck to poverty cures was federal programs.

Hollings told newsmen he was beginning the tour with no firm ideas about poverty, but he was there to "formulate a united front."

Accompanied by many other state and local leaders, the Charleston senator began the exhausting tour on St. Helena Island and ended it seven hours later on Hilton Head Island a few miles from the Island's plush resort hotel.

In the party were State Sen. James M. Waddell Jr., D-Beaufort; Dr. E. Kenneth Aycock, state health officer; the Rev. I DeQuincey Newman, S. C. field director

for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and William C. Smith, staff director of the U.S. Senate Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

During the seven-hour tour Hollings saw evidence of extreme poverty, visited in low-income homes, asked questions and held out some hope for eventual help. "This is an eye-opener from the standpoint of not just finding hunger and malnutrition, but finding frustration and the end result of government entanglement," he told newsmen.

He cited "overguiding, oversupervised and over-requiring" federal programs as the reason.

Throughout the tour, he seemed impressed by repeated stories of inability to get federal home loans, food stamps, welfare benefits and clear title to land on which homes could be built.

At one point on the tour Friday, a former assistant director of the county's Office of Economic Opportunity program also seemed disturbed at the frustrated efforts of the poor in the area.

Thomas C. Barnwell Jr., now employed by the Federation of Southern Cooperatives in Atlanta, walked up to Hollings and asked, "You've come," he said heatedly, "are you just going to talk, too? Let's cut some tape," he said.

Barnwell told Hollings about the problem Warsaw Island people have had in getting water from Beaufort piped to the island. "The community has made the efforts and surveys have been made, but they've had problems in getting a proper plan approved."

The tour came at the height of a controversy over published reports of hunger in Beaufort County. It precedes the second phase of a national nutritional survey ordered by Congress in 1967.

Dr. Donald E. Gatch of Beaufort, who disclosed findings alleging serious cases of malnutrition among children, also joined the tour.

First stop was Warsaw Island, where Hollings visited the remodeled home of an elderly Negro woman. The home is the result of a government and community project.

But Hollings was impatient at being shown "improvements."

"What I want to see is unimproved places and those kids—I want to see one that's starving."

At the next stop, Hollings visited an 83-year-old Negro man who supports a wife and three children on a \$40-a-month welfare check. "Whatever else I get, I make off my mule and plow," he said.

At another home, Hollings talked with a 13-year-old girl who attends school on a part-time basis. Most of the time she stays home to care for her brothers and sisters. When questioned about parasitic worms, the girl told Hollings that her 3-year-old brother "coughs up worms."

Dr. Gatch explained that the worms, which live in the lining of the stomach, often crawl up the throat seeking food.

"These worms are so big and eat so much that the child has to eat twice as much just to keep going," Gatch commented. He said if the child is not treated early enough, "he'll become a person with a lowered IQ and not able to keep a job."

A bill was introduced in the S.C. House of Representatives this week requesting a study of parasitic infestation in children and the extent of malnutrition in the state.

In another house in the Bluffton area of the county, Hollings visited a mother of ten children, one of whom is mentally retarded. The woman supports the family on a \$116 monthly Social Security check. She is eligible for food stamps, but was unaware of the program.

Sen. Waddell, in referring to the situation, said the problem often was getting information disseminated. "The food stamp people don't have anybody in the field," he said.

In the Sheldon area of the county, Hollings visited a Negro woman who has been blind more than forty years. Although she receives an old age assistance, the check is too small to pay the cost of food stamps.

"I've heard about duplication, but I don't see it here," Hollings said. "It seems that these people have been short-changed."

In the Pritchardville area, a mother of 15 thanked the senator for his visit, and asked for "all the help you can give me." Her number-one priority was a day-care center to help take care of the children in the area.

Hollings, along with Dr. Gatch, visited one home where Gatch was treating a little boy for scurvy and a girl for rickets. "This home is typical of the problems you encounter in this area," Gatch said.

Sen. Waddell estimated that from 300 to 500 families with similar problems live in Beaufort and Jasper counties.

At a brief news conference following the tour, Hollings praised the Beaufort County leaders for their "positive leadership on every level." "I don't think Beaufort is the worst county in South Carolina," he said. "They do have an awareness of the problem."

[From the New York Times, Feb. 2, 1969]

HOLLINGS ASSAILS U.S. OVER HUNGER—CAROLINA SENATOR SAYS RED TAPE CURBS LOCAL AID

BEAUFORT, S.C., Feb. 1—Senator Ernest F. Hollings says that "Federal road-blocks and red tape" are frustrating local efforts to deal with problems of extreme poverty.

Mr. Hollings, a democrat and former Governor, made the comment yesterday after a day-long tour in rural Beaufort County. On the tour he saw a near-starving baby and problems of malnutrition and Hollings said later that he planned to recommend that free school breakfasts and lunches be provided in poverty areas to get children to school and to provide nourishment. He found a number of school-age children at home during school hours, some taking care of younger children.

"Congress is going to have to take the hunger problem and cross agency lines and come up with a solution," Mr. Hollings said. It is "fundamental to get food to the people," he added.

They did not participate in the food for stamps program because of the lack of money to pay for stamps or lack of transportation to go purchase them. Under the program, the Federal Government sells stamps that can be redeemed at local stores for more than the cost of the stamps.

RIGHTS AIDES ON TOUR

The state health officer, Dr. E. Kenneth Aycock, and State Senator James M. Waddell of Beaufort, toured with Mr. Hollings. Others on the trip included I. DeQuincy Newman, state field secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Paul Matthias, executive director of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations; and William C. Smith, a Congressional aide who toured the Mississippi Delta with Senator Robert F. Kennedy in 1967 to see conditions among poor Negroes.

Mr. Hollings said he had found local officials and community leaders very frustrated because of "bottlenecks" at the Federal level in getting approval of programs. One of his guides, Thomas Barnwell Jr., told Mr. Hollings, "I hope you didn't come just to talk, but that you can cut some red tape."

For part of the tour, Mr. Hollings was accompanied by Dr. Donald Gatch, a physician who angered others in the medical profession here when he called national attention to local problems of malnutrition and intestinal parasites more than a year ago.

Dr. Gatch, whose office is in Bluffton, said that 18 or 20 wells he checked recently in the Bluffton area were contaminated.

At Dr. Gatch's office, Mr. Hollings saw a 7-month-old Negro girl whom Mr. Smith called "as close to starvation as I've seen." Dr. Gatch said the child had just been brought in and suffered from scurvy and was infected with hookworms and intestinal parasites.

PELLAGRA VICTIM FOUND

In a shack in which 16 persons lived and one of many that lacked an outdoor toilet, Dr. Gatch displayed a patient he said suffered from pellagra, a disease that he said was not supposed to exist in the United States. Pellagra causes skin, stomach and nervous disorders.

An old refrigerator inside the house contained only a slab of fatback, a jar half full of locally harvested oysters, and a stick of margarine.

Dr. Aycock said that the man appeared to be suffering from the cardinal symptoms of pellegra but he could not say for sure whether or not he had the disease.

In the same house, one small child had rickets and another was reported by Dr. Gatch to be recovering from scurvy. Other children in the household showed symptoms of severe protein deficiency, he said.

Senator Waddell estimated that 300 to 500 families, most with large numbers of children, lived in conditions that were little better than this in Beaufort and adjacent Jasper County.

He said he was pleased to "get the message across that red tape on the Federal level prohibited implementation of many programs."

Mr. Hollings, who a year ago toured urban slum areas in South Carolina with Mr. Newman, the N.A.A.C.P. official, said that conditions in other counties were probably worse than those in Beaufort, partly because local leadership here was shown that it wants to solve the problems.

[From the State (Charleston, S.C.), Feb. 2, 1969]

PARASITES PROMPT PROBE IN S.C.

(By Levona Page)

When mothers in Beaufort County discovered their children were infected with parasitic worms, they thought it came from eating too many sweets.

The only thing they knew to do about it was to stop giving their kids candy bars.

Reports of these conditions are being documented in a study by two University of South Carolina professors.

Their study was prompted by testimony last spring of large scale malnutrition in South Carolina's lower coastal area. This testimony before a Washington fact-finding group prompted numerous articles in state and national publications, most of them highly critical of South Carolina.

National attention on the problem prompted a visit to Beaufort Friday by U.S. Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, and a request in the General Assembly for a legislative investigation into reports of malnutrition and parasitic infestation in humans in South Carolina.

And the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism (PRT) is remaining on the alert for indications that the state's fledgling tourist industry might have been hurt by critical remarks televised in Canada about health conditions in South Carolina.

The two USC professors, Dr. E. John Lease of the school of pharmacy and Dr. Felix H. Lauter of the biology department, are anxious that their study be viewed as constructive criticism, not just as statistics to document undesirable conditions.

"All the mothers we talked to knew their children had these parasites and they wanted to rid their children of them, but they didn't know how," Lease said. "It is just a matter of education."

In Beaufort, the site of some of the worst poverty areas as well as the state's plushiest resort—Hilton Head, the matter is becoming more and more uncomfortable for officials there. Not only are they concerned for the health of their residents, they are worried about the impact the unflattering reports will have on their tourist business.

PRT officials now have an ear to Canada, listening for repercussions of a repeat telecast there of the NBC news broadcast about malnutrition and parasitic infestation in residents of Beaufort. According to PRT Director Bob Hickman, the NBC news spot was shown in Toronto, Canada, about Christmastime and was followed by a comment by the newscaster there to the effect that "the temperature is near zero in Toronto and many Canadians at this time are beginning to think about travelling to a warmer climate . . . in view of this report, the question is, should we?"

Hickman said he is "not interpreting one way or another whether this will affect our tourist industry," but he said the PRT representative in Canada is listening out for possible reaction. Last year, approximately 28,000 Canadians visited the Grand Strand during Myrtle Beach's annual Canadian-American Days. Advance reservations so far have indicated the number will be higher this year.

Meanwhile, the question is what can be done here to correct problems of malnutrition and parasitic infestation?

Lease and Lauter say the emphasis is on education . . . the long range hope. When the university was offered a \$15,000 grant from Field Foundation to make a study into the reports of malnutrition and worm infestation in Beaufort, Lease thought at first the answer would be simply one of treatment. But he realized the problem was more serious when 73 per cent of the 131 Negro children between ages of two and five in the Bluffton area were found to be infected with parasites, and their mothers knew nothing of how to prevent this disease.

"It became obvious that there is a need for an educational program so that the mothers who were coming in with their children for de-worming treatment would not believe that they should withhold such things as sugar from them" Lease said.

The parasitic infestation exists, the professors said, because of unsanitary waste disposal . . . outdoor bathroom areas become children's playgrounds and the horrible cycle starts. Unclean hands which inevitably wind up in children's mouths are convenient carriers for parasites.

Although they may grow to be from eight to 12 inches in length, the parasites start out so small there can be thousands of eggs on a single pinhead. A female parasite can lay up to 200,000 eggs a day and the eggs can exist for several years in soil that has the right combination of warmth, humidity and oxygen.

Once infected, a child's intestines may have anywhere from a single worm to 100, Lauter said.

Such conditions conjure up mental pictures of extremely filthy living conditions, but that is not always the case, according to Lauter. "Sometimes this can be very subtle," he said.

Beaufort County physician Dr. Donald Gatch, one of the first to make the controversial allegations about conditions in his county, said in a recent interview that bad water is one reason these situations exist.

He told of one area in Beaufort County where 99 people get their water from nine wells, seven of which are shallow. All of the seven shallow wells were contaminated to the extent the water was rated unfit for human consumption. He said the suitability of shallow well water depended on its location in respect to outdoor toilets and animal pens.

Gatch also said there is an urgent need to provide free lunches to 50,000 to 75,000 children who come from poverty level families.

Lease said there is also need for simple instruction on a basic diet and cleanliness habits. "I think even without a chrome-plated bathroom, people can be told how to keep themselves free of intestinal parasites," he said.

Beaufort officials like to point out the progress their county has made—such as being one of the first to adopt the Food Stamp program—but they acknowledge need for other changes.

Rep. J. Wilton Graves, D-Beaufort, said last week, "We've got a problem in this state of shell homes going up without even providing an area for a bathroom. I think this ought to be prohibited."

A case in point was the home built recently by poverty program workers for an elderly Beaufort County woman who had lived in a 12 foot shanty for years. The new house was complete with electric stove, lights and other furnishings. But an outhouse was constructed behind the two-room dwelling.

The attention has focused on Beaufort, but persons involved say it is just an example of poor health conditions in other areas. "I don't think this exists all over the state," said Dr. Lauter. "But it is generally a rural problem . . . you are going to find it anywhere there is an absence of sanitation."

[From the Baltimore Sun, Feb. 2, 1969]

SOUTHERN SENATOR IS AROUSED BY HUNGER DATA IN HIS STATE

(By Joseph R. L. Sterne)

Washington, Feb. 1—Aroused by reports of widespread malnutrition in Beaufort and Jasper counties, South Carolina, Senator Ernest F. Hollings went back to his home state this weekend to investigate conditions himself.

His trip coincided with the release of a survey of 182 Negro children in the two counties conducted by nutrition experts from Vanderbilt University.

The Vanderbilt researchers found that 73 per cent of the children had worms or parasites, 26 per cent were anemic and 27 per cent were deficient in Vitamin "A."

AS BAD AS INDIA

In addition, the children had an average daily intake of 900 calories—half the amount needed for an adequate diet. It was judged roughly comparable to nutrition levels in some of the poorer parts of India.

Results of the study, conducted by Dr. James P. Carter, have been turned over to the Senate Special Committee on Nutrition, a panel whose study of the American diet is drawing it more and more into the problems of infants and children.

Dr. Charles Upton Lowe, chairman of the committee on nutrition of the American Academy of Pediatrics, has served notice on the committee that such problems are of crisis proportions.

DANGER TO THE NATION

"The presence of malnutrition during the first five years of life constitutes a danger not only to the individual children but, also, when this exists among a significant part of our population, to our nation as a whole," he advised the committee.

"We cannot afford to let millions of children grow up to adult life compromised in intellect because we, in this rich land, have failed to feed them.

"Our goal must be the total elimination of malnutrition, for we can tolerate nothing less."

Dr. Lowe said scientists had accumulated "unambiguous evidence" that malnutrition in the months immediately before or immediately after birth can stunt physical growth and prevent proper development of brain cells.

POOR OFTEN PREMATURE

In his testimony last Tuesday, he drew a clear connection between poverty and infant malnutrition by noting that the number of premature births among the poor is two to three times higher than among the more well-to-do.

Mental retardation and deficiency may be three times as frequent among children living in poverty, he added, saying:

"In effect, malnutrition, high infant mortality and prematurity rates and high levels of mental deficiency coexist as a constellation of abnormalities that are most frequent among our families living in poverty."

To help break this "morbid chain" of circumstances, Dr. Lowe proposed that federal regulatory agencies maintain a continuing check on manufacturers of infant and baby foods.

Another witness, Dr. William J. Darby, of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, reported that studies of preschool children in two nurseries in Nashville, Tenn., revealed cases of definite deficiencies of iron, vitamin "A" and folic acid.

These children, he emphasized, were not considered ill by their parents.

Dr. Darby went on to draw a sharp distinction between clinically evident starvation diseases such as pellagra, beriberi and kwashiorkor, which are rare in the United States, and "hidden hunger" deficiencies in vitamins, iron and other nutrients which plague poor Americans.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Feb. 6, 1969]

HOLLINGS, BATES TOUR COLUMBIA'S SLUMS—MAYOR PLEDGES CITY AID

(By William E. Mahoney)

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., toured Columbia slum areas today and said the poor must be educated to learn what help is available.

Hollings said immediate steps toward improving conditions in slum areas throughout the state also include better sanitation and housing.

Columbia Mayor Lester L. Bates accompanied Hollings along with the Rev. I. DeQuincey Newman, state field secretary for the NAACP.

Hollings was on his third slum tour in the past several months. He recently toured Beaufort County, where there have been charges of malnutrition and starvation.

First stop today was a cluster of shacks on Glen Court Alley where Hollings talked with Mrs. Maggie Maxwell, an aged Negro who was making soap in a kettle over an open fire in her back yard.

Mrs. Maxwell said she lived in the shack with her daughter and her daughter's five children. On a query from Hollings, she said of her daughter, "She don't have no husband."

She said the family subsists on welfare and social security payments.

The slum tour group then moved to Pulaski Street, directly across from the Department of Public Welfare.

Hollings talked with a 54-year-old lame Negro woman, Mattie Simmons, who said she had fallen three times through the rickety boards of the three room shack for which she said she paid \$25 a month to a landlord.

She said she is fined a \$1.50 a day for each day she is late paying rent on the shack where she lives with an 11 year old adopted daughter.

At the Glen Court slum, Bates told Hollings that local authority had "passed the buck" in the slum issue but that "we'll get onto it now."

Bates intimated that government red tape had been troublesome and added "but it doesn't give us any excuse."

Bates told the senator that new housing was not going to help the Glen Court people because, "they can't afford it." He said the dwellers there now pay \$27.50 a month rent and cannot afford new housing in the \$30 to \$40 range.

Hollings asked if there was any garbage pick-up in the area.

"There's a tendency to miss them," Bates answered.

The mayor said the area was zoned for business and no more houses will rise there, but that the city is behind in its housing projects and apparently has no place for the people to move.

In an area known as Friday's Alley, Hollings was told by an elderly Negro man, there were but three water spigots for about 35 houses and that promises of improvements had never been made.

He went into one shack where a tenant said he had to burn lights all night to keep the rats from biting his children. He said there was much hunger in this slum.

Hollings said he expected to give testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs this month.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) Evening Post, Feb. 6, 1969]

HOLLINGS TOURS COLUMBIA SLUMS; CITES HOUSING NEED

(By Hortense Roach)

COLUMBIA.—What Sen. Ernest F. Hollings saw here today points up the problem of the poor who cannot eat and pay \$40 a month for federally funded low-income housing.

He toured four areas in the city, clusters of ramshackle small wooden houses and talked with the people.

What he saw is not the worst he has seen in the state, Hollings said.

Hollings visited Beaufort last Friday to look into reported conditions there of hunger, malnutrition and worm infestation in humans. He went to Sumter this afternoon and plans visits to as many areas of the state as he can "without boring everybody." He already is familiar with conditions in Greenville and Charleston, his home.

In Columbia he saw areas "where they have plumbing but it is broken down. People live in slum conditions with no hot water. They are poor folks unable to read and write and they know nothing of the food stamp program."

"Only here they do have a program of systematic cleaning up through the city's Rehabilitation Commission. He commented that he did not know of as good a program in any municipality in the state.

The only hitch, Hollings said, is the city can't clean out areas such as seen today, where people pay about \$25 a month rent, and expect the people who live in them to pay \$40 a month rent. They would be out on the street. "There is no lower income housing to fit the economic conditions of the people we have contacted today," the senator said.

In Columbia owners of slum property have been told to upgrade it or tear it down. Thousands of homes have been upgraded this way but the city officials can't get at the areas where upgrading is needed most without putting people on the street. Many of these areas are zoned commercial and down would come the houses and staring the city in the face would be grossly inadequate public housing.

The Rev. I. DeQuincey Newman, state field director for the NAACP, was on the tour. He said what was seen today could be duplicated many times over in Columbia. He said the black community has formed a statewide homes foundation to fill the housing vacuum Hollings spoke of and hopes to obtain federal funds to help. He will be looking to the senator for assistance, he said.

One little old woman met on the tour today shared a two-room house with a family. The rooms were about nine by twelve feet and cost \$12 a month each. Upon being questioned, the elderly woman, whose name was Mrs. Jackson, broke down and cried. She admitted to being hungry and sick. She had not eaten in two days. The Rev. C. J. Whitaker, a Negro pastor on the tour, gave her some money and she immediately dispatched her 15-year-old foster daughter to get food. The daughter shares her small quarters.

Rep. T. Travis Medlock of Richland County said, "We will have a food stamp man over to see this woman before the sun goes down."

Maggie Maxwell, who lives in a 25-shack community next to the dump near Blossom Street Bridge two blocks off the Congaree River, was making lye soap in a big iron pot on an open fire in the yard. If you could say anything about the landscaping of her yard and her neighbors, it would only be that it was littered with trash of every variety—cans, bottles, furniture, clothing, wood.

Mrs. Maxwell told the senator she and her daughter and her daughter's five children share the small house. She termed her neighborhood "nothing but barns." She pays \$27.50 a month rent and an extra \$5 if she is late in paying. Her daughter is on welfare and the mother gets \$72 a month social security.

Mattie Simmons sat on the porch of her house in another slum cluster on Pulaski Street in sight of the State Capitol. She pays \$25 a month rent, plus \$1.50 every day payment is late, for three rooms—"but they is rotten" and she meant this literally because she had fallen through the floor three times. Window panes were out and you can see "slap through" the walls as easily as through the door, Mattie said. "It gets so cold most freeze to death," was her comment. She is on welfare but does not know how much she gets. She can't read or write. Someone has to cash her checks for her.

The landlord does nothing to repair the property and she would like to move. She has looked but can't find anything for less than \$40 a month, plus water. "If I pay that I won't have nothing." Her home has cold water, "a piece of a bathroom" with a tub on which the pipe is broken, and there is a fire place for heat and a wood stove to cook on.

Mayor Lester L. Bates of Columbia was on the tour. He told Sen. Hollings he appreciated his visit to Columbia and was "confident great good could come from it. The problems are on the local level, the power is on the State level and the money is in Washington. The housing problems have to be corrected on the local level, but we must have assistance to do it." The people of Columbia will have to take the lead, the mayor said, but Washington can help.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Feb. 6, 1969]

LOURIE SAYS GOP USING POVERTY PLOY

The chairman of the Richland County House delegation Sunday took the county's republican party chief to task for trying "to make human poverty and suffering a partisan issue."

Democratic Rep. Isadore Lourie, replying to a statement released Friday by GOP Chairman Philip C. Chappell, said the Republican's own voting record in the state legislature puts them in no position to criticize Democratic legislators' efforts to deal with poverty and hunger.

PUBLICITY

Chappell charged the Democrats were interested in getting publicity for themselves, but not in solving the problems. He said Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., was making "political hay" of his recent tours through slum areas of Beaufort, Richland and Sumter counties, but "really intends to do nothing about it."

Lourie, who said he was expressing his own view, not issuing a statement in behalf of the Richland delegation, charged that the Republicans' record in the last session of the General Assembly "does not reflect an attitude on their part of concern and care for these problems."

FOOD STAMPS

"This record shows," Louries asserted, "the food stamp program for the poor was enacted by the General Assembly only over the opposition of the overwhelming majority of the Republican legislators." The measure was unanimously supported by the Richland County Democrats, he said.

"We all realize that education is the essential key to bringing these unfortunates out of poverty and illiteracy, and yet the school attendance law, which was sponsored by the Richland Delegation and enacted in the last session of the General Assembly, was accomplished over the opposition of the overwhelming majority of the Republican legislators," Lourie said.

ENDORSE KINDERGARTENS

The Richland legislator said his delegation unanimously endorsed public kindergartens as "an effective tool in combating poverty and illiteracy" in its platform last November, "while the local Republican party was very silent in their platform on this crucial issue." A system of state-supported kindergartens is one of the measures recommended by the Moody Report and endorsed by Gov. Robert E. McNair.

As positive accomplishments of the Democratic solons, Lourie cited legislative action last year which resulted in a doubling of state funds available to Richland county for health measures and the granting of broad powers over health and sanitation standards to the county health department.

NOTICES POSTED

County sanitarians have posted approximately 40 notices since January on vacant property in slum neighborhoods in Richland County requiring owners to make repairs and provide indoor plumbing before they may be rented. The notices were posted under health department regulations authorized by the 1968 legislation.

"I am sure that all the citizens of Richland County are deeply concerned about the conditions of poverty and illiteracy," Lourie said, "but they are complex problems which can best be solved by all of us working together in a spirit of good will and compassion."

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Feb. 6, 1969]

WHEN ASKED IF HUNGRY SHE BEGAN TO WEEP

It is not hard to believe that children are starving in Biafra.

Nor is it shocking to read accounts of hungry war orphans in Korea.

But to believe that people living almost within the shadow of South Carolina's state capitol are going hungry every day somehow stretches credibility.

Yet, on a fact-finding mission last week, U.S. Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C. encountered indisputable evidence that such is the case.

Calling at the home of an elderly Negro woman, who at first was too frightened to open the door, Hollings pried into her living conditions, her income from welfare, her health, her diet. Gradually and with uncertainty, the ailing woman revealed her desperation at trying to feed herself and a 12-year-old "adopted" daughter on a \$64-a-month welfare check. Finally, Hollings and his entourage of state and city officials got the answer they really didn't want to hear. "Are you hungry now?" the woman was asked. She broke down and cried.

At numerous other steps during a long and depressing day that took him through Columbia's slums and on to Sumter, Hollings saw row upon row of broken down houses without even outdoor bathrooms and heard repeated accounts of no jobs, low welfare checks and diets consisting of rice and grits.

The dramatic case of a starving human being was only seen once during the tour of South Carolina's twice-named "All-American City", but almost every man on the tour believed that one case was just an example of many. "There are thousands more like her," said Rep. T. Travis Medlock, D-Richland, the legislature's most active campaigner for aid to the poverty stricken.

At almost every step, there were school-age children who were not in school and some had not been in months.

There were also in some places young, able-bodied men who said they didn't want to work because they hadn't found a job with a future."

And there was the classic rebuff to the war on poverty—the television antenna. At one ramshackled house so overrun with rats that the father of 10 children had to store all food in a pork barrel, a television set was tuned into President Nixon's Thursday news conference, where he talked of Negro-white understandings. (At a rural Sumter home visited, Thursday's copy of *The State* was lying on a bed, folded open to the story about a state senator's allegations that hunger and malnutrition exist all over the state.)

As local leaders are prone to do, some wanted to show Hollings the best of the worst conditions. In Beaufort last week, he became impatient at being shown improvements," and said, "What I want to see is unimproved conditions."

In Sumter, Hollings served notice that "We aren't coming around to give any good government awards."

As the stories of poverty stricken, bleak lives unfolded at home after home, Hollings blamed red tape for the losing battles in the war on poverty. He said he had investigated reasons for some of Beaufort's applications for programs being turned down and said the applications were denied in two pages of federalese . . . it was the biggest bunch of gobbledegook I ever read."

Often persons in positions to do something about problems do not believe there is a problem. (Some doctors in Beaufort for instance, knew the children there were infected with intestinal worms and they prescribed a cure but not the preventive medication—education on the importance of sanitation.)

Hollings is a person in a position to do something and he sincerely believes there is a problem. How far he can go to do something about it remains to be seen. How far the state will go in matching the efforts at the federal level will become clear when the legislature is asked to vote on a resolution introduced two weeks ago calling for a statewide investigation of malnutrition and parasitic infestation all over the state.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Feb. 6, 1969]

HOLLINGS INVESTIGATING COLUMBIA FOR HUNGER

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., will visit Columbia today for continued investigations into reports of malnutrition and parasitic infestation in the state.

The tour follows Hollings' visit to Beaufort last Friday to look into reported conditions there of hunger, malnutrition and worm infestation in humans.

There were also unconfirmed reports that Hollings plans to testify Feb. 18 and 19 before the U.S. Senate Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs concerning conditions he found in Beaufort. He reportedly will be accompanied by health officials and other concerned persons from Beaufort.

A spokesman in the senator's Washington office said Hollings will leave his Columbia office at 9 a.m. and will visit the city's poverty areas. The tour will presumably take Hollings to the area known as Black Bottom, a site he visited several months ago to look into conditions of poverty.

Invited to accompany Hollings on the tour were Columbia Mayor Lester L. Bates, the Rev. I. D. Newman, NAACP leader and Rep. T. Travis Medlock, D-Richland, State Health Officer Dr. E. Kenneth Aycock was also asked to accompany the senator, but is unable to due to a previous invitation from the governor to meet with former U.S. Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Wilbur Cohen who is visiting here today.

Hollings' itinerary may also include visits to Sumter and Clarendon counties, but his staff remained uncertain as to whether those areas would be visited. "This is being done on very short notice," a staff member said.

Plans for the tour apparently were made after Congress adjourned Wednesday for a short vacation.

Hollings' trips into the state to investigate reports of poor health conditions followed Rep. Medlock's introduction last week of a resolution calling for a state legislative study into malnutrition and parasitic infestation in South Carolina.

National attention began focusing on South Carolina some months ago after Beaufort County Physician Dr. Donald Gatch publicized accounts of gross malnutrition and worm infestation in his area.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Feb. 6, 1969]

MEDLOCK "ENCOURAGED" TO SEEK HUNGER, MALNUTRITION STUDY

(By the Associated Press)

Rep. T. Travis Medlock of Richland declared Wednesday he had been "encouraged" by state officials to seek a legislative study of reports of hunger and malnutrition in South Carolina.

"This problem is so immense and complex," said Medlock, "that it will require all of our resources and some of the federal government."

The Richland County Democrat took the House floor to answer what he said was "a false impression" given in a Senate speech Tuesday by Sen. James M. Waddell Jr. of Beaufort.

Waddell said Medlock's resolution creating a study committee to look into poverty conditions in the state was unnecessary. The Beaufort senator said enough studies have been made and "federal red tape" is the major obstacle to getting aid to the poor people.

Medlock told the House his resolution is not "a foolish measure."

"I consulted first with the Public Welfare Department and the State Department of Health," said Medlock. "I was much encouraged in those quarters in the quest for a study."

Medlock said he has talked subsequently with Dr. Kenneth Aycock, the state health officer, and Dr. Aycock "indicated to me my resolution has merit."

Medlock said his measure was not aimed solely at Beaufort County.

"The problem exists in Richland County as well," he declared.

Medlock's resolution calls for a committee to study reports of starvation, malnutrition and parasitic infestation in poverty areas of the state.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Feb. 6, 1969]

DR. GATCH BACKING FREEDOM PHYSICALS—AGAINST 'RACIST ARMY'

BEAUFORT, S.C.—Dr. Donald Gatch, the physician whose report on malnutrition in Beaufort County has drawn national attention, is participating in a program urging Negroes to take "freedom physicals" which might allow them to escape induction into "a racist army."

Dr. Gatch confirmed Friday he is taking part in the program, but said details of it would have to come from John Cope, the director. Cope was not immediately available for comment.

The names of Dr. Gatch and Cope are listed on a broadside advertising the "freedom physicals."

The mimeographed sheet is being circulated by an organization calling itself "Draft Counselors Training—Freedom Physicals."

It lists its address as the Penn Community Center, a privately sponsored facility located at nearby Frogmore.

The broadside declares:

"Freedom physicals. There are more than 400 plus medical conditions which are deferable. Do you have one?"

"Our battle is at home—not in Vietnam. If you can stay out of a racist army, stay out. Come and see if you have a medical deferment status at our freedom physical."

Dr. Gatch has reported that many Negro children in Beaufort County suffer from hunger and intestinal parasites. His report has been published in national magazines and has drawn comment from several members of Congress.

The Gatch findings led Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., to urge in a Senate speech Friday that food surpluses be sent to "places like Beaufort, S.C., where the children get only half the calories they need each day—and the worms eat much of that."

The Penn Community Center was founded as the Penn School, a ready-built three-room schoolhouse shipped from the Philadelphia Society in 1865 by boat.

It was the first schoolhouse in the post-war south for freed slaves.

In 1908 an industrial era was taking place at Penn with classes offered in carpentry, basketry, cobbling, and the two most popular—farming and home-making.

In 1928 a bridge was built and Penn's home at St. Helena was no longer separate from the rest of the world.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) Evening Post, Feb. 7, 1969]

HOLLINGS' TOUR ENDS ON PLEASANT NOTE

(By Hortense F. Roach)

COLUMBIA.—It was a pleasant end to what must have been a depressing day as Sen. Ernest F. Hollings took a look at poverty in Columbia and Sumter.

A family transformed—from a hovel to a modern apartment—welcomed the senator and his entourage from Sumter to their home.

"If you are one of those responsible for this, you will have a crown in heaven," the grande dame of the family of five, the grandmother, said to a reporter.

"Not me," was the reply. "Thank Mr. James." The Rev. F. C. James is the pastor of Mount Pisgah AME Church in Sumter and is the founder, developer and supervisor of the Mount Pisgah Apartments, or "James Village."

The family's apartment had three bedrooms for the grandmother, her son, crippled by polio and unable to work, daughter-in-law and two granddaughters.

Proud they must be of living in such surroundings after spending years in a community of condemned, or about-to-be-condemned, substandard housing, part of the slum areas that Sen. Hollings visited on his tour of Sumter Thursday afternoon.

They paid \$35 a month for the slum house in which they previously existed. They pay \$50 a month for the apartment in which they now live, and that \$50 includes heat, lights and water.

Hollings was on a return visit, because he had turned the first spade of earth when ground was broken for the 60-unit village which took its first tenants Aug. 1, 1968. He sees it as one answer to housing problems.

Looking like a well-to-do apartment complex, with brick and wood buildings spread out over six acres, it is the first rent supplement housing project in South Carolina. What pleases the senator most is that it involves free enterprise as well as the federal government. A non-profit project, it is sponsored by the Mount Pisgah Church and guaranteed by the government.

The federal government pays the portion of the rent which the tenants do not, remitting to the church apartment corporation which which pays the bills, including the mortgage.

Fifty-three of the families receive rent supplements. Seven do not. These seven are the uplifting element—families on their own, not on relief and not poverty stricken by government standards.

Hollings expressed concern about federal guidelines which would discourage what Mr. James is doing in his "village"—maintaining people instead of property.

"You can't have public housing without education," Hollings said. Mr. James is giving his tenants that education.

A maintenance and office building is used for once a month meetings of the entire village and classes once a week. The tenants learn how to care for the property—the grounds, the housing, the electrical appliances.

Such an operation as is going on at Mount Pisgah Apartments is something "the federal people, namely me and others, ought to observe."

The Office of Economic Opportunity was in on Thursday's Sumter Tour, which included one of their centers where the workers move out into the slum area and teach family planning and medical education and interview to get help for families by referring them to the proper agencies.

There is more housing help coming into the Sumter area. In architects' hands, with three sites approved, are 200 federally funded; low-income housing units. It is the first for Sumter, said city manager Wade S. Kolb. The city has resisted government housing until a couple of years ago when prominent business and civic leaders traveled to see what was going on in Virginia and North Carolina. The result was the 200 units now in the mill for Sumter.

Mayor Robert E. Graham made the tour with Hollings in Sumter Thursday afternoon, as did the chairman of the county commissioners, William Hodge; OEO Board Chairman John Beatty and executive Director Morgan Moyer, Housing Authority Director Harrison E. Harp, The Rev. I. DeQuincy Newman, state field director for NAACP and other church and civic leaders.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) State, Feb. 12, 1969]

AID WORKERS HASTILY VISIT HUNGER SPOTS

(By Levona Page)

A second visit Tuesday to the homes of persons who told Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., last week they were suffering from hunger revealed federal food assistance program workers have moved hastily to correct the problem.

One of those who have been signed up to get federal food stamps is Mrs. Minnie Jackson, an ailing elderly resident of a Columbia poverty pocket who told Hollings and other visiting dignitaries that she had no food nor money to buy any.

VISITED

Mrs. Jackson said Monday she had been visited by welfare workers in the Food Stamp program and was told she would soon be able to get stamps. She told Hollings last Thursday that she knew nothing of the Food Stamp program.

Richland Rep. T. Travis Medlock, who promised Mrs. Jackson last week that she would be visited by a Food Stamp program official, checked back to make sure that it had been done.

FRIDY'S ALLEY

A check at another stop on Hollings' poverty tour last week showed that the Food Stamp officials had been there, too. Mrs. Ella Washington, a resident of the area known as Fridy's Alley, said she had been contacted by Food Stamp program workers and told her of her eligibility to participate.

Medlock, who introduced a resolution in the House calling for a special legislative study of malnutrition in the state, was accompanied on the visits Tuesday by Rep. C. Lem Harper, D-Richland, and Rep. Robert Raley, D-Chesterfield.

GOT REFERRALS

Mrs. Lillie Mae Dean of the Richland County Department of Public Welfare, which manages the local Food Stamp program, said following Hollings' tour, she had received several referrals on persons who needed assistance.

"Our case workers visited these referrals as a direct result of Sen. Hollings' tour," Mrs. Dean said.

Otherwise, visits to the communities and homes of persons eligible for Food Stamp programs have been discontinued, she said.

VISITS ENDED

"The visits were discontinued because we did not get as good a response as we had hoped," Mrs. Dean explained. "We thought that this was because our visits were to small places and there was a lack of privacy. Many people in all areas prefer to handle their finances in confidence."

Of the approximately 2,500 persons potentially eligible for participation in the Food Stamp program in Richland County, only 494 were participating at the end of January, an increase from 272 in September when it began, she said.

STAMP PROGRAM

The Food Stamp program is a largely federally-financed effort that allows low-income persons to buy at minimum prices stamps which they can trade in at most local grocery stores. For instance, for a \$15 purchase price, a person might get \$20 worth of food stamps.

Mrs. Dean said she hoped the places that Hollings visited where persons did not know about the Food Stamp program were the exception, rather than the rule.

"We have done a great deal to let the people know about the program," she said. "but we try to do it in an unobtrusive way. We try to get to them on a person-to-person basis."

FOUR WORKERS

At present, the County Welfare Department has four case workers who work full time, certifying for program participation persons who are not already receiving welfare assistance. Another 16 persons work part time, signing up persons who are on welfare rolls. "At this point, I feel these caseworkers are enough," Mrs. Dean said, "because the program in Richland County has not mushroomed as much as we thought it would."

Meanwhile, Medlock and other Richland County officials met Monday morning to discuss plans for a town meeting in Eastover on Feb. 21, when it is hoped that poor persons in the area will turn out in large groups to learn of assistance for which they might be eligible.

In addition to Medlock and Harper, others attending the planning session included Eastover Mayor the Rev. Coy Muckle, James Fowles and Malcolm E. Rentz of the County Board of Health, John V. Green and Stewart C. Hope of the County Board of Administrators and several Office of Economic Opportunity workers.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) Evening Post, Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1969]

HOLLINGS' TOUR ADDED 2 TO FOOD STAMP USERS

COLUMBIA.—The federal food stamp program has reached at least two women residents of Columbia poverty pockets as a result of last week's tour of the areas by Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C.

Welfare workers identified them as Mrs. Minnie Jackson and Mrs. Ella Washington, to whom Hollings talked on his tour, discovering they knew nothing about the food stamp program.

The Democratic solon has been visiting poverty areas lately. He says lack of knowledge by the poor of just what help is available is widespread.

The Columbia Welfare Office said only about 500 people in Richland County are using the food stamp program but that about 2,500 are eligible.

The stamps are bought for cash and exchanged for food worth about 50 per cent more than the stamps cost.

[From the Greenville (S.C.) News, Feb. 12, 1969]

HOLLINGS SAYS HUNGER MUST BE EASED—TELLS FURMAN STUDENTS "WE NEED LEADERSHIP NOW"

America strongly needs to set a national goal within the next 10 years to eliminate hunger and housing needs throughout the country, U.S. Sen. Ernest F. Hollings said in an address Tuesday to the Furman University student body.

Hollings, who recently toured poverty areas in Beaufort, attacked the federal government for lack of immediate attention to such problems and said the basic difficulty lies in the fact that the federal bureaucracy fails to understand local problems.

"There has been bottleneck after bottleneck, with very little money going in at the local level," he charged, adding that "we have been living too carelessly with this problem."

Hollings explained that improper nutrition is a serious problem, especially with the young, since it could cause brain damage.

His opening remarks focused emphatically on the "now generation," with the comment that, "Most speakers talk of the future, but we know in South Carolina we need leadership now."

Pointing to the state's illiteracy problem and the necessity for curbing it, Hollings said statistics show South Carolina has 380,000 illiterates and he noted that 30,000 of them could have been business and industrial leaders.

"This is a 30,000 leadership gap," he said.

"This nation no longer needs and never needed black power and riot power, but instead needs to have some young power to help pull it out of the dens of poverty and ignorance," the senator said.

He singled out America's population explosion and resulting poverty problems which have to be met as "pressing challenges" of the 20th Century, saying that 10,000 children starve to death each day in this country.

Other pressing challenges which will have to be solved in the next 10 years include national dissent, the knowledge explosion and communications explosion. Hollings said, and their solutions will take "great men with great determination and courage."

In a question and answer period, Hollings was asked his stand on the elimination of the draft bill and the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

He said he opposes a volunteer Army and is "dubious" about the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

Answering a question concerning the possibility of a nonmilitary obligation, the senator said he believed there are many roles that the young can perform and still get credit for service.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) News and Courier, Thursday, Feb. 13, 1969]

HOLLINGS: POVERTY REPORTS WON'T HURT STATE'S ECONOMY

CHESTERFIELD.—U.S. Sen. Ernest F. Hollings Wednesday dismissed suggestions that reports on malnutrition in South Carolina could harm the state's ability to attract industry and tourists and said he had no intention of letting up in a drive to help the poor.

Hollings told newsmen he didn't think the publicity about malnutrition and poverty "is the kind that you particularly want for the state" but insisted "they are problems not to be ignored."

"When I was governor, we had to put first things first. We had to help those who could not help themselves. We cleaned up the penitentiary and carried out several programs," Hollings recalled.

"Now, I am at the federal level and I plan to do what I can to see these problems solved," Hollings said.

He said he will appear before a Senate committee on malnutrition and hunger in Washington on Feb. 8. He was referring to the McGovern Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

Hollings was joined by State Sen. Tony Harris and others on yesterday's tour of Chesterfield County's poor sections.

Both Harris and Hollings reported they had found people "living in deplorable conditions" and several parents told them that "worms were a chronic problem among their children."

Hollings said he had found "local awareness" of the problem and that attempts to help the poor had been handicapped by bureaucrats and red tape in Washington.

"They have applications on file but have been denied help on technicalities. All the interfering supervision bottlenecks and road blocks at the federal level have got to be removed," Hollings said.

[From the Aiken (S.C.) Standard & Review, Feb. 13, 1969]

MISERY IN THE BACKWOODS

It is easy enough to charge off to ignorance and general backwardness the depressing evidence of insanitation and malnutrition which haunts some out of the way corners of South Carolina and which has won our state unfavorable and damaging attention elsewhere in the country.

For several reasons, we would not like to see the account closed at that point. One reason is that no matter how valid the excuses, the conditions—which seem to be genuine enough if we can believe what our own reporters have to say on the subject—continue to hurt. They hurt not only the people directly involved, whose health and welfare is at stake but the rest of us who are indirectly involved.

As a part of the country under scrutiny for possible settlement by new industry and new people, South Carolina cannot afford the bad press that it gets on account of what is concededly a relatively minor—though depressing—flaw in our state's image. The flaw is not so much, it appears to us, the insanitary conditions themselves but the impression that some South Carolinians manage to give of indifference.

South Carolinians in general are not indifferent to suffering, even when the sufferers tend to bring it on themselves by neglect or carelessness. The problem is to make other people know we are not indifferent. One way might be less resistance to suggestions that something is wrong out there in the backwoods that ought to be set right.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) Evening Post, Feb. 13, 1969]

HOLLINGS ENDS TOUR OF SOUTH CAROLINA POVERTY AREAS

CHESTERFIELD.—Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., says his touring of South Carolina poverty areas in preparation for testifying before a senate committee is completed.

Hollings visited poverty pockets in Chesterfield County, Wednesday, and said he found plenty of poverty, malnutrition and inadequate housing.

A group accompanying him included the Rev. I. DeQuincey Newman, field secretary for South Carolina of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Hollings testifies before a Senate subcommittee on hunger next Wednesday.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) State, Feb. 13, 1969]

SENATOR HOLLINGS OBSERVES CHESTERFIELD POVERTY—"NEED SUPERVISION"

(By John V. O'Neill)

CHESTERFIELD.—"This is the rural type poverty—the kind we found in Beaufort County," Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., said Wednesday after touring slum-condition dwellings in several Chesterfield County towns to gather evidence of poverty, malnutrition and inadequate housing.

"In Columbia it is largely housing. Here it is miserable housing and malnutrition. We found worms in children on two occasions and there are probably others we can't spot," Hollings said.

SHACKS

None of the shacks visited had bathrooms, stoves, refrigerators, secure window panes or running water. In most cases the entire family slept in the same bedroom. The occupants complained of not being eligible for the federal food stamp program, not knowing how to apply for aid, and not having the money to buy the stamps if they could become eligible.

Hollings was accompanied by the Rev. I. Dequincey Newman, field secretary for the S.C. NAACP, and Sen. C. Anthony Harris, D-Chesterfield. He will testify on his findings on this tour and similar trips to Beaufort, Richland, and Anderson Counties before the Senate Select Commission on Hunger and Human Needs next Wednesday in Washington, D.C.

One woman who lives outside Jefferson told the senator she had 11 children until two died last year after her husband was sentenced to the chain gang. She pays \$10 a month rent for the three-room shack and receives no welfare or food stamps.

WOOD STOVE

Another woman who lives near Chesterfield was washing clothes on top of a wood-burning stove when the party arrived. Four of her children were home from school so she could wash their clothing. She said she pays \$5 monthly to haul water in tubs from a "white lady's" house.

There is no bathroom, indoors or outdoors, and no place to take a bath in the dwelling. She told Hollings she feeds the children grits for breakfast and at night cooks beans or cabbage if she has any. The cooking is also done on the wood-burning stove. A grandchild has worms.

The entire family sleeps on two beds in the only bedroom. Dirty cotton from a large hole in one of the mattresses has spilled out on the floor in the unheated room.

Her husband rides to work in Charlotte, N.C., with his brother when there is work available. She said he usually tried to borrow money for the water if he didn't have any. They don't pay rent.

A shirt was removed from a small boy revealing nasty burns on his back where gravy was spilled on him last week. The burns were not bandaged and the old woman said she didn't have the money or the transportation to take him to a doctor.

SUPERVISION

Hollings looked at the stacks of dirty dishes in the kitchen area and the cardboard that serves for window panes and told Sen. Harris, "We've got to give them supervision."

Hollings complained bitterly during the tour about what he called high administrative costs of federal programs and the inflexibility of rules that he said did not get federal aid to those that really need it.

HOUSING NEED

He cited need for more low cost public housing, saying that the water, electricity, and heating furnished would more than make up for the difference in

what the poor are paying now and the \$36 monthly most would have to pay for public housing.

At another house outside Chesterfield seven frightened children came to a bedroom door as the party entered. The oldest was a girl, 10, who was in charge of the others, having been left home from school by her mother to wash clothes. Three other children in the family were in school.

The girl said they had eggs and grits for breakfast, but that all the children (they were barefoot) needed shoes. They seldom get milk. Her father works cutting pulpwood and her mother works when she can, leaving the children at home alone.

NO ELECTRICITY

Hollings was shown a vacant back room in the small house where the floor was apparently being used as a bathroom. The family had no running water or electricity and the only furniture was a couch with the springs showing through.

Two women head a household in Chesterfield that numbered about 15 or 16. They live in a two room house given them 10 years ago. The total monthly income is \$36. One woman said the children get free lunches at school but that every one of them got worms last year.

WELL

At still another house where nobody was home, Hollings told Harris he thought a well in the yard should be closed to prevent the children from getting typhoid fever in the summertime.

Six members of a family in the Pageland area live in a decadent four room shell home with no toilet. They pay \$62.60 a month in rent and have to walk a half-mile for water.

Hollings said he feels he has enough background on conditions to present his case to the Senate and plans no more tours in the immediate future.

An NBC-TV commentator and cameraman filmed much of the tour.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) Record, Feb. 14, 1969]

HOLLINGS CRITICIZED BY GOP

The South Carolina Republican Party has taken a dig at Democratic Sen. Ernest F. Hollings by criticizing "highly publicized tours into poverty areas . . ."

A resolution passed Thursday night at a meeting here of the State GOP Executive Committee said:

"Various welfare programs have been established and extravagantly funded and various highly publicized tours into poverty areas, many of which can be viewed from both the Governor's Mansion and the State House, have been made by various politicians."

"The health, education and welfare of the poor in South Carolina would be greatly enhanced by an increase in job opportunities that would give a man a chance to care for himself and his family by earning his fair day's pay for a fair day's work," the resolution said.

The reference in the resolution to poverty areas within sight of the Governor's Mansion and the State House was to the fact that Hollings is a former governor and state legislator. He recently has made inspection tours of poverty areas in several counties.

While criticizing Hollings, the resolution praised Republican Sen. Strom Thurmond. It said Thurmond's efforts resulted in the restoration of \$9.4 million in defense contracts to southern textile firms.

Thurmond was also cited for restoring advance payments to farmers under the feed grain program.

The executive committee charged that the Johnson Administration cancelled the defense contracts and the advance payments to farmers in a "malicious, unreasonable, arbitrary and capricious manner" to punish South Carolina for voting for Republican President Richard M. Nixon.

[From the Los Angeles Times, Feb. 16, 1969]

HUNGER: THE POLITICS OF PERSONAL MISERY—SOUTH CAROLINA'S SENATOR
HOLLINGS CRUSADES ON BEHALF OF POOR AGAINST BIG OPPOSITION

(By Jack Nelson)

ANDERSON, S.C.—A U.S. senator tours slums for a first-hand look at worm-infested children suffering from malnutrition.

A state representative displays a foot-long parasitic worm in the South Carolina Legislature.

Another U.S. senator says both events are only political maneuvers.

The political controversy over the issue of hunger is centered in South Carolina, where Democratic Sen. Ernest F. (Fritz) Hollings says, "There's no question about the hunger and malnutrition. I've seen it;" and where his Republican counterpart, Strom Thurmond, insists, "There is no such serious problem."

But its implications extend far beyond the state and the South, a region with an extremely high percentage of poverty-stricken residents, many of whom, studies have shown, suffer from malnutrition. For the problems are so severe—and they exist to some degree in all regions and afflict all races—that some believe massive federal action may be necessary to combat them.

Last year the Citizens Board of Inquiry into Hunger and Malnutrition in the United States labeled 256 counties as "emergency hunger" areas. They were mostly in the South and Southwest, but almost every other state, including California, had counties with what the privately sponsored board called "serious" hunger problems.

The board study was partly responsible for creation of the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs which currently is holding hearings in Washington.

In a recent interview, Thurmond acknowledged there might be poor people in South Carolina, but added, "You had 'em back in the days of Jesus Christ, you've got some now, and you'll have some in the future. You'll always have some people who are not willing to work."

He attributed talk of hunger in South Carolina to politics and said, "There are a lot of plays being made for the minority vote and most of them are being made by the Democrats."

Hollings, a former South Carolina governor, denies the charge of politics and contends that such criticism could cripple efforts to curb hunger. He plans to appear this week before Sen. George S. McGovern's committee on nutrition and human needs. He said he would testify about his findings of hunger during recent tours of urban and rural slums in South Carolina.

Hollings, whose victory margin and his first race for the Senate in 1966 could be attributed to an almost solid Negro vote, has concentrated his efforts in the black communities where the problems are the greatest. He has been accompanied on slum tours by the Rev. I. DeQuincey Newman, South Carolina field director of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, and several other Negro leaders.

Hollings, with Thurmond's comments obviously in mind, turned from an emaciated Negro woman he had been talking with in a dingy, foul-smelling shack in Anderson and declared:

"You don't get votes from people like this. They don't vote. That is some of your malnutrition—and talk about people working! How can they work?"

The woman said she was 37—she looked 57—and had been sick for 8 years. In the room with her were her brother, 51, a stroke victim confined to a wheelchair, and a sister, 44, crippled and unable to work. Four children, ages 7 to 17, also lived there.

They exist on Social Security and welfare payments totaling \$163 a month, \$55 of which goes for rent.

In an earlier tour of Beaufort County, Hollings talked with a 13-year-old girl who attends school only part-time so she can stay home and care for her brothers and sisters. When told about parasitic worms that infect some children, she told the senator that her 3-year-old brother "coughs up worms."

Dr. Donald E. Gatch of Beaufort first called national attention to the problem there in November, 1967, in testimony before the Citizens Board of Inquiry. The physician said he had found "an extremely high rate of parasitic infection" among low-income persons.

Researchers at the University of South Carolina studied 131 preschool Negro children in the Bluffton area of Beaufort County last summer and found that 73% had either roundworms or whipworms or both.

The parasitic problem dramatically, if distastefully, focuses public attention on the hunger issue. In the South Carolina House of Representatives, Rep. Travis Medlock of Columbia, urging support for a state study of the problem, recently displayed a bottle containing a foot-long worm. The study is still pending in the Legislature.

OFFICIALS DENY

Many state and local officials still not only ignore the hunger problem, however; they deny it exists and criticize those who publicly speak out on it. In South Carolina, state tourism director Robert Hickman has complained that the "bad publicity" might cut into the state's tourist trade from the North.

In an editorial the conservative Columbia State called Hickman's fears "bald-erdash" and said, "Our concern must be for these people. If we tackle the problems forthrightly, the state's reputation will take care of itself."

The editorial represented a complete turnabout for the newspaper, which last year endorsed a report by the House Agriculture Committee, headed by Rep. W. R. Poage (D-Tex.), which debunked the report of hunger by the Citizens Board of Inquiry. The committee's report was based mostly on a mail survey Poage made of local health offices and about 181 counties, 12 in South Carolina, named in the board's report. Most of the counties said hunger was no problem and that while malnutrition did constitute a problem, it resulted mostly from "ignorance by parents as to what constitutes a balanced diet."

LITTLE SUPPORT

The Columbia State also endorsed Hollings' call for cutting government red tape and apathy and assuring a nutritional diet for all citizens, but Hollings has received relatively little public support from other quarters.

Raggedy groups of Negro youngsters trailed the well-tailored Hollings almost everywhere he went in Anderson, some of them guessing aloud about which members of his party were "the FBI." Because the tall, silver-haired senator bears a striking resemblance to actor David Brian, some voters called him "Mr. District Attorney."

Hollings believes that now is the time to give the fight against hunger top priority in the nation.

"The highway systems and conquest of space have been the big targets nationally for the last 10 years and during the next 10 years it should be elimination of hunger in the slums."

[From the New York Times, Feb. 16, 1960]

HUNGER IN AMERICA: STARK DEPRIVATION HAUNTS A LAND OF PLENTY

Following is the first of a series of articles on reports of hunger in the United States

(By Homer Bigart)

BLUFFTON, S.C.—Hunger is a noun that means, among other things, a compelling desire for food, a nagging emptiness of stomach and gut. Persons old enough to remember the Great Depression may recall going hungry, but today it is a sensation generally reserved for those mired in poverty.

Chronic hunger seems so remote in this bounteous land that reports of extreme malnutrition among Negroes in the rural South, among migrant farm workers, among Mexican-Americans and reservation Indians have been set down as exaggerations and lies, the observers frequently assailed as charlatans or do-gooders who would sap the initiative of the hungry poor by expanding "give-away" Federal food programs or even conspiring for adoption of a guaranteed minimum wage.

Here in Beaufort County, Donald E. Gatch, an intense youthful-looking country doctor, has been shunned by the white community for insisting that hunger is a daily fact of life among the black families of this mossy tidewater.

He began losing his white patients two years ago after he charged publicly that he had seen children dying of starvation, that most black children of his

area were infested with worms, and that families were living in hovels worse than the pigsties of his native Nebraska.

The Beaufort Gazette accused him of "running his mouth." Every other doctor in the county signed a statement deploring his "unsubstantiated allegations," contending that the "rare cases of infant malnutrition" that came to their attention were invariably due to parental inexperience, indifference or gross neglect." And the County Health Officer, Dr. H. Parker Jones, said he had "never seen a case of starvation or extreme malnutrition."

Ostracized by the staff of Beaufort County Memorial Hospital, annoyed by threatening telephone calls, boycotted by white patients, Dr. Gatch closed his Beaufort office, sold his home and moved with his British-born wife and two young sons back to Bluffton (pop. 356), where he had started his practice 10 years ago.

One chilly, overcast day at the tag end of January Dr. Gatch consented to take a visitor on a tour of Negro shanties near Bluffton.

LIKE A MISSIONARY OUTPOST

The doctor, who sometimes appears disconsolate and withdrawn, peered glumly at the scene through horn-rimmed spectacles that kept sliding down his nose. From the clay road the weathered shanties, woodsmoke curling from the chimneys, looked quite charming. But Dr. Gatch, in his low tired voice, spoke only of the overcrowding, the filth and the smell of poverty within.

The Gatches had taken over a group of summer cottages on the bank of a tidal creek, living in one, using another for frequent guests (nutritionists and sociologists from all over are coming to see him) and hoping to convert a third into a clinic. (The doctor maintains a large, well-equipped office in the center of the village.)

The Gatch compound, shaded by live oaks decked in Spanish moss, had the quiet, mournful isolation of a missionary outpost in central Africa. The African connection was further strengthened when Dr. Gatch remarked that he had treated several children for kwashiorkor, a disease generally thought to exist only in underdeveloped countries.

Kwashiorkor is a Ghanaian word meaning literally "the disease that takes the child after it leaves the mother's breast." It is a disease of extreme protein deficiency, a starvation often brought on by a mother's inability to breast-feed an infant.

Down a dirt road Dr. Gatch paused at the decaying stoop of a family named Kinnard. Silent children with skinny legs sat listlessly on floors and beds. Fifteen people lived in the shack, Dr. Gatch said, and there was no privy.

COMFORTABLE WHILE STILL

He went directly to a young woman who was holding a crying, seven-month-old baby girl. He had examined the baby before, he said, and had detected symptoms of both kwashiorkor and scurvy. He remarked how the baby's hair had thinned, how the hairline had receded about an inch, and how the hair color had changed from black to dirty gray. These were the stigmata of kwashiorkor, he said.

He took the infant girl from the mother's arms and placed her on a sofa. The baby kept her matchstick legs drawn up and raised her arms until the tiny hands were bent close to her head. Then she stopped crying.

"As long as the baby is completely still, she's comfortable," Dr. Gatch said, "but pick her up and she'll start crying again."

He noted the extreme dryness of the skin, the absence of subcutaneous tissue. He said the baby's diet was so deficient in iron that her hemoglobin count was "half of what it should be."

The baby's mother had been out of work since December. Dr. Gatch said the infant was now getting some baby formula food. It would probably live, he said, but he feared it had suffered irreversible damage through growth retardation of bones and brain cells.

As he left, Dr. Gatch noticed a 3-year-old girl sitting on the stoop, staring vacantly at the brown fields. Her legs and face were bloated by edematose swellings, the result probably of Vitamin A deficiency, the physician said, and the same deficiency was impairing her vision.

"There's just no excuse for rickets in this country," complained Dr. Gatch as he drove to another shack, hunting this time a whole family that he claimed was rachitic, a mother and five children.

Rickets is a disease of infancy and childhood resulting from a deficiency of Vitamin D and characterized by soft, deformed bones. The rachitic family was not at home, but Dr. Gatch found them on the stoop of a neighboring house.

ALL HAVE MISSHAPEN LEGS

The victims had gotten some relief and were now on a proper diet, Dr. Gatch said. All had misshapen legs. The mother, who seemed stout and cheerful, was very bow-legged; her children were either bowlegged or knock-kneed. Dr. Gatch commented that the legs of the three older children seemed to have straightened somewhat, but the twisted spindly legs of the two youngest remained badly deformed.

Milk is the main source of Vitamin D, Dr. Gatch noted, and the family might never have been blighted with rickets if fortified milk had been available to them.

But the Government's food donation programs for the domestic poor did not provide fortified dry milk until the end of 1968. Dr. Gatch might have been angrier had he known that since 1965, at the insistence of the United States Public Health Service, the Department of Agriculture had been shipping dry milk enriched by Vitamins A and D to American aid programs overseas.

The three-year gap during which fortified milk was sent overseas while being denied to the poor at home came to light last month in testimony before the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

Dr. Gatch stopped at an abandoned country store. Inside, two bedridden old ladies had found terminal shelter. One of them, crippled by rheumatoid arthritis, had been rescued from a mouldering shack where the bedding stank of urine and feces. The other was afflicted by Wernicke Syndrome, which Dr. Gatch said was characterized by loss of memory and confabulation (filling in a memory gap by falsifications that the patient accepts as correct).

DIET OF RICE AND GRITS

Dr. Gatch said he believed Wernicke Syndrome could have been induced by lack of thiamine, which is essential for growth, normal function of the nervous system and normal metabolism. Thiamine is found in liver, lean meat, eggs, whole grain or enriched cereal and cereal products. The old ladies, Dr. Gatch suspected, had been eating little more than rice and grits.

Now they were on Medicare and presumably getting a better diet. The old store was spotlessly clean, neater than most nursing homes.

Dr. Gatch was asked if he had encountered pellagra, one of the more dreaded of the dietary deficiency diseases. This disease, caused mainly by a deficiency of niacin, but also of thiamine, riboflavin, folic acid and other essential nutrients, is marked in its late stages by the classical four D's: dermatitis, diarrhea, dementia and death.

Dr. Gatch said it was not even rare. He produced an old man of about 70 who, he said, had pellagrin symptoms including hyperpigmentation of elbows and knees. There the flesh had thickened and roughened until it felt like sandpaper.

How many pellagra victims had he seen?

"I would guess 150 to 200 cases," Dr. Gatch replied.

Deaths by starvation, deaths by any of the diseases of malnutrition, were never counted, he said. Too many death certificates simply read "natural causes," Dr. Gatch said, and he intended to campaign for postmortems in those cases.

Over the years Dr. Gatch became convinced that there was close correlation between malnutrition and intestinal parasites. Most of the undernourished children he examined were wormy. Many Negro shacks, he observed, had no privies; people relieved themselves in the fields and woods. Children treated for worms quickly became reinfested by stepping on feces that contained the eggs of parasites.

"If you have 100 or 200 of these foot-long roundworms in your belly they're going to take a lot of food," he said. "They migrate to the stomach and actually get the food before the child does."

Some notion of the extent of infestation in the Negro children of Beaufort County was given a few days later. A study of 178 Negro preschool children showed that nearly three of every four had intestinal parasites either ascaris (roundworm) or trichuris (whipworm) or both.

"Fantastic," said Dr. James P. Carter, nutritionist of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, who participated in the survey. "Parasitism in Beaufort County ranks with some Central American countries and with Egypt."

In Nashville, Dr. Carter said the nutritional status of the 178 children was "in most cases inadequate and in all instances minimal." He said that by minimal he meant that the children had a low margin of safety, particularly from pneumonia and diarrhea.

The survey, financed by the Field Foundation, was conducted by researchers from the University of South Carolina, the Meharry Medical College, in Nashville, and Vanderbilt University.

The results were considered so shocking that some even suggested that the data be withheld from general publication. Many white Southerners feel that poverty conditions among the rural blacks have been exploited by civil rights zealots.

Dr. E. John Lease, nutritionist of the University of South Carolina, was among those who feared that the report, if given wide publicity, would anger the white Establishment and perhaps wreck the chances of cooperation on remedial projects.

Dr. Lease wrote to his collaborators suggesting that the distribution of data be restricted and that "none of the work coming from the University of South Carolina should be published or mentioned on radio or television as the results of the university or any of its staff members."

Later, Dr. Lease apparently had a change of heart, for the material was released to the press in Columbia, S.C.

There were other indications that the establishment now wanted the situation exposed. On Jan. 31, to the astonishment and gratification of Dr. Gatch, Senator Ernest F. Hollings, the former Governor, turned up in Bluffton and made the hunger tour.

FEDERAL DELAYS CHARGED

The Senator saw a near-starving baby, a reputed pellagrin, a rachitic child and another child said to be recovering from scurvy. Deeply impressed, Senator Hollings said he would demand an end to "Federal roadblocks and redtape," which he said were frustrating local efforts to help the poor.

The local state Senator, James M. Waddell, also blamed the "Feds." He charged that the Office of Economic Opportunity had refused to fund a project that included privies for the poor.

"We can send a man to the moon," he cried on the floor of the South Carolina Senate, "but we can't build an outhouse."

Senator Hollings plans to testify next week before the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

The committee, headed by Senator George McGovern, Democrat of South Dakota, and dominated by liberals, had been planning field trips to suspected areas of hunger in a dozen states.

However, last week the Senate Rules Committee, dominated by conservatives, slashed the select committee's \$250,000 budget request by \$100,000. Senator Jacob J. Javits of New York, minority leader of the select committee, said he intended to carry the fight for the full appropriation to the Senate floor. But if the cut remains, the committee will have to curtail its travel plans, visiting perhaps only five or six states.

It means that the committee members will not see Beaufort County.

The still plan to visit the camps of migrant farm workers, like those in Immokalee, Fla., where life seems even more degrading than in the shacks of Beaufort County.

[From the United Press International, Feb. 18, 1969]

WASHINGTON.—A U.S. Senator from South Carolina who said he walked the backroads of his State to see worm-infested children starving on diets of grits and cornbread was the star witness today as the Government opened another investigation into hunger.

While Sen. Ernest (Fritz) Hollings, D., South Carolina, went before the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs with his tale, there were these other developments in the battle against hunger:

—A classic liberal-conservative fight shaped up in the Senate because the rules committee chopped \$100,000 from the nutrition committee's request.

—The HEW Department announced a major effort to pin down the causes and extent of hunger, with emphasis on a "strong Federal, State and local partnership."

Hollings recently toured four counties in the State of which he was once Governor. He said food stamps and other anti-hunger programs were not reaching some of the people he found.

South Carolina's other Senator, Republican Strom Thurmond, issued a statement on the eve of the hearings saying he hoped the new round of investigations would not result in his State being "maligned." He said some have impeded food or services were withheld from some impoverished persons because of race.

As Senate debate heated over how much money the committee should have to continue its work, its chairman, Sen. George S. McGovern, D., South Dakota, said millions of Americans "who don't eat enough, not well enough," are looking to the Government for leadership.

[From the Washington Star, Feb. 18, 1969]

HOLLINGS SEES HUNGER AMONG CONSTITUENTS—TELLS OF POVERTY TOUR

(By Judith Randall)

Sen. Ernest S. Hollings, D-S.C., described widespread malnutrition among his own constituents today and told an investigating committee "there is no reason why in the next 10 years hunger and slums cannot be eliminated from the American scene."

In testimony before the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, Hollings described what he saw as he traveled through five sample areas of his state.

"White or black," he said, "the poverty is the same. Bleak hunger and hovel housing amidst disease and ignorance. Again and again, no running water . . . hot or cold . . . no light, no toilet facilities amidst the filth and too little heat."

"There are literally hundreds of families who never heard of food stamps," he said. "But perhaps this is a blessing. They can't afford the initial cost. What I am talking here is downright hunger. The people I saw couldn't possibly work."

Alluding to the permanent brain damage caused by inadequate food in early life, Hollings said: "Many is the time that my friends have pointed and said, 'Look at the dumb Negro' . . . He is dumb because we have denied him food. Dumb in infancy, he has been blighted for life."

Hollings said the social cost exacted by permitting people to go hungry far exceeds what it would cost to feed them and that millions of dollars are thus needlessly spent to remedy crime, poverty, unemployment and illness.

Describing the politics of the situation, Hollings said the blame lies at all levels, but criticized particularly "the red-tape-worm of federal government."

[From the New York Times, Feb. 19, 1969]

SENATE RESCINDS HUNGER STUDY CUT—\$100,000 RESTORED FOR U.S. INQUIRY— HOLLINGS TELLS OF POVERTY IN SOUTH CAROLINA

(By Warren Weaver, Jr.)

WASHINGTON, February 18.—The Senate struck down today the \$100,000 cut that its Rules Committee had made in the budget of Senator George S. McGovern's committee investigating hunger and malnutrition in the United States.

After three hours of speeches, nearly all of them favoring a full \$250,000 authorization for the inquiry, the 40 per cent cut was restored by a relatively anonymous voice vote. No more than a half-dozen Senators could be heard calling "No."

The action reflected both growing national concern over hunger as a social and political issue and the receding influence of the Southern and farm blocs in the Senate. Members of these groups have been critical of the initial efforts of the McGovern committee.

A few hours earlier, at a hearing of the committee, Senator Ernest F. Hollings of South Carolina became one of the first political leaders from the deep South to acknowledge openly both the existence of widespread hunger among his constituents and his own share of the responsibility for it.

Senator Hollings, who has been touring some of the poorest urban and rural areas in his home state, said that, as Governor, he has supported "the public policy of covering up the problem of hunger" in the interest of attracting new industry and creating jobs.

NEW HOLLINGS STAND

"I know the need for jobs, but what I am talking about here to this committee is downright hunger," he said. "The people I saw couldn't possibly work."

The Senator also conceded that "as a public official, I am late to the problem." But he insisted that his conversion should not be interpreted as raising either a racial or a political issue. South Carolina's hunger is both white and Negro, he said.

"Many is the time that my friends have pointed a finger and said, 'Look at that dumb Negro,'" Mr. Hollings declared. "The charge too often is accurate—he is dumb. But not because of the color of his skin. He is dumb because we denied him food. Dumb in infancy, he has been blighted for life."

Only two Senators took the floor against the \$100,000 restoration today. Both of them approached the issue obliquely. One of them, Senator Carl T. Curtis, Republican of Nebraska, said he thought the McGovern committee was the wrong vehicle for such a big project.

"A charge has been made against America around the world," Senator Curtis said of the hunger reports. "We can't get the answer this way."

The other, Senator Spessard L. Holland, Democrat of Florida, questioned principally the prospect that the McGovern committee might get involved in some agricultural programs outside what he saw as its jurisdiction.

HOLLAND CRITICAL OF ARTICLE

Mr. Holland was also critical of an article on poverty and hunger in Collier County, Fla., that appeared in The New York Times on Monday. He said the reporter, Homer Bigart, would have given "a very different description" if he had visited "an established migratory labor camp" instead of shacks and hovels.

Senator Allen J. Ellender, Democrat of Louisiana, proposed giving the McGovern committee \$165,000—more than the Rules Committee's \$150,000 but far less than the eventual \$250,000. His proposal was defeated by a voice vote.

When the debate opened, the Senators had agreed to a vote on the record on the money question. Later, however, to cloak the identity of opponents of the higher authorization and mollify the rejected Rules Committee, the leaders decided to shift to a voice vote.

In leading the debate, Senator McGovern said that his group, known officially as the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, would be forced into an intolerable slowdown if the "drastic cuts" imposed by the Rules Committee were supported by the Senate.

A surprise supporter of the higher authorization was Senator Harry F. Byrd Jr., Democrat of Virginia, normally like his father an unremitting advocate of government economy. He said he thought the problem was too serious to cut the committee's budget.

CONTROVERSY AVOIDED

In his testimony before the committee during the morning, Senator Hollings declined to be drawn into a controversy with his Republican colleague from South Carolina, Senator Strom Thurmond, who has tended to deny past reports of hunger in his home state.

"The worst thing that could happen would be to get into an argument, to see if Hollings was right and Thurmond was wrong," Senator Hollings said.

When Senator McGovern, Democrat of South Dakota, praised him for a "powerful and compelling and dramatic statement," Mr. Hollings replied that there was no political profit for him in the stand and "the quickest way to kill me off is to ask me to come to Washington and make a dramatic statement like this."

Senator Hollings has never been as conservative as many of his Southern colleagues. He served as a John F. Kennedy aide in that area.

First elected to an abbreviated term in the Senate by a narrow margin in 1966, he appeared less moderate than his inclinations until he won a full six-year term last fall.

[Special to the New York Times]

NUTRITION EDUCATION PLAN

ALBANY, February 18.—New York State announced today a program under which Cornell University home economists would join with social workers and Federal farm agents "to teach poor people how to get more nutrition from their food dollar."

The federally funded educational program will be aimed first at those persons already receiving Federal food and food stamps.

[From the Daily World, Feb. 19, 1969]

HOMINY GRITS DIET FOR MILLIONS CONTRASTED TO SENATE PAY HIKE

WASHINGTON, February 18.—With hunger officially admitted stalking the richest country of the world, even a conservative South Carolina Senator today had to record that worm-infested children in his own state were starving on a grits-and-cornbread diet.

Senator Ernest F. Hollings, Democrat, told of his tour through the rural slums of his native state to the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, headed by Sen. George McGovern (D-S. D.).

Hollings, who led off the day's testimony, described conditions in the state of which he was once governor. He gave first hand accounts of houses without heat, water or privies and whole families subsisting on hominy grits, beans and cornbread. Much of his testimony had already been publicized in South Carolina and confirmed evidence placed before the committee in earlier sessions.

Hollings admitted that food stamps and other anti-hunger programs were not reaching many of the people whom he had found hungry.

PRELUDE TO FIGHT

This simply supported former Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman's testimony early in January that only seven million out of 27 million officially designated as poor are covered by government food programs.

The McGovern committee hearings, which will continue tomorrow, are a prelude to what may be a bitter Senate floor fight for additional committee funds.

The Senate Rules Committee has chopped \$100,000 from the nutrition committee's request of \$250,000 and McGovern is determined to get the sum restored. Otherwise, he points out, his investigators will not be able to visit a number of hunger areas in the country, mainly in the South. And this is exactly what some Dixiecrat Senators want—to keep the spotlight off their own bailiwicks.

McGovern is being helped, however, by a growing popular movement, including organized labor and on-the-spot reporting by some of the media.

PAY HIKE FOR SENATORS

Observers here see the anti-hunger fight in a number of stages. First step, it is pointed out, is to compel the restoration of the cut funds. The second is to develop a wide-scale program including food stamps, commodity distribution, hot lunches for school children and other forms of governmental assistance.

As Senate debate heated over how much money the committee should have to continue its work, its chairman, McGovern, said millions of Americans "who don't eat enough, not well enough, are looking to the government.

"They are hungry and they live in every area of our country," he said in remarks prepared for the debate. "They and other Americans are going to know after today whether we in the Senate, when we have just raised our own pay by 40 percent are going to deny 40 percent of the funds necessary to find out how to assure that hungry Americans become productive Americans."

[From the Washington Daily News, Feb. 19, 1969]

ANTI-HUNGER CAMPAIGN

Our new Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Robert H. Finch, has set off what, on the face of it, appears to be a cohesive, all-out attack on the problem of hunger in this country.

We have heard things like this before.

For the last 35 years we have been hearing them.

Meanwhile, the government has spent billions and billions in taxpayer money to meet the problem. It has launched program after program, erected a massive bureaucracy, and talked and talked.

But still we have hungry people; desperate, helpless people.

Less than a year ago, a full-dress committee, sparked largely by Walter Reuther, the auto union leader, drew national attention by calling the government's programs a flat failure. A survey by HEW itself turned up evidence of widespread malnutrition, anemia and other crippling ailments among children.

Since last April, a Senate investigating committee has been appalled by its own findings: Just this week, Sen. Ernest F. Hollings of South Carolina testified before this committee on what he had seen in his own state:

There are, he said, literally hundreds of hungry families who "never heard of food stamps," altho the government has a much-touted food stamp program.

Sen. Hollings cited case after case of forlorn families who were getting no assistance whatever. Why?

"... there is a greater blight perhaps than poverty. That is the red tape worm of Federal government."

Mr. Finch is new on his job. He can't be expected to perform overnight miracles. And we hope he doesn't try; that has been part of the problem—too much in too many directions.

He has ordered his department to hurry up locating the causes of malnutrition, he plans to meet all the state governors next week, and he has called on his staff for ideas on how best to meet the problem.

What he needs most is to learn what is so cockeyed with what has been going on in past—and to avoid it.

How does it happen there are so many in this country on welfare of one type or another, that the government is spending so many billions, that so many branches of the government are supposed to be taking care of the poor—and yet millions (10 million, according to some estimates) are hungry?

There is no excuse for that. Talk won't cure hunger, nor investigations, nor huge bureaucracies, nor billions merely spent.

"What we are talking about is easily recognized without a study," said Sen. Hollings. "There is substantial hunger. I have seen it with my own eyes."

The job is to find them, the truly hungry who can't help their plight—and feed them.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 19, 1969]

SENATE VOIDS CUT IN STUDY ON HUNGER

(By Richard L. Lyons)

The Senate, reminded that it just got a 40 per cent pay raise, was quick yesterday to rescind a 40 per cent cut in funds for a survey of hunger in America.

For the first time in memory, the Senate reversed its Rules Committee in a head-on fight over a committee budget and voted the full \$250,000 requested by the Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs. Sentiment was so evident to avoid humiliating the Rules Committee that the Senate called off a roll call and restored the \$100,000 by a voice vote.

Aside from the difficulty of appearing soft on hunger, the Senate may have been influenced by a vivid report given the hunger committee earlier by Sen. Ernest D. Hollings (D-S.C.).

Hollings had made his own on-the-spot survey of poor areas of his State and came back to report that "there is substantial hunger in South Carolina" and to ask for a major Federal effort to end it. The more typical Southern reaction has been to bristle at suggestions that the region, like others, has serious problems requiring Government help.

Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), who earlier had called Hollings' survey political and said there always would be hungry people, seemed to be taking a softer line.

Anticipating Hollings' testimony, Thurmond told the Senate Monday that all must be concerned with problems such as hunger. "I certainly am, and I am prepared to use my office to meet these needs," said Thurmond. He took no part in yesterday's debate on the hunger committee funds.

Opposition to providing the full \$250,000 ranged from Sen. Carl T. Curtis (R-Neb.), who said the job of pinpointing the extent and cause of hunger is too big for a Senate committee to attempt, to Sen. Allen J. Ellender (D-La.), who said the task is a relatively simple one of "exposing" the fact and then "getting more food to the hungry."

Most of the \$100,000 at issue will be used to have private consultants make in-depth studies in all parts of the country as to whether Federal food aid programs are working. Ellender opposed use of consultants. The food programs are administered by the Agriculture Department, which comes under supervision of the Agriculture Committee headed by Ellender.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), who did backstage work to round up support for restoration of committee funds, said the question was whether the Senate "is going to face up to a national question or take a half step."

Sen. Charles H. Percy (R-Ill.) told the Senate that if didn't restore the \$100,000 he would go out and raise it from private sources.

Sen. George McGovern (D-S. Dak.), chairman of the hunger committee, said the nation would know, by the vote, whether the Senate which had just raised its own pay by 40 per cent was "going to deny 40 per cent of the funds necessary to find out how to assure that hungry Americans become productive Americans."

Hollings told the committee of his home state tour of city slums and rural shacks where there was no light, water, heat and no food except for a slab of fat-back or some greens.

He also found that almost none of the poor were aware that there were programs such as food stamps that could help them—if they had the few dollars to buy the stamps.

He deplored the "red tape worm" of Federal Government which withheld help to install a water system in a poor community because it was unable to prepare the required "satisfactory comprehensive plan".

Hollings urged that food stamps be given free where necessary, and that a national goal be set to eliminate hunger as was done to build highways and go to the moon.

Most important, he said, is to eliminate bottlenecks and get food to hungry children before they grow up to fill public hospitals, jails and welfare rolls.

"It is cheaper to feed the child than jail the man," he said.

[From the New York Times, Feb. 20, 1969]

U.S. READY TO SPUR CAROLINA FOOD AID—HARDIN HOPES TO ACT TODAY—SENATORS TOLD OF CHILDREN INFESTED WITH WORMS

(By David E. Rosenbaum)

WASHINGTON, February 19.—Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin said tonight that he hoped to decide tomorrow, after consulting with state and local officials, whether a pilot food program could be instituted in Beaufort and Jasper counties in South Carolina. Widespread malnutrition has been reported there.

Mr. Hardin made the statement after a late afternoon meeting with Senators George S. McGovern and Ernest F. Hollings, who said they had urged immediate help for the area.

Earlier, Senator McGovern's committee, which is studying hunger in the United States, heard testimony from nutrition experts that 98 of 177 children examined in a survey of Beaufort County were infested with intestinal worms and had signs of severe malnutrition.

Mr. Hardin said after the meeting that the program he had in mind would be run through "mechanism that already exists."

An Agriculture Department official said this meant that the food stamp program would be used. The official declared that the program would be aimed at pregnant and lactating mothers and "other especially vulnerable people."

Mr. Hardin said he was planning to be in contact with Gov. Robert E. McNair of South Carolina and state and local health and welfare officials. He emphasized the need for working closely with local officials.

Senator Hollings, who testified before Senator McGovern's committee yesterday on the widespread malnutrition in the two counties, said the session with Mr. Hardin had been "most fruitful."

Senator McGovern said Mr. Hardin assured them that "the bottleneck won't be here [in the Agriculture Department]" if food did not reach the counties.

At the hearings before Senator McGovern's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs this morning, Dr. E. John Lease and Dr. Felix H. Lauter of the University of South Carolina told of the high incidence of hunger in the counties.

The worms, they said, could grow to a foot in length and children could have as many as 100 of them in their stomachs, sapping what little food the children ate.

Dr. Lease said the parasites had to be controlled through medicine and especially through improving knowledge of proper sanitation among "these very primitive people" before food stamp or commodity distribution programs could be effective.

James P. Carter, a pediatrician and nutrition specialist from Vanderbilt University, who followed Dr. Lease and Dr. Lauter with a study of his own, said none of the children appeared "to be dying of acute starvation."

"As far as hunger is concerned," he said, "you can ask them and they will tell you that they are hungry."

He said that more than two of every five children he examined has distended abdomens and were "seriously malnourished."

"The solutions to the problems of malnutrition and population pressures requires more than just food supplementation," Dr. Carter told the Select Committee on Nutrition and Related Human Needs.

Among the other necessities, he said, are adequate housing, community water supply, sewerage and waste disposal systems, job training and possibly farm cooperatives, day-care centers, rural health centers and effective community organization.

"Only with a sound economic base is there a chance of health education programs directed toward parasite control succeeding," he declared.

But the lack of food in rural counties is still a basic problem, Dr. Carter said. "A caloric intake of 800 calories a day is certainly not enough to support the child and rarely enough to support the worms."

Dr. Lease, Dr. Lauter and Dr. Carter declined to answer specifically whether they thought local health officials were doing their best to meet the hunger problem. They acknowledged that the local health departments were understaffed and underfunded.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 20, 1969]

FRAMED TRIBUTE FROM NIXON MAY BE ALL THURMOND WON

(By Don Oberdorfer)

"Richard Nixon's tribute to Strom Thurmond—Spartanburg, S.C., October 4, 1968" is framed on the wall of an inner office of South Carolina's senior U.S. Senator, testifying in Mr. Nixon's own words to Thurmond's "strong support, long before the primaries, through the primary, and at the convention, and since the convention."

At his desk nearby, backed by United States and Confederate flags, his military medals and the barbells for his daily exercises, this most controversial figure in the U.S. Senate may be excused for wondering these days just what else besides this handsome placard he obtained from his all-out support of Nixon.

No man worked harder for the Republican candidate, or at a greater risk to his prestige and political position among his own following. As it turned out, no man's support was more decisive. Without South Carolina and the Upper South states where Thurmond was a potent antidote to George Wallace, Mr. Nixon would have failed of an electoral majority Nov. 5.

In the month since Inauguration Day, however, Thurmond has found the kingmaker's role more difficult than expected. In the North, East and West there is an abiding suspicion that he has too much influence, and the slightest sign of any is a cause celebre. Back home, there's a growing suspicion that he has no drag at all. His political opponents and unbiased commentators are snickering that Ole' Strom was took.

At the Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson White House, telegrams and letters from Thurmond were almost as plentiful as Confederate dollars used to be and just about as valuable. Nobody paid much mind. But when he telegraphed Mr. Nixon in late January on behalf of a home state textile mill—about to be cut off from Pentagon contracts because of racial bias in employment—the missive

was leaked by Democrats in the Executive Branch, and became politically radioactive. In the end, the Pentagon compromised, a result said to be due in part to unpublicized intervention by Rep. Mendel Rivers (D-S.C.), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. Thurmond's publicized wire almost upset the works.

When HEW Secretary Robert Finch cut off Federal funds to five Dixie school districts, including Abbeville and Barnwell, S.C., Thurmond managed to be officially "encouraged" by a 60-day escrow provision and some muddled language in Finch's press release. Two weeks later, the day after bringing in former CORE chief James Farmer as a top assistant, Finch cut off the Greenwood, S.C., schools with no escrow period and no ambiguity. Thurmond fell silent.

He began turning down interviews with newsmen—an historic first—and began to weigh with care his contacts with the executive branch. He sent the school superintendent of Spartanburg, S.C., to see Finch, but kept away from Finch himself. He sent a letter to Mr. Nixon about textile imports and a telegram to Labor Secretary George Shultz about the dock strike, but otherwise cut his normal flow of written suggestions.

He has seen the President only once at the White House, at a private gathering two weeks ago for some of Mr. Nixon's original supporters on Capitol Hill. Thurmond resolved in advance not to press any petitions on the President during this social call, and he didn't. "You can't be running down to the White House on every case, that ought to be reserved for extreme emergency," says the Senator. "The President knows how I feel about matters," he adds—and just in case there's any doubt, his former aide and close friend, Harry Dent, is situated in the Executive Office Building as Deputy Counsel to the President.

"I'm still looking forward to a good Administration," the Senator says, but it is clear that for him these are trying times. He is complimentary about Melvin Laird's start at the Pentagon and the actions of the new men at Agriculture. No praise is volunteered for Finch, though Thurmond still seems to have a shred of hope that "freedom of choice" means what he would like it to mean—and in that case, South Carolina has already complied.

If Finch keeps up the pressure on the Southern schools, Thurmond's situation will be very sticky, endangering his position in South Carolina unless he is willing to make a sharp break with the Administration. On one side is his Democratic colleague, Sen. Ernest Hollings, whose antihunger tours and speeches in the state may show the beginnings of a white-black coalition on some issues. (Negroes are now one-fourth of the electorate in South Carolina.) On the other side is the specter of the Wallace movement, which has not disbanded. The radio station of Frank Best, head of the Wallace movement in the state, recently praised Thurmond for defending third parties as a needed device in case the major parties "become so alike that the voters have no choice." The station, WDIX in Dixie added: "The need may come faster than most of us can foresee."

His fortunes bound up in an Administration he helped to create but cannot guide, Thurmond is finding it necessary to lower his voice, at least until events and Mr. Nixon give him a clearer indication of the future course. To the holder of the Senate's record for solo filibustering, who is an absolutist and an individualist by nature, reticence on any subject does not come easy. It is questionable how long it can last.

[From the Evening Star, Feb. 20, 1969]

UNITED STATES TO GIVE FREE FOOD TO SOME POOR

The Nixon administration, under prodding by senators investigating hunger in the nation, has acted to relieve the severe malnutrition afflicting two rural Southern counties.

Agriculture Secretary Clifford Hardin agreed to make free food available to the two South Carolina counties by providing food stamps to eligible citizens at no cost.

Hardin agreed to allow the free stamps, subject to state and local approval, in a meeting yesterday with Sen. George S. McGovern, D-S.D. chairman of the Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, and Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C.

"REAL BREAKTHROUGH"

McGovern, who originally urged the administration to send surplus food directly to Beaufort and Jasper counties, said the stamp plan "will be a pilot program that will give us some operating experience" in meeting hunger problems.

"I think this is a healthy way to do it," McGovern told the Associated Press, adding, "I think it was a real breakthrough."

Hollings, who told the Nutrition Committee Tuesday of his dismay at conditions of hunger shown him in his own state, and said federal red tape was standing in the way of feeding them, also indicated he was satisfied with the quick action.

It was understood the federal government would pick up the cost of the stamps, which usually cost the recipient a small charge.

17,969 IN ONE COUNTY

A recipient may pay \$3, for instance, for stamps that will buy \$45 worth of food. But, some hunger experts say, the poorest people cannot even afford to buy the stamps.

The size of the program which may be needed in the two counties was indicated by data showing there are 17,969 people in Beaufort County alone who are eligible for participation in the food stamp program.

The Nutrition Committee was told that only 15 percent of the eligible persons actually benefit from the stamp program.

Mrs. Landon Butler, who has been working with the food stamp program in Beaufort, said she has asked many why they do not use the food stamps and about 75 percent said, "I can't afford it. It costs too much."

Although the food stamps would stretch the food budget for the poor, the stamps may cost 30 to 50 percent of a family's total income, she said.

"In one home that I visited, a family of four receives a total monthly income of \$66. To participate in the food stamp program the mother is required to spend \$24 for food stamps," Mrs. Butler said.

Paul Matthias, director of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations, said 3,987 children out of Beaufort's school enrollment of 10,351 come from poverty-level families.

An average of 1,986 received a free lunch at school each day, Matthias said.

"The other 2,090 either had to pay the full lunch price, bring a bag lunch from home, or not eat at all," he said.

He said stronger federal funding is needed so that the school lunch program can reach more of the poor. He said, "Every principal of Beaufort County schools with large concentrations of poor children also felt that a breakfast program could help his educational program substantially."

In testimony before the committee yesterday, researchers described a study in the Hilton Head Island area of Beaufort County that showed worm infestation and diets below critical nutrition level in many pre-school children.

The researchers said worms infested 73 percent of the small Negro children and 4 percent of the white. Many of the children were anemic, they said.

SENATOR SURPRISED

The experts described how eggs from the worms infect the soil when people live in such primitive conditions they do not build privies but defecate on the open ground.

They said children playing outdoors in the dirt transfer the microscopic eggs into their mouths on dirty fingers and thus become hosts for a new generation of worms.

The worms are prevalent in primitive areas from Tennessee to Texas, the researchers said. Sen. Allen J. Ellender, D-La., said that as a child he ran screaming to his mother because worms were crawling out of his mouth. He said health officials carried on a campaign to destroy the worms' life cycle.

Ellender said he was surprised that such things still happen in South Carolina. The South Carolina experts assured him that researchers from Louisiana institutions could show him similar problems in his own state.

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer, Feb. 20, 1969]

U.S. FOOD SOUGHT FOR HUNGRY IN SOUTH

WASHINGTON, February 19 (UPI).—Agriculture Secretary Clifford M. Hardin, under pressure from senators investigating hunger said Wednesday he would disclose plans soon for a pilot program to help feed the "poorest of the poor" in rural South Carolina.

He apparently turned down a suggestion by Sen. George S. McGovern (D., S.D.) at a meeting in his office that he declare a hunger emergency in Beaufort and Jasper counties, S. C., to qualify residents for surplus food commodities.

Instead, Hardin indicated he would work within the existing food stamp program to make special provision for pregnant women, nursing mothers and extremely young children.

South Carolina takes part in this form of a federal food subsidy for the needy, but Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D. S. C.), who recently toured "hunger pockets" in Beaufort and Jasper counties, said undernourished worm-infested children there are somehow not being reached by the program.

McGovern, chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Hunger and Human Needs, and Hollings conferred with Hardin after a nutrition expert testified that malnutrition in some areas of Beaufort County probably was serious enough to qualify them for foreign aid if they were overseas.

Medical witnesses said they found 73 percent of 131 preschool Negro children infested with intestinal worms.

Hardin said his plan would be made public on Thursday after he and Hollings discuss the situation with Gov. Robert McNair of South Carolina and health and welfare officials of the two counties.

The law governing food stamps, which are exchanged for groceries worth more than the stamps cost, contains an emergency provision authorizing distribution of free surplus commodities.

This provision usually has been invoked in the case of natural disasters, but McGovern contended that hunger itself is an emergency.

When asked about the appeal for an emergency declaration, Hardin replied by saying: "What we are looking for is a program that a year from now will be giving the best result."

When newsmen tried to get Hardin to elaborate, McGovern and Hollings came to the secretary's defense.

"The secretary very properly pointed out that the final decision will have to meet the approval of the state and local officials," McGovern said.

Hollings said the plan might provide "supplemental foods for vulnerable groups," but would not involve surplus commodities.

Earlier in the day, Dr. James T. Carter of Vanderbilt University, told McGovern's committee that none of the children he studied in Beaufort County "appeared to be dying of acute starvation. As far as hunger is concerned, you can ask them and they will tell you that they are hungry."

Carter has worked in nutrition in developing nations that have received U.S. foreign aid. He said some areas of Beaufort "would probably have qualified for this type of assistance had they been overseas in a friendly nation."

[From the Miami (Fla.) Herald, Feb. 20, 1969]

WHAT MADE HOLLINGS "FESS UP" TO HUNGER PAINS IN CAROLINA?

(By James K. Batten)

WASHINGTON—In a crowded Senate hearing room, Sen. Ernest F. (Fritz) Hollings said things that no other white southern senator had ever said before.

In the rich, pungent accents of his native Charleston, S.C., Hollings broke more rules of southern politics in an hour's testimony than most Dixie politicians break in a lifetime.

Not only did he commit the heresy of confirming that widespread hunger exists in his home state of South Carolina. He also confessed that as governor from 1959 to 1963, he promoted a "public policy of covering up the problem of hunger."

His big crusade as governor, he explained, was luring industry to South Carolina. And you don't entice industrialists, he said, with the ugly facts of life about worm-infested children with distended, bloated bellies.

As if that wasn't enough for one day, Hollings also had some remarkable things to say about Negroes, whose shadow has hung over southern politics since the beginning.

Yes, declared the 47-year-old senator, Negroes too often are "dumb," just like sneering white folks say.

"But [not] because of the color of his skin," Hollings emphatically declared in tones that must have rattled the ghosts of "Pitchfork Ben" Tillman and "Cotton Ed" Smith back home.

"He is dumb because we have denied him food. Dumb because in infancy, he has been blighted for life."

Hollings, tall, silver-thatched and immaculately tailored, said all this before Sen. George S. McGovern's Select Committee studying hunger in America.

In voices tinged with wonderment, the committee's northern liberals like Sen. Charles Percy of Illinois and Sen. Philip A. Hart heaped praise on Hollings for his "courage" and his "dramatic statement."

Both in Washington and in South Carolina, Hollings' testimony set off waves of speculation. Why did he do it? What were his motives? Does he want to be Ted Kennedy's running mate in 1972? What will this do to his political future in South Carolina?

[From the Nashville Tennessean, Feb. 20, 1969]

McGOVERN ASKS FOOD AID IN S.C. MALNUTRITION AREA

(By Edmund Willingham)

WASHINGTON—Sen. George S. McGovern, D-S.D., urged immediate federal food distribution in rural South Carolina yesterday after a Vanderbilt University professor reported extensive malnutrition was found in a study of the area.

One of those testifying on a study assisted by Vanderbilt and Meharry Medical College, Dr. James P. Carter, assistant professor of nutrition at Vanderbilt, said, "none of the children appeared to be dying of acute starvation, but significant numbers of them are seriously malnourished."

The Special Senate Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, of which McGovern is chairman, heard testimony that almost three-fourths of the 131 Negro children studied in a South Carolina county were infested with worms.

"If the people get 800 or 900 calories, and the worms get half of that, that's an emergency," said McGovern.

Dr. John Lease, of the University of South Carolina, told the committee the figure was "deplorably high."

The study of malnutrition and parasitism in Beaufort County was done by Dr. Lease, Dr. Felix Lauter, also of the university, Dr. Doris Wright, Meharry Medical College, Mrs. Josephine Hilray, Vanderbilt, and Dr. Carter.

Dr. Carter said the caloric intake of the children was about 800 a day, about half the recommended intake.

"It doesn't support the patient and it barely supports the worms," he said.

Dr. Lease said 5% of the white pre-schoolers studied had worms. Dr. Lauter explained that the families had no toilets, indoors or out, that the worm eggs are in excrement on the ground, and get into the children's bodies through dirt on the children's hands or on pets.

Dr. Lease said the problem was not restricted to South Carolina, but was a regional one "from Tennessee to Galveston."

Dr. Carter said 26% of the children studied were anemic and that their levels of Vitamin A were below the level at which night blindness occurs.

"As far as hunger is concerned, you can ask them and they will tell you that they are hungry," he said.

"Clearly, these children are suffering from the chronic effects of undernutrition, parasitism, and repeated bacterial and viral infections. All of these are acting synergistically to reduce their growth and development."

Dr. Carter said more than food supplementation and birth control was required.

"Inadequate housing is a problem for many families in the Beaufort County area. Home improvement and home construction loans should be provided to those families most in need. Some communities in this area are in desperate need of a community water supply and sewerage and waste disposal system."

He said job training, small industries, day care centers, a rural health center, and a community organization were also needed. He said the children studied were obtained through the local health center and thus should have been healthier than others without medical care.

The Senate committee is studying malnutrition in this country and will make recommendations on what to do about it.

Later, Dr. Carter said the current focus on hunger was now in its second stage, in his opinion. In the first stage its existence was denied; now it is said to be caused by ignorance.

He said the committee should "be weary of this approach to this problem."

[From the New York Post, Feb. 20, 1969]

THE DISCOVERY OF HUNGER

When he was Governor of his state, Sen. Hollings (D-S.C.) admitted this week, his administration was more interested in the care and feeding of factory-lunching industrialists than in the feeding and care of the poor. He was, he said regretfully, party to a "public policy of covering up the problem of hunger."

The uncovering process, begun long ago by a few horrified citizens and still fewer cooperative public officials, continued this week before the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, headed by Sen. McGovern (D-S. Dak.). Appalling medical testimony has become almost routine in that forum; it has identified routine neglect that is equally shocking.

It is due, in large part, to the "public policy" of which Sen. Hollings spoke and which still guides scores of Southern legislators—including his senior colleague, Sen. Thurmond (R-S.C.). Among their preoccupations is furnishing cheap labor to industry, but as Hollings conceded: "The people I saw couldn't possibly work."

The McGovern committee was recently shorn of \$100,000 in appropriations, but the chairman succeeded in persuading the Senate to grant its full request of \$250,000. It will now be able to pursue a full schedule of hearings and research and, before long, it will have legislative recommendations to make; they will ultimately involve much larger sums of money. This starvation scandal can no longer be covered up; the only question is when this overfed nation will wake up.

[From the New York Times, Feb. 20, 1969]

U.S. READY TO SPUR CAROLINA FOOD AID—HARDIN HOPES TO ACT TODAY—SENATORS TOLD OF CHILDREN INFESTED WITH WORMS

(By David E. Rosenbaum)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19—Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin said tonight that he hoped to decide tomorrow, after consulting with state and local officials, whether a pilot food program could be instituted in Beaufort and Jasper counties in South Carolina. Widespread malnutrition has been reported there.

Mr. Hardin made the statement after a late afternoon meeting with Senators George S. McGovern and Ernest F. Hollings, who said they had urged immediate help for the area.

Earlier, Senator McGovern's committee, which is studying hunger in the United States, heard testimony from nutrition experts that 98 of 177 children examined in a survey of Beaufort County were infested with intestinal worms and had signs of severe malnutrition.

Mr. Hardin said after the meeting that the program he had in mind would be run through "mechanism that already exists."

An Agriculture Department official said this meant that the food stamp program would be used. The official declared that the program would be aimed at pregnant and lactating mothers and "other especially vulnerable people."

Mr. Hardin said he was planning to be in contact with Gov. Robert E. McNair of South Carolina and state and local health and welfare officials. He emphasized the need for working closely with local officials.

Senator Hollings, who testified before Senator McGovern's committee yesterday on the widespread malnutrition in the two counties, said the session with Mr. Hardin had been "most fruitful."

Mr. McGovern said Mr. Hardin assured them that "the bottleneck won't be here" [in the Agriculture Department] if food did not reach the counties.

At the hearings before Senator McGovern's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs this morning, Dr. E. John Lease and Dr. Felix H. Lauter of the University of South Carolina told of the high incidence of hunger in the counties.

The worms, they said, could grow to a foot in length and children could have as many as 100 of them in their stomachs, sapping what little food the children ate.

Dr. Lease said the parasites had to be controlled through medicine and especially through improving knowledge of proper sanitation among "these very primitive people" before food stamp or commodity distribution programs could be effective.

James P. Carter, a pediatrician and nutrition specialist from Vanderbilt University, who followed Dr. Lease and Dr. Lauter with a study of his own, said none of the children appeared "to be dying of acute starvation."

"As far as hunger is concerned," he said "you can ask them and they will tell you that they are hungry."

He said that more than two of every five children he examined had distended abdomens and were "seriously malnourished."

"The solutions to the problems of malnutrition and population pressures requires more than just food supplementation," Dr. Carter told the Select Committee on Nutrition and Related Human Needs.

Among the other necessities, he said, are adequate housing, community water supply, sewage and waste disposal systems, job training and possibly farm cooperatives, day-care centers, rural health centers and effective community organization.

"Only with a sound economic base is there a chance of health education programs directed toward parasite control succeeding," he declared.

But the lack of food in rural counties is still a basic problem, Dr. Carter said. "A caloric intake of 800 calories a day is certainly not enough to support the child and rarely enough to support the worms."

Dr. Lease, Dr. Lauter and Dr. Carter declined to answer specifically whether they thought local health officials were doing their best to meet the hunger problem. They acknowledged that the local health departments were understaffed and underfunded.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 20, 1969]

FREE FOOD FOR POOR APPROVED

(By Richard L. Lyons)

Secretary of Agriculture Clifford Hardin, reversing Democratic policy, approved a pilot project yesterday to get free food quickly to hungry people in two South Carolina counties.

After a 1½-hour meeting with Sens. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) and George McGovern (D-S.D.), Hardin agreed—subject to state and local approval—to provide free food stamps to the very poor in Beaufort and Jasper counties. It would be the first time that the food subsidy stamps have been given free anywhere in the country.

McGovern, chairman of the Senate's special committee on hunger, and Hollings, who had made his own survey and found "extensive hunger" in his home state, praised Hardin for his "cooperation" and hailed the action as a break-through that could lead to a nationwide program of feeding the hungry.

Hollings, whose state is generally hostile to big government, stressed that the program would be locally administered. "We don't want a bunch of money spent without local planning and guidance," he said.

"This must be a program which is local and reasonable."

Hollings and others had testified before McGovern about extensive malnutrition and disease in the two counties.

At the close of yesterday's hearing, McGovern suggested that they ask Hardin to declare an emergency and ship in surplus food commodities to feed people who can't afford to buy even cheap food stamps.

McGovern's direct-food idea evolved into free food stamps during the discussion with Hardin and his aides.

Former Secretary Orville Freeman had contended that he had no authority to enlarge the food stamp program except where authorized by Congress.

McGovern said Hardin's lawyers found authority to give free food stamps in a provision added to last year's Agriculture Department appropriation bill adding funds to help the poor.

Stamps costing \$3 buy \$45 worth of food in the two counties. But McGovern's committee was told that many cannot afford even that. He estimated that 2000 persons in the areas could be aided at a cost of about \$35,000 a month.

"BREAKTHROUGH" SEEN

If approved locally and if it is successful, McGovern said, the free food stamp approach might provide a "breakthrough" for quickly getting food to the poor throughout the Nation. Law forbids giving free surplus commodities to communities in the food stamp plan. Until now, there has been no provision for free food stamps.

McGovern's committee was told yesterday by nutrition specialists of surveys in the two counties that showed 77 or 177 children tested had worms up to a foot long in their intestines. These worms, they said, consumed much of their already inadequate diet."

"If the people get only 800 calories a day and the worms get half of it, that's an emergency," said McGovern at the hearings.

ELLENDER HAD WORMS

Sen. Allen J. Ellender (D-La.) said he had worms as a boy in southern Louisiana, but that his family got rid of the worms with a physician's care and by throwing lime down the family privy. Worms are a matter of sanitation not nutrition, Ellender said.

Dr. Robert Coles of the Harvard School of Public Health, who surveyed hunger in Mississippi two years ago and has urged action since, said one difference was that Ellender had a doctor, while most of the poor in the two South Carolina counties never see one.

The campaign to feed the hungry has been building for two years since the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.), Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.) and Sen. George Murphy (R-Calif.) toured poor areas of Mississippi.

Last year, the Senate created McGovern's committee to measure the dimension of the problem throughout the Nation.

On Tuesday, the Senate decisively rejected an attempt to cut McGovern's budget.

[From the Baltimore Sun, Feb. 20, 1969]

COMMITTEE ON HUNGER

It is impossible to defend the nation's present food program as an effective way of eliminating hunger, and anyone really sympathetic with the hungry doesn't try to do so. Certainly if there were enough money and the Congress were willing to spend it the problem of hunger could be eradicated, but since the money isn't available—for whatever reason—the next best thing is to devise a program enabling the poor to make better use of such resources as there are.

Senator McGovern's special investigating committee on hunger, which this week won back the \$100,000 that had been cut from its budget, is the agency that must devise such a program if any agency can. The present food policy, now shown to be so inadequate, was devised not with the hungry in mind but as a way of reducing farm surpluses.

That the Nixon Administration recognizes this inadequacy was indicated yesterday by U.S.D.A. Secretary Hardin's decision to experiment with a free food stamp program in two South Carolina counties.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) News & Courier, Feb. 21, 1969]

McNAIR AND LITTLE DENY HIDING DISEASE, HUNGER

(By Hugh E. Gibson)

COLUMBIA.—Gov. Robert E. McNair and State Development Board Director J. D. Little Jr. joined Thursday in denying that hunger and disease are deliberately concealed from industrial prospects.

McNair couched his disclaimer in a "The Truth" statement issued in response to testimony by Sen. Ernest F. Hollings in Washington, D.C., Tuesday.

The former governor told a U.S. Senate committee disease and hunger are widespread in this state. During his 1959-63 term as chief executive, Hollings confessed, he deliberately covered up the existence of hunger when wooing new industry.

McNair said his own policy was just the opposite.

"When we meet with prospective new industries, we share these problems with them, and make them aware that we need their help," he declared. "We feel that these people should know the full story about South Carolina, and we have been telling it like it is.

"We feel that nothing can be accomplished through telling only a partial story about ourselves, particularly to persons who stand to be such major contributors to our future economic growth," McNair added.

Little, recovering from a bout with influenza, expressed doubt that Hollings had actually pursued a cover-up policy during his term as governor.

"To my knowledge, I never heard there was any such stated policy," said Little, who joined the board shortly after Hollings left office.

"And I don't believe there ever was," he said.

"We have no such policy," Little affirmed. "The only policy we have is presenting our product in the best light we can—and that doesn't mean lying about it."

Asked whether that inferred Hollings might have resorted to untruths to mislead industrial prospects, Little said it did not.

"Are you covering up when you present the side of an apple stung by a wasp—or do you polish it?" he demanded.

Although there is no deliberate concealment policy, neither do the state's industry hunters go out of their way to attract attention to hunger and disease conditions, Little said.

On the other hand, if convinced such conditions would be "detrimental" to a projected plant, Little said he would call attention to them. Otherwise, he explained, a boomerang effect would result if the plant were opened and then failed.

"They'd spread the word very quickly," he said, "but such a case has never come up."

Industrial prospects never inquire about hunger and disease conditions, Little explained. He said the questions invariably concern education levels, quality of manpower available and the like.

"Functional" illiterates, normally the major victims of disease and hunger, are not normally considered to be in the manpower pool and so are disregarded, Little said.

"Industry doesn't locate a plant from humanitarian motives, they're interested in profits first," he said.

"I don't say they're completely heartless," he added quickly, "but you can't show me a plant where the dollar return on the investment isn't the first consideration."

The development chief expressed admiration for certain companies—notably Avco-Lycoming in Charleston—for their efforts to bring people at "all levels" into the labor force.

The development board, too, has a humanitarian interest in providing jobs that will raise the economic level of the poor and provide them a better life, Little stressed.

"When economic and social development go forward hand in hand, you rise above this (poverty problem) type of thing," he noted.

Little credited Gov. Robert E. McNair with spelling out frankly to industrial prospects in New York City last year the low economic level of many South Carolina citizens. He said McNair outlined what was being done to counter this, especially in the development of manpower training.

To date, Little said, national publicity on South Carolina poverty, disease and hunger has failed to diminish industrialist interest in locating plants here.

Conceivably, he acknowledged, this may change and slow the expansion rate which last year hit a record \$635.6 million level and created 20,000 new jobs.

"From a state's image viewpoint, it could," he said. "It's too early to tell exactly what this will do to our image. It could have a positive effect."

Most industrialists are aware that such problems are nationwide and not peculiar to South Carolina, Little said. He was willing however, to trade a momentary lull in expansion as a relatively small price for licking the poverty problem.

"If there is a problem of the magnitude that's implied here (in Hollings' Senate testimony), it should be solved—regardless of what it does to us," Little declared.

"The quicker it's solved, the better off we're going to be—from an industrial standpoint as well as any other standpoint," he added.

Little said he was not necessarily endorsing Hollings' method of airing South Carolina's problems before the world, but that he was in full accord with the senator's aims.

Personally, the industry hunting chieftain acknowledged, he would prefer "effective, quiet methods" to achieve the same result, rather than directing national attention to the plight of Palmetto State poor.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) News & Courier, Feb. 21, 1969]

FREE FOOD STAMP PROPOSAL WELCOMED BY STATE OFFICIALS

COLUMBIA.—South Carolina officials, although wary of how it will be administered, welcomed Thursday the announcement that free food stamps will be made available in two rural counties as a pilot program in a nationwide fight against hunger. Gov. Robert McNair and the two state senators whose district includes Beaufort and Jasper counties withheld outright endorsement until they are advised how and by whom the food stamps will be distributed.

Their consensus was that the program to provide food stamps at no cost to eligible persons can best be handled "by local people who are on top of the problem."

"We welcome any new effort to bring us assistance and we stand ready now to implement any new program made available to us, including one to provide free food for Beaufort and Jasper counties," Gov. McNair said in a statement.

Agriculture Secretary Clifford Hardin announced the pilot program after conferring in Washington, Wednesday, with Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., and Sen. George S. McGovern, D-S.D. Hollings has testified on hunger, malnutrition and disease problems among Negroes in rural South Carolina at hearings currently being held before McGovern's select committee on nutrition and human needs.

Noting that last year a food stamp program was implemented in all 46 South Carolina counties, McNair said "this action now makes us capable of handling the new types of program proposed for Beaufort and Jasper counties."

Sen. James Waddell of Beaufort said he assumes the free food stamps program "will be geared through locally organized agencies now existing".

"I've no idea yet how the program will be administered and I don't know how free these stamps are going to be," Waddell added. "I imagine it's going to take some participation on our part."

"My feeling is that if we can make this pilot program successful here, it may help poor people in similar circumstances all over the country."

Sen James P. Harrelson of Colleton, the other state senator from the four-county district which includes Beaufort and Jasper, said he will go along with the pilot program if the "resident" legislators in the two counties approve it.

"I would think that these programs are best administered by local people who are on top of the problem," Harrelson added. "They can do a better job than somebody from Washington."

In his statement, McNair said he has "recognized and become involved" in the malnutrition problems of Beaufort and Jasper counties, and is also concerned "about similar problems which exist throughout South Carolina.

"A statewide malnutrition study of all areas was requested last August, and should be ready for implementation later in the spring," the governor said.

"We are also negotiating to bring a prescription food program into South Carolina, which would make free food available on a doctor's prescription to expectant mothers and children under six," McNair declared.

He added: "South Carolina recognizes its problems and has moved to correct them. The additional help now becoming available is welcome, just as were all the other programs which we have brought into our state in recent years."

[From the Charleston (S.C.) News & Courier, Feb. 21, 1969]

BEAUFORT COUNTY BOARD CHAIRMAN COMMENDS ACTION

(By Elaine S. Stanford)

Selection of Beaufort and Jasper counties for a national pilot project to feed the hungry was termed "commendable" by the chairman of the Beaufort County Board of Directors Thursday.

"If the program is really designed to help those who need it most, it will be of tremendous benefit," said Chairman Colden R. Battey Jr.

But, he said, elimination of federal government "red tape" is necessary to aid the people who need help.

Most city and county officials in the two counties said last night they knew nothing more about the project than what they had learned from the news media.

"That's all I know," said Beaufort County Welfare Director Harley Mills. "I talked with some investigators of the McGovern committee last week."

However, he continued, what effect the pilot project will have on the present program or "which way it will go, I don't know."

"I was unaware they (the two counties) had been selected," said Beaufort Mayor Monroe W. Key. "I would say an overall look into the poverty situation would not only reveal revising of the food stamp procedure but would also prove that the educational aspect of the situation is just as great if not greater."

He continued, "I'm sure they'll find that not only the food, the housing conditions need to be improved, but the training and education of the children and the adults alike will be needed if any program is expected to be a success to overcome this situation."

"I feel very strongly about our government sending our college and university graduating students to Peru and other foreign countries to educate and to feed those needy countries. They could far better serve their own country in searching out our hunger and poverty areas and spending the millions of dollars teaching and educating our children and adults to better provide for their families."

"I hope when the plans are complete, they will find this one solution that will help every community in South Carolina," the Beaufort mayor concluded.

Ridgeland Mayor F. E. Ducey Jr. agreed hunger "is something that needs to be looked into and the hungry need to be helped."

But, he said he felt that "money for current programs are not going to the people the programs are supposed to help."

"I feel too much is being spent for administrative purposes that are not necessary."

He added that he felt that South Carolina is not alone with the problem of hunger.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) News & Courier, Feb. 21, 1969]

SPECIAL REPORT—MCNAIR-HOLLINGS TENSION INCREASED BY DISCLOSURE

(By Hugh E. Gibson)

COLUMBIA.—Tension between Gov. Robert E. McNair and Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, seldom slack, has been cranked several notches tighter by Hollings' disclosure of hunger and disease conditions.

The Charleston attorney won national attention and acclaim Tuesday in candidly describing to a U.S. Senate investigating committee the poverty he says he saw in a first-hand tour of this state.

That was great for Hollings, but it put McNair in an exceedingly bad light. After mulling it over for some 24 hours, the governor fired back Thursday with a statement detailing his own steps to conquer poverty and illiteracy.

McNair welcomed Hollings' aid in that fight, but pictured the senator as a "Johnny-come-lately" recruit.

The prospect was that relations between the two powerful South Carolina Democrats will worsen if Hollings continues to garner headlines and accolades as a poverty war hero, and McNair's considerable efforts are ignored.

The big blow-off, if one comes, could be the Democrats' 1970 state convention and a flat-out confrontation with control of the state party as the big prize.

But, a state of tension between the two men—the "cold war," as some observers call it—is nothing new. It has been going on for several years, without producing a public head-knocking.

This time, too, oil may yet be poured on the troubled waters.

Some observers date the Hollings-McNair coolness as beginning during the 1962 primary, when they were on opposite sides of the political fence, although within the same party.

Hollings, coming off a successful four-year term as governor, challenged the late Olin D. Johnston for his Senate seat.

McNair, then in the House, ran for lieutenant governor against Hollings' good friend, Sen. Marshall J. Parker of Oconee.

Hollings went down to crushing defeat by Johnston. McNair defeated Parker in a campaign in which the major issue was the senator's alleged backing for a four per cent sales tax.

But, McNair by then governor, incurred Hollings' serious displeasure when the Charleston lawyer opposed then-Sen. Donald S. Russell in the 1966 Democratic primary.

Hollings said privately, and with considerable resentment, that McNair almost openly backed Russell until the closing weeks of the campaign when it was apparent Hollings would win. McNair, himself, was seeking a full four-year term as governor that year, and he won big against Republican opponent Joseph O. Rogers Jr. in the general election.

Last year, however, Hollings grabbed the title of the state Democratic Party's champion vote-getter. He scored a landslide victory over John Bolt Cullbertson of Greenville in the primary, and went on to drub Parker almost as badly in the general election.

Political reporters promptly dubbed Hollings the party's new "golden boy," an appellation that roused no cheers around the governor's office.

Hollings boycotted the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, missing McNair's short-lived dream of becoming the vice presidential nominee and induction into the party's "mainstream," as McNair proclaimed when he returned.

In fact, Hollings had little or nothing good to say about the Johnson-Humphrey administration in his campaign against Parker.

A further clash between Hollings and McNair, reportedly occurred during that presidential election campaign, although it never quite broke out in the open.

But, insiders credit Hollings with heading off a South Carolina appearance by Mrs. Humphrey last fall. Reservations already had been made at Charleston hotels, and McNair had given his blessing to the visit.

Hollings, fearful of the political hay Parker might make if Mrs. Humphrey did visit the state, reportedly raised sharp objections, and forced cancellation of the plans.

For the most part, however, relations between the two men have been correct and somewhat cool. Occasional thaws have been noted. At the 1968 state convention, for example, they exchanged verbal bouquets like ardent young lovers.

Now, in their winter of discontent, that ardor has been iced by Hollings' frankness on poverty conditions under McNair's administration.

There is a suspicion around the State House that Hollings hopes to vault to the next vice presidential nomination—using McNair's neck, hunger, and disease as the first rungs in that climb.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) News & Courier, Feb. 21, 1969]

POVERTY IN BEAUFORT—A GUEST EDITORIAL

It is with sadness and heavy heart we comment today on Senator Ernest F. Hollings' testimony before the Senate investigating committee's look at poverty in America and, in particular, in Beaufort County.

As we all know Beaufort County was fast becoming known as the poverty pocket of America and after Senator Hollings' statements Tuesday there is little

doubt in our minds that the whole world will now associate poverty and Beaufort County as synonymous terms. The picture painted in Washington Tuesday was ugly. Ugly to the extent that it made us wonder if we are living in the same county they were talking about. Ugly to the extent that it will make us hesitate to tell people we live here. Ugly to the extent that it makes us fighting mad because deep down we know that Beaufort citizens do care and are more than willing to help persons who can't help themselves, regardless of race or color.

Will any good or constructive help result from this airing of the poverty pocket of America? Will the Federal government rush aid, food, toilets, water and all the other missing ingredients to our impoverished citizens? Will Senator Hollings continue to fight the poverty battle or is this just a one-way splash?

We wish the senator success and we will welcome the day he and his federal committee come up with solutions. It is one thing to air and discuss conditions and solutions, but it is another thing to come up with genuine help and remedies.

If the senator's testimony results in solutions and remedies of the ill of which he speaks, he will have done not only Beaufort County a good deed but also all communities in America. If his testimony is just filed for the record and no help or solutions are forthcoming, it will be just another case of government red tape.

But, whatever the outcome, good or bad, one thing is certain . . . Beaufort County will carry for years and years the stigma of being a poverty pocket in America. Only time will tell us how long.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) News & Courier, Feb. 21, 1969]

MORE ABOUT HUNGER

While we see nothing funny about hunger and disease, an air of sardonic humor clings to the disclosure of misery in South Carolina.

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings' statements in Washington have served to focus new light on old problems. What do you know? City slums and rural poverty have been discovered in the Palmetto State.

These conditions, alas, have existed for many years. All one has to do to confirm these reports is to keep his eyes open in traveling about this or almost any other region. Switzerland and Holland are two countries that enjoy an image of well fed cleanliness, but we are confident a sharp investigator could sleuth out misery even there.

Beaufort and Jasper Counties are a long way from the Alps and the lush lowlands around the mouth of the Rhine. Comparisons are not now in order. Whether hunger publicity is good or bad remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, assorted politicians, civic leaders and plain citizens are scurrying around the subject. When Sen. Hollings was Governor, did he really sweep poverty under the rug? His statement before a Senate committee implied something of the sort. Does Gov. Robert E. McNair follow that policy? When Special Assignments Editor Hugh E. Gibson asked that penetrating question at Columbia, an answer was hard to find.

The next day, Gov. McNair said the state has "been telling it like it is."

Some of the comments printed in our news columns yesterday reflected general discomfiture. We have not heard the last of the subject, of course. Talking about poverty won't make it go away.

Actually, we know of no permanent cure for poverty. Out of all this talk, we would like to believe that at least some temporary good will come. Sorting out the truth from political chaff is almost as difficult, and considerably less palatable, than providing food for the hungry. At least one commodity never in short supply is talk.

[From the Charleston (S.C.) News & Courier, Feb. 21, 1969]

FOOD PROGRAM SET FOR HUNGRY IN TWO COUNTIES—BEAUFORT, JASPER PROJECT FIRST OF KIND IN HISTORY

(By Rudolph A. Pyatt)

WASHINGTON.—A national pilot program, to be co-ordinated by the secretary of agriculture and South Carolina Gov. Robert E. McNair, will be set up to feed the hungry in Beaufort and Jasper counties.

The program, announced by Sen. Ernest F. Hollings Wednesday, after a meeting with Hardin, will provide free food stamps to impoverished residents of the two counties.

McNair and Agriculture Secretary Clifford Hardin spent several minutes discussing the program by telephone Thursday, it was learned.

With details of the program being worked out now, it is expected to go into effect next week. The pilot project is the first of its kind in the nation's history.

The governor's office will coordinate the project, which will be administered through state and local welfare offices. State Sen. James Waddell of Beaufort is expected to play a key role in administering the program also.

Details of the project will be announced soon by Gov. McNair.

Hardin agreed to implement the project after a meeting with Hollings and Sen. George S. McGovern Wednesday. McGovern is chairman of the Senate's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

Testimony by Hollings and other South Carolinians before McGovern's committee this week gave birth to the idea for the national pilot program. It was at the suggestion of McGovern and committee member Sen. Allen Ellender, D-La., that Hollings asked for aid from the Agriculture Department.

McGovern, in an interview Thursday, hailed the program as a "breakthrough."

"I think yesterday (Wednesday) we saw an historical breakthrough when, for the first time, the Department of Agriculture agreed to provide free food stamps to the hungry in Beaufort and Jasper counties."

McGovern said he thinks the project will provide a basis for expansion to other areas of the nation.

"I would hope that in initiating pilot programs in South Carolina, we can establish guidelines for the best results," McGovern said.

"It would be my hope that . . . this would be as ideal a program as possible."

Hollings signaled the need for such a program Tuesday when he testified: ". . . Food stamps, without cost, must be provided with similar stamps being used for the cost of clothes and used for school feeding programs.

The Rev. I. DeQuincy Newman, South Carolina field director of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), told the committee Thursday he is in favor of the pilot program being administered by local officials. But Mr. Newman urged that community leaders and representatives of the poor be consulted.

The hearings, being held to investigate hunger in South Carolina, yielded testimony Thursday which prompted McGovern to pave the way for what might be another important breakthrough.

Following a recommendation Thursday by the director of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations, Sen. McGovern said he will ask for a modification in procedures used to cut off school funds.

McGovern said he is drafting a memorandum to the Justice Department asking if it is possible, within the law, to exempt monies allocated for school lunch programs from cutoff of funds by the federal government in school districts that fail to comply with desegregation guidelines.

Paul Matthias, director of the Human Relations Council, told the committee children who benefit from free or inexpensive lunch programs should not be made to suffer because of "recalcitrant school officials."

Sen. Ralph Yarborough, D-Texas, critical of cutoff of school funds charged: "It's outrageous, it's cruel and whoever does it ought to have his head examined."

Matthias' testimony dealt considerably with inequities in the South Carolina school lunch program and failure of school officials to adequately inform parents whose children qualify for participation in the program.

Of 208,000 children from needy families in South Carolina, "there are still over 65,000 . . . who are not benefitting from what the laws says they are entitled to," Matthias said.

Matthias told the committee that in Dorchester County Negro children upon enrolling in a formerly all-white school, were told they would have to return to an all-Negro school if they wanted free lunch.

He said an all-Negro school in Union County had its free lunch funds slashed because of the makeup of the student body.

"That's some of the worst segregation I've ever heard of in my life," declared Sen. Yarborough.

But Matthias also cited examples showing that poor white families aren't receiving benefits from free school lunch programs either.

He, nevertheless, cited Miss Kathleen Garston, state lunch director, as a good administrator of the program.

"There is apathy toward the problems of the poor by many who administer public assistance at the local level," Mr. Newman testified, "thus rendering a disservice not only to the poor but to administrators at the state and federal level."

It is a source of amazement," Mr. Newman continued, that these conditions (hunger and poverty) have not led to more violent eruptions, breaking in, looting, and plundering."

Mr. Newman later observed: the respect for the law that you find among impoverished people is tremendous."

In South Carolina it could be attributed to the religious orientation the people get in the rural areas. A respect for moral law is deeply imbedded," Mr. Newman told *The News and Courier*.

He praised Sen. Hollings' action this week and said he feels that more people who "didn't have the temerity before will now follow the lead of a U.S. Senator."

The committee also heard from Mrs. Landon Butler of Hilton Head Island, who said only 130 of 700 families who qualify for the food stamp program in Beaufort County are now certified to purchase stamps.

Mrs. Butler, a white volunteer worker, told of the high cost of living in Beaufort County and exorbitant prices charged at rural food stores where choices are limited and meat in many instances spoiled.

Similar conditions were described by Mrs. Agnes Robinson, a Beaufort-Jasper County OEO worker. Mrs. Robinson also related case histories of poor families, one with a membership of six living on \$157 a month.

More testimony was provided Thursday on worm infestation in Beaufort County.

But Charles E. Fraser, president of Sea Pines Plantation at Hilton Head, said parasite infestation in Beaufort County is "typical rather than unusual."

"Our conservative estimate based on available data is that approximately one million persons in the southeast are infested with intestinal parasites," Fraser said.

"It is our firm conclusion that nothing of any substance is presently being undertaken in the United States to eradicate the continuing heavy worm infestation in children of low income families," Fraser said.

[From the Columbia (S.C.) State, Feb. 21, 1969]

APATHY TO HUNGER CHARGED—SOUTH CAROLINA WITNESSES TESTIFY

(By Lee Bandy)

WASHINGTON.—Complaints of harassment, overpricing, inferior food and lack of cooperation at the local level were heard here Thursday as the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs wrapped up its three-day study on hunger in Beaufort and Jasper counties, S. C.

Witness after witness testified that doctors and hospitals refuse to treat the poor, grocery store managers sell spoiled meat, state welfare workers take little interest in the needy, and persons are thrown in jail for calling public attention to their plight.

NEWMAN CHARGES

Rev. I. DeQuincey Newman, field director of the NAACP for South Carolina and the lead-off witness, charged:

"There is apathy toward the problems of the poor by many who administer public assistance at the local level, thus rendering a disservice not only to the poor but to administrators at the state and federal levels.

"Hundreds of applicants for food stamps and welfare benefits have complained that they are treated as something else rather than human by those in charge of programs at the county level."

Similar complaints came from Mrs. Landon Butler Jr., Sea Pines Plantation Co., Hilton Head, S.C.; Miss Agnes Robinson, Beaufort County Economic Opportunity Commission; and Mrs. Hazel Fraizer, Beaufort Welfare Rights Union.

Mrs. Butler charged local grocers with jacking their prices above the chain markets which are out of reach for the poor for lack of transportation. The meat choices in these small stores, she said, are between chicken necks, pig's tails, and "spoiled" beef.

"I talked with mothers whose children never drink milk, and rarely eat vegetables and meat. I found entire families existing on rice, sweet water and bread—and often that is rationed in small amounts," she said.

Mrs. Butler defended the food stamp program as being "basically a good one," but added, "with the existing unrealistic price scheduling and inadequate funds it remains a vehicle without enough gas to go very far."

Miss Robinson told of one family paying \$56-a-month and receiving \$80 worth of stamps, and then the next month paying \$60 and getting \$90 worth of food coupons.

"The change was made without any explanation whatsoever. This is often a practice when people are dealing with the poor. Nothing is explained to them, and of course they are afraid to ask for fear they will be cut off," she testified.

She charged that mothers are treated with hostility by store operators who try to sell them "very inferior quality of food."

In many instances, she continued, the managers take frozen meat with all the ice on it, weigh it and then give an inaccurate weight.

Paul Matthias, director of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations, said there were still too many poor children in the state not getting free school lunches. He blamed this on a breakdown in communications.

Charles Fraser, president of Sea Pines Plantation Co., charged that "nothing of any substance is presently being undertaken in the United States to eradicate the continuing heavy worm infestation in children of low income families."

He called for a mass medication program starting immediately to combat the parasite problem.

[From the Baltimore Sun, Feb. 21, 1969]

FREE FOOD ORDERED FOR CAROLINA POOR

WASHINGTON, February 21.—Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin ordered today an experimental program that would give the neediest families in two South Carolina counties free food directly from grocery store shelves for the first time.

Secretary Hardin ordered free food stamp distributed to "the neediest of the needy" in Beaufort and Jasper Counties—those so impoverished they cannot afford even the cut-rate 50-cent stamps good for a month's supply of staple foods.

If the "temporary" experiment works, Mr. Hardin told a news conference, it might be considered for trials in other United States "hunger pockets"—both rural and urban.

The purpose is to find a way to help impoverished families who have not been reached before, he said. If local officials balk or technical obstacles crop up, he said, other ideas may be tried out.

Some nutrition investigators in South Carolina contend that local officials refused to help needy Negro families in some cases. When asked about this possibility, Mr. Hardin said, "I intend to monitor the program personally."

He indicated the program was the first step in a Nixon Administration plan to recommend much broadened Government efforts to eliminate malnutrition.

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer, Feb. 21, 1969]

WASHINGTON DATELINE—NEEDIEST TO GET FREE FOOD

WASHINGTON, February 21.—Agriculture Secretary Clifford M. Hardin ordered an experimental program Friday that would give the neediest families in two South Carolina counties free food directly from grocery store shelves for the first time.

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If the "temporary" experiment works, Hardin told a news conference, it might be considered for trials in other U.S. "hunger pockets"—both rural and urban.

The purpose is to find a way to help impoverished families who have not been reached before, Hardin said. If local officials balk or technical obstacles crop up, he said, other ideas may be tried.

Some nutrition investigators in South Carolina claim local officials refused to help some needy Negro families. Asked about this possibility Hardin said, "I intend to monitor the program personally."

Hardin indicated the free stamp program is the first step in a Nixon administration plan to recommend much broadened government efforts to eliminate malnutrition. Details will be announced later, he said.

But the idea of providing stamps absolutely free emerged only two days ago from hearings before Sen. George S. McGovern's Select Senate Committee on Nutrition about food and health conditions in South Carolina.

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D.-S.C.) brought to McGovern's committee medical and welfare witnesses who testified they found many rural families who did not know about, or could not afford, the present food stamps.

[From the Baltimore Sun, Feb. 21, 1969]

LUNCH FUND WAIVER ASKED—MCGOVERN WANTS PROGRAM EXEMPTED IN SCHOOL ACTION

WASHINGTON, February 20.—The chairman of the Special Senate committee on hunger said today he will ask the Nixon administration to exempt school-lunch programs when federal funds for Southern schools are cut off because of civil rights violations.

"It's a mistake to use a civil rights issue to aggravate a serious malnutrition problem," Senator George S. McGovern (D., S.D.) said, disclosing he will ask John N. Mitchell, attorney general, to see if a way can be found to continue such lunch programs when other funds are stopped.

HAILS DECISION

Meanwhile the Department of Agriculture discussed with Gov. Robert E. McNair of South Carolina the details for distribution of free food stamps in Beaufort and Jasper counties. Indications were the first free stamps would be made available next week.

Senator McGovern hailed the decision of Clifford M. Hardin, Secretary of Agriculture, to supply the free stamps to the poorest people in an area cited by witnesses as having a high degree of hunger and disease.

"If we can get the concept established that the poorest people ought to get fed for free," he told reporters, "we're well on the way to eliminating malnutrition in the United States."

QUICK REACTION

Testimony at the third and final day of hearings by the Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs into hunger in South Carolina indicated federal school-lunch funds are inadequate, that many poor people cannot afford to buy food stamps and that as many as one million persons in the Southeast are infested with worms.

Senator McGovern and Senator Ralph Yarborough (D., Texas) reacted quickly when Paul Matthias, director of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations, testified that in 14 South Carolina school districts, school-lunch programs were stopped when federal school funds were cut off.

"The recalcitrance of school officials should not be the reason for stopping these lunch funds," Mr. Matthias said.

ALLEGES BIAS

"I think that's an outrageous type of situation," Mr. Yarborough exclaimed, "that you starve children when schools don't meet the legal requirements."

"I agree with Senator Yarborough," Senator McGovern said after the hearing. "While the intent of the civil rights act is good, we ought to make a special exception in the case of food. It's a situation that can't be allowed to continue."

[From the Philadelphia Inquirer, Feb. 21, 1969]

CONTINUED LUNCH AID ASKED AT SCHOOLS PENALIZED FOR BIAS

WASHINGTON, February 20.—The chairman of the special Senate committee on hunger said Thursday he will ask the Nixon Administration to exempt school-lunch programs when Federal funds for Southern schools are cut off because of civil rights violations.

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REACT QUICKLY

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"I think that's an outrageous type of situation," Yarborough exclaimed, "that you starve children when schools don't meet the legal requirements."

BIAS REPORTED

"I agree with Sen. Yarborough," McGovern said. "While the intent of the civil rights act is good, we ought to make a special exception in the case of food. It's a situation that can't be allowed to continue."

Matthias testified also that when Federal food funds were expanded last year, there was discrimination by local authorities against Negro schools.

In Union County, he said, all schools got additional funds except for one all-Negro high school, where only 300 of 1000 students were getting lunches and only 10 were getting them free.

Yarborough asked if this was because the school was all black.

"I can't draw any other conclusion," Matthias said.

Commented Yarborough: "That's some of the worst discrimination I ever heard of."

Matthias said, "Financial malnutrition is causing the school-lunch program to reach only a portion of the poor. There are still over 65,000 South Carolina children from the neediest of families who are not benefiting from what the law says they are entitled to."

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 21, 1969]

U.S. FOOD AID WELCOMED BY SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR

(By Richard L. Lyons)

South Carolina Gov. Robert E. McNair yesterday welcomed a Federal plan to help feed the poor in two counties of his state. The Department of Agriculture is expected to spell out details of the program today.

State approval was a necessary condition of the plan to issue free food stamps to the needy announced by Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) after he and Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) met with Secretary of Agriculture Clifford Hardin, Wednesday.

McNair issued a statement saying his state was pressing ahead with permanent statewide programs to end malnutrition, but said that "additional help is welcome." He said South Carolina "stands ready to implement any new program made available to us, including a program of free food for Beaufort and Jasper counties".

PRAISED BY M'GOVERN

McGovern and other members of his special committee investigating the extent of hunger in America praised the planned pilot program as a breakthrough that could lead to a nationwide program. The Department of Agriculture said members of Congress from other states already have asked about the free food stamps.

The Government now provides free surplus food commodities to the poor in many areas. But McGovern said it is unappetizing, must be accepted in a month's supply at a time and cannot by law be provided in the growing number of communities under the food stamp plan.

Food stamps are a subsidy, the value depending upon a family's size and income. A large, poor family in Beaufort County could buy \$45 worth of food with a \$3 stamp, but one witness before McGovern's committee said her income required her to pay \$56 for \$80 worth of food.

TOKEN SUM REQUIRED

Until now, the poor have been required to pay a token sum to obtain food stamps. McGovern received testimony from several witnesses during his three-day hearing on South Carolina that many people could not afford to pay even the minimum amount. McGovern was told that only 15 per cent of those eligible in Beaufort County were in the food stamp program, and that the reason given repeatedly was, "I can't afford it."

McGovern said the Department of Agriculture does not have enough money now to launch the program on a large scale. He said he had asked Hardin to try the pilot program in five or six different areas with different problems relating to malnutrition.

McGovern also said he will ask the Justice Department if it can exempt school lunch funds from the cutoff of school aid in school districts that fail to comply with desegregation requirements. The committee was surprised to learn that when aid to education is cut off, the lunch aid program stops, too.

Sen. Ralph Yarborough (D-Tex.) called it "outrageous to starve children when schools don't meet legal requirements."

[From the New York Times, Feb. 21, 1969]

NIXON AIDES PLAN FREE FOOD FOR POOR IN CAROLINA

(By Marjorie Hunter)

WASHINGTON, February 20.—The Nixon Administration moved swiftly today to work out details for feeding the neediest poor in two South Carolina coastal counties.

Within days, free food stamps will be distributed to the lowest-income families of Beaufort and Jasper counties under a pilot project.

Details of the plan will be disclosed tomorrow by Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin.

Secretary Hardin's decision to make free food stamps available was hailed today by Senator George S. McGovern as a "historic break-through" in combating hunger.

Senator McGovern, a South Dakota Democrat, said he hoped that the two-county pilot program might become a model for feeding the neediest poor throughout the nation.

The Senator heads a special committee that is making an extensive study of hunger and malnutrition in the United States. Witnesses this week told of widespread hunger and disease in certain areas of Jasper and Beaufort counties.

This will be the first free distribution of food stamps—redeemable for purchase of food at stores—since the program was authorized by Congress on a permanent basis in 1964.

The law, in effect, forbids free stamps by stating they can be distributed at no cost only to those families not spending any money on food.

AIDED LUNCH PROGRAM

However, Secretary Hardin is acting under an appropriations act that authorized the spending of \$50-million in this fiscal year on supplementing existing programs for feeding the poor.

A major portion of this \$50-million has been used to add to school lunch programs. However, Agriculture Department officials believe that sufficient funds are available for the two-county pilot project.

Some within the Department of Agriculture are known to be somewhat dubious about Secretary Hardin's authority to make food stamps available without cost, even under the appropriation act.

Orville L. Freeman, Secretary of Agriculture in the Johnson Administration, steadfastly maintained he had no authority to distribute, free stamps without a change in the food stamp law.

Two years ago, following a tour of Mississippi, Senator Robert F. Kennedy of New York and several other senators asked Mr. Freeman to make stamps available free to the neediest. Mr. Freeman said he had no such authority.

Secretary Hardin's decision to try to aid Jasper and Beaufort Counties was made after a meeting late yesterday with Senator McGovern and Senator Ernest F. Hollings, Democrat of South Carolina.

Today, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, encountered Senator Hollings on Capitol Hill and congratulated him.

"Bobby worked for a year and half to get what you did yesterday in two hours," Senator Kennedy said ruefully.

Several circumstances, social and political, accounted for what Senator McGovern termed the "historic breakthrough" this week.

First, and perhaps most important, was the fact that Senator Hollings took the lead in admitting there was hunger in his own state. He was one of the first political leaders in the Deep South to acknowledge openly the existence of hunger among his constituents and his own share of responsibility for it.

KENNEDY TOUR DENOUNCED

In contrast, the hunger tour of Mississippi by the late Senator Kennedy and others two years ago had been denounced by political leaders of the state as "outside interference" and a modern version of "carpetbagging."

Another major factor in the breakthrough was the Nixon Administrations apparent reluctance to be pictured as unsympathetic to the poor and hungry.

Too, there has been mounting evidence in recent months of widespread malnutrition among the poor. This has caused a shift in public opinion from one of "stop coddling the poor" to "let's do something about the problem."

This was pointed up earlier this week by Secretary Hardin when he said that "the climate of the country seems to have shifted materially in the past several months in terms of concern for malnutrition."

Secretary Hardin said that "it now appears that there is indeed support for moving ahead vigorously in this area and we are hoping to move with every possible resource we can muster."

McGOVERN ASKS LUNCH AID

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (AP).—Senator George S. McGovern, Democrat of South Dakota, the chairman of the special Senate committee on hunger, said today he would ask the Nixon Administration to exempt school-lunch programs when Federal funds for Southern schools are cut off because of civil rights violations.

"It's a mistake to use a civil rights issue to aggravate a serious malnutrition problem," Senator McGovern said, disclosing he would ask Attorney General John N. Mitchell to see if a way can be found to continue lunch programs while other funds are stopped.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 22, 1969]

UNITED STATES OUTLINES PLAN FOR FREE FOOD STAMPS

(By Richard L. Lyons)

The Administration announced agreement yesterday on a small but unprecedented program to give food stamps free to the poorest families in two South Carolina counties.

Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin told a news conference he had worked out an agreement with Gov. Robert E. McNair for South Carolina to get food to the poor in Beaufort and Jasper Counties, which lie at the southern tip of the state and consist largely of islands.

Officials said they hoped the first free stamps can be made available within a week.

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) estimated that about 2500 persons could be helped. Senators investigating hunger in America hailed it as a first step that could lead to a nationwide program for getting food to people too poor to afford even the low-cost food stamps and who have no access to free food distribution programs. It will be the first time food stamps have been given away.

Hardin said stamps will be given only to families with incomes of less than \$30 a month. Until now, families in this bracket have been required to pay 50 cents per person per month, but not more than a total of \$3, for stamps that a family of four could redeem at a food store for \$58 worth of food. The Federal Government pays the difference.

Hardin said the Administration is "dedicated to wiping out malnutrition" in the Nation.

He said he has been examining the whole food distribution program and has been looking at other areas for possible pilot projects, but is not ready to start any others. The Department doesn't have the money to begin any large-scale new programs now, he said.

Hardin also announced the filling of two more top jobs on his staff. He said President Nixon has nominated Richard E. Lyng, 50, California director of agriculture, to be assistant secretary for consumer and marketing services. Lyng will administer food distribution programs.

Don Paarlberg, 57, a former assistant secretary in the Eisenhower Administration, was named by Hardin to be director of agricultural economics.

[From the Washington Daily News, Feb. 22, 1969]

HUNGRY WILL GET FREE FOOD STAMPS—AN HISTORIC FIRST

For the first time in history hungry Americans are being given free food stamps.

Agriculture Secretary Clifford M. Hardin announced yesterday stamps will be distributed on an experimental basis in two South Carolina counties to families living on less than \$30 a month.

Families receiving the free stamps will be able to redeem them at nearby groceries for food they cannot now afford.

POOR FAMILIES

Impoverished families have been required until now to pay 50 cents per person per month—but not more than a total of \$3—for stamps that a family of four could redeem for \$58 worth of food.

If the experimental program in Beaufort and Jasper Counties goes well, Mr. Hardin said similar efforts might follow in other rural and urban "hunger pockets" of the nation.

The order was made possible by congressional legislation authorizing the Agriculture Department to spend up to \$45 million during fiscal 1969 on programs to end "general (and) continued hunger."

Mr. Hardin indicated the free stamp program is the first step in a Nixon Administration plan to recommend broadened Government efforts to eliminate malnutrition. Details will be announced later, he said.

FREE STAMPS

But the idea of providing free stamps emerged only two days ago from hearings before Sen. George S. McGovern's Select Senate Committee on Nutrition investigating food and health conditions around the nation.

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., brought to Sen. McGovern's committee medical and welfare witnesses who testified they found many rural families who did not know about, or could not afford, food stamps.

Mr. Hardin, after conferring with Sen. McGovern, D-S.D.; Sen. Hollings; South Carolina Gov. Robert E. McNair, and local welfare officials, gave his official go ahead for the experimental use of free stamps.

But cutting corners and skipping red tape, Mr. Hardin said he hopes the first free stamps can be given out next week.

[From the Washington Star, Feb. 22, 1969]

RELIEF ON WAY TO HUNGRY IN SOUTH CAROLINA

(By Jack Kneece)

BEAUFORT, S.C.—It was cold in South Carolina, yet Negro children in coastal Beaufort County, their stomachs distended from hunger, wore no shoes.

These children could not know it but their parents were rapidly receiving the word: Relief is on the way—relief from their hunger. The federal government decided this week on a program of free food stamps for impoverished residents of Beaufort and neighboring Jasper County.

Many of the children have been found by local and state medical personnel to be infested with parasitic worms.

2,000 PARTICIPATING

In downtown Beaufort, a few miles from the scenes of rural poverty and hunger, it is hard to find a native South Carolinian who believes the hunger is as bad as depicted. Yet records show that more than 2,000 families participate in the food stamp program in the county. They now pay a small sum for the stamps, which are exchanged for more food than that sum would buy, but they soon will get them free.

Their plight was described this week in hearings before a Senate committee.

There is Annie Chaplin, the 82-year-old daughter of a former slave. Miss Chaplin, who has failing eyesight but can't afford eyeglasses, said she stays hungry much of the time.

"Sometimes I don't have nothing to eat all day, and sometimes I eat dry grits," she said.

There is Addie Taylor, who lived in such a tiny, one-room hovel that Office of Economic Opportunity staffers decided to build her a modest frame dwelling. Shortly after they completed it, Miss Taylor moved back into the shack.

The elderly Negro woman explained that she wasn't used to living in such a fine place. The OEO employes, along with local welfare officials, promptly moved her back in and destroyed her shack because of its unfit condition.

Along the back roads of Jasper and Beaufort counties, out of sight of the tourist-traveled highways, are hundreds of dilapidated shacks, crude cabins, and other drafty living quarters.

OLD BUS IS HOME

Jimmy Sweetwine, an elderly Negro, lives in an old school bus which has a smokestack jutting from a rear window and electric wires coming through a front view window.

Sweetwine has a monthly income, welfare officials say, of approximately \$50.

Broken windows of the bus are stuffed with old rags. The hood is covered with planks to keep out the cold. In faint letters over the windshield are the words: "School Bus."

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He indicated the program was the first step in a Nixon Administration plan to recommend much broadened Government efforts to eliminate malnutrition.

[From the Daily World, Feb. 22, 1969]

HUNGER VERSUS INACTION

It is a sign of the times when Dixiecrat racists and reactionary Republicans are compelled to seek anonymity, as they did Tuesday when they voted against restoring the \$100,000 cut in budget of the Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

It is a sign of the temper of the people when the Senate is compelled to vote, as it did Tuesday, to restore the cut which its Rules Committee had decreed.

Senator Ernest F. Hollings confesses at the committee hearing that day that he had supported the "public policy of covering up the problem of hunger." That "public policy" has been the policy of scores of Senators and Representatives whose will has prevailed in the past.

Hollings' confession is also an indictment of those who have admitted the existence of hunger, but have done nothing about it. The truth is that hunger and racism have persisted in the South through the connivance of Washington and the Southern exploiters and racists.

Senator George S. McGovern, chairman of the hunger committee, said at Tuesday's hearing that the basic need of the hungry is not more studies but food.

The facts about poverty are abundant.

To cite but a few sources:

Dr. Arnold E. Schaefer's statement about hunger diseases before the McGovern committee, Jan. 22, 1969.

Hunger in America, a report of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, October, 1968.

Hunger, U.S.A. report by the Citizens' Board of Inquiry into Hunger and Malnutrition in the United States, 1968.

Mollie Orshansky. The Shape of Poverty in 1966, March 1968.

The People Left Behind. A report by the President's National Advisory Commission on Rural Poverty, September 1967.

The trail of inquiries, studies and reports goes back for more than a generation—to the New Deal days.

The job is to compel the Federal government to act now, with the facilities it already has at its command. And the Congress must be compelled to increase the resources for the job.

[From the Baltimore Sun, Feb. 23, 1969]

A SOUTH CAROLINA SENATOR FINDS HUNGER IN HIS OWN BACKYARD A GROWING PROBLEM

(By Ernest F. Hollings)

Senator Hollings is a Democrat from South Carolina. This article is excerpted from his testimony last week before the Senate Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs

There is hunger in South Carolina. In Beaufort county, I visited a shack in which 16 persons lived and there was no light, no heat, no running water, hot or cold, no bath, no toilet. The entire store of food consisted of a slab of fatback, a half filled jar of locally harvested oysters, and a stick of margarine.

Dr. Kenneth Aycock, our state health official, who was accompanying me, tentatively diagnosed a man in the house as suffering from pellagra, a disease supposedly nonexistent in this country. In the same house, one small child had rickets and another was recovering from scurvy.

At our next stop, I talked with an 83-year-old man who supports a wife and three children on a \$40-a-month welfare check. Two of the children receive hot lunches at school by paying 35 cents a day. The cost of these children eating lunch is \$14, out of a total family income of \$40. When I pointed out that Congress

had provided a free lunch program, Thomas C. Barnwell said: "Well, Senator, that hasn't trickled down this far yet. Maybe we are just too far down the coast. Anyway, we haven't got it."

At other homes, water had to be carried a distance of 2 miles—not because a water line isn't available. There is one there and in place, but the federal law provides for a \$25 tap-on fee, and in most homes the cost is absolutely prohibitive.

In the Bluffton area, I saw a mother of 10 children, one of whom is mentally retarded. The woman supports the family on a \$116 welfare check. She is eligible for food stamps, but she has never heard of the program. They simply have no one in the field. Nor was this an isolated incident. In the five areas I visited, there are literally hundreds of hungry families who never heard of food stamps. But perhaps this is a blessing, for if they did, they wouldn't qualify anyway. They can't afford the initial cost.

In Columbia, S.C., I visited an area known as Friday's Alley, where there are three water spigots for 35 families. A previous visit had prompted the Health Department to condemn outhouses that were unsanitary. The result: the owner removed the outhouses so that 20 families must use a single one, still filthy and unsanitary.

But this wasn't bad. In the Rock Quarry section of Greenville, 38 families were required to use one toilet, the seat of which had been burned for firewood. In Columbia, I talked with one man who told me he had to burn his lights all night to keep the rats from biting his children.

GIRLS WITHOUT SHOES

I met a Mrs. Jackson, who upon being questioned, broke down and cried. She admitted to being hungry and sick, and she said she had not eaten in two days. Mattie Simmons sat on the porch of her home on Pulaski street, in sight of the Capitol. She pays \$25 a month for rent and \$1.50 for every day the payment is late.

Her house consists of three rooms, "but they is rotten," and she means this literally, because she has fallen through the floor three times. Her window panes are out, and Mrs. Simmons says it gets so cold she almost freezes to death. She is on welfare, but doesn't know how much she gets. Someone has to cash her checks for her. She can't read or write.

In Chesterfield county, we saw shacks without bathrooms, window panes, or running water. At one house, four children were home from school so their mother could wash the only clothes they had. The mother pays \$5.00 monthly to haul water from a "white lady's house." The children said they eat grits for breakfast and greens or cabbage for supper—when they have it.

At another house—better described as a hovel—four girls were home from school. They were all barefoot. They said they had no shoes. In another house, the floor in one room is used as a family bathroom. These are just a few examples.

Nor is the problem simply one of race. In Anderson, S.C., I visited a home of a family of 10—a mother, 8 children and an idiot relative of age 50. The mother's income is \$50 a week. They receive no welfare. I was told by a lovely 15-year-old girl, who is in the sixth grade, that she and her brother get hot lunches at school but they never heard of food stamps. I saw white hunger, white poverty, and white slums in Riverside in Greenville, Black Bottom in Columbia and in Beaufort and Chesterfield counties.

White or black, the poverty is the same; bleak hunger and hovel housing amid disease and ignorance. Again and again, no running water—hot or cold—no lights, no toilet facilities amid filth and too little to eat. In many instances there is awareness of the problem. In most cases local and state public officials traveled with me, and they have tried. But there is a greater blight perhaps than poverty. That is the red tape worm of federal government.

For example, at Warsaw Island in Beaufort, 60 families are without water. Before a water system can be installed, the federal government requires a satisfactory comprehensive water plan. To secure such a plan, the local people say, is impossible. It would be easier to put a man on the moon. For seven years they have tried—still no water.

At Low Bottom, the federal requirement of a \$25 tap-in fee voids the program. The poor cannot afford \$25. The pipe and system is ready, but still no water.

NEED ONLY STUDIED

In housing, the FHA provides a program for the rural poor, and there is none to speak of. Wretched hovels persist. After the Civil War, at Lady's Island, the freed slaves were given 10-acre plots. Families moved in and out. No records were

kept, and what we lawyers call "heir property" resulted. You cannot obtain a fee simple title to comply with the federal requirement, and, as a result no homes—just hovels. In food stamps, let me reiterate once more, of the hundreds I saw in South Carolina, 90 per cent could not qualify even if they heard of it. And in only two instances did they know what we were talking about.

Many times the local effort has been frustrated. Joe Frazier, the heavyweight champion of the world, was born in this area. He came down and gave boxing exhibitions. The money was used to start the construction of several day-care centers. Two have been completed by the churches but five half-completed ones remain as bleak monuments to federal bureaucracy. The Office of Economic Opportunity says this is exactly what the area needs, but they will not give the \$40,000 to complete the five centers.

The same OEO would readily employ two consultants at \$20,000 a year to study the need, but nothing to satisfy it. As a consequence, the biggest cry I received from the local leadership and the poor on my visits was: "Senator, don't ask me any more of these questions—just get us some food and something to live in."

There are certain facts of hunger that are familiar but must be emphasized. Without food, the children will catch worms and other diseases. Without food and care, with the consequent disease, there will be no attendance at school, and those who start become weak and ill and drop out. Dropouts, lack of job skills, and unemployment compound the problem. Without food, people steal and find themselves in jail.

The economic facts that result from these social truths should answer the question that we constantly hear in the Congress: "Where are we going to get the money?" What is the cost of an inmate in the penitentiary as compared to feeding a hungry man? The largest class at our correctional institute in Columbia is adult training to teach reading and writing. For the cost of instructing a hundred at the penitentiary, we could easily teach a thousand outside.

I saw a 15-year-old receiving half an education because he was required to babysit every other day with the smaller children, swapping this task with his 16-year-old sister. When you have had about six grades of mathematics—and receive accumulatively about one half of that—by the time you hit the seventh grade you are lost, you are a dropout.

MILLIONS SPENT

Immediately the government, like medicine that can cure pneumonia but not the common cold, goes into high gear with counselors, guidance officers, truancy officers, vocational training and technical training centers. Millions of dollars are spent here.

The reason hardly any of the hungry are designated as starving is that our society will take the ill in his last stages and get him to a hospital for treatment. For the \$65 a day that it can cost in a Charleston hospital we could feed an entire hungry family for a week. A dollar spent on the hungry is \$10 saved in health, welfare, and special training courses. The people must learn that it is cheaper to feed the child than jail the man.

Now the medical facts need emphasizing. Dr. Charles Lowe has just testified before the committee that the brain cells of the human being form during the first four years. Because of the lack of nutrition, there is often as much as a 20 per cent loss in brain cell development.

Now many is the time that my friends have pointed a finger and said, "Look at that dumb Negro." The charge too often is accurate—he is dumb. But not because of the color of his skin. He is dumb because we have denied him food. Dumb in infancy, he has been blighted for life.

Politically, I can find hunger in my backyard, but you cannot. The resentment to an outsider who views poverty conditions builds up such a reaction at the local level that people forget about hunger and slums and go out and search for political heads. The quickest way to cut off help to the hungry is for an outsider to head the program.

South Carolina, like every Southern state, is proud. I know we should be ashamed of this hunger. I know as a public official I am late to the problem. As governor, I had to put first things first. There were many able-bodied men standing around looking for jobs and so industrial development plus state pride resulted in the public policy of covering up the problem of hunger.

My trips to the poverty areas recently have been charged with being a cheap Democratic trick for Negro votes. Hardly. South Carolina's hunger is both white and Negro.

Another political fact that must be coped with is the constant rebuff—"jobs, but not handouts." Many poverty programs have aborted because the people will not tolerate "give-aways." No one has worked more constantly or successfully on job development than I have. I know the need for jobs, but what I am talking about here is downright hunger. The people I saw could not possibly work.

There is no reason why in the next 10 years hunger and slums cannot be eliminated from the American scene.

Let me categorically state there is hunger in South Carolina. There is substantial hunger. I have seen it with my own eyes. Starving—that is too dreadful a term. But the result is the same.

Those weakened and diseased from hunger are dying from the disease caused by the hunger. Weakened and diseased, they become emotionally blind.

Their burden, and ours, compounds and grows.

[From the New York Times, Feb. 23, 1969]

HUNGER—IT JOLTS A SENATE COALITION

(By Warren Weaver, Jr.)

WASHINGTON.—The quintessential issue of the half-declared war against poverty—human hunger—finally arrived on the floor of the United States Senate last week, and it was hard to find anyone, even in that august body of nay-sayers, ready to speak out for starvation.

Only three Senators questioned restoring to the special committee studying "nutrition and human needs" the \$100,000 that the Rules Committee had stripped from its \$250,000 budget in the comfortable privacy of closed session. Senator George S. McGovern, the committee chairman, got his money back, and the nominally powerful Rules Committee was unceremoniously overturned.

FEW FIRM STATISTICS

Hunger had done what no other less basic aspect of poverty had been able to: upset the conservative Southern-agricultural coalition that has rarely recognized such a human condition. [Emphasis added.] It was, very simply, a question of providing the poor with enough palatable food to stave off disease and death.

Significantly, in a Congress that often seems to derive its own nutritional value from statistics, there were no real or imaginary figures about how many people go hungry. They seemed as superfluous as they were unobtainable. A hundred children with brain cell damage from inadequate diet were as affecting as 1,000 or 10,000.

Senator McGovern, in pleading his cause on the floor, said there were "millions who don't eat enough, not well enough, sometimes scarcely at all." He doesn't know the real figure; even his refinanced investigation can only sample a piece of the national problem.

What has startled some members of the McGovern committee is why the existing Federal programs—hot lunches for school children, distribution of farm surpluses, food stamps exchangeable for groceries—have not reached into rural and urban pockets of poverty to meet the problem.

ANSWERS APPEAR

In testimony last week, the answers began to appear, little by little. Some of the hunger victims are illiterate, they have never heard of the programs and cannot read the simplest notices concerning them. Others just do not have the \$3 necessary to buy \$48 worth of food stamps.

In some counties, poor communities are overbalanced by larger wealthier areas so that the average income is too high to qualify any residents for the aid programs. In some places in the South, one witness said, economy-minded local officials regard this kind of welfare program as the most successful when it has the fewest participants.

Despite this kind of attitude, the food programs have become considerable in size. The 1970 budget that Lyndon Johnson left behind calls for \$338-million for food stamps, \$367.5 million for child nutrition (mostly hot lunches) and \$383-million for direct distribution of surplus food to the needy, a collective increase of \$277-million over the year before.

The principal criticism of these programs today is direct and obvious: there are thousands of hungry people they are not feeding. But the reasons they have not been expanded more rapidly are more delicate, both political and social.

Traditionally, farm state politicians have looked with some indifference on the various programs to help feed the needy. They have preferred to concentrate their efforts on price supports, which result in more income for their constituents.

The proud and self-conscious South has been reluctant to admit that it was unable to take care of its own, particularly where the charges came from the North and had clear racial overtones. Together, these attitudes have slowed and sometimes stalled counterattacks against hunger at both the Congressional and local government level.

Thus it was that a Senate Rules Committee under combined Southern-farm-conservative domination slashed the McGovern authorization. Reports that Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina proposed a cut from \$250,000 to \$25,000 gained credence when the committee insisted later that \$100,000 had been a compromise figure.

A day before the Senate restored Senator McGovern's money, Robert H. Finch, the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, announced that the Nixon Administration was concerned, too, but the most he could say was he hoped to develop a new countervailing effort with state and local help.

The McGovern committee is largely concerned with identifying and publicizing the hunger problem, rather than making substantive recommendations, and the form and immediacy of any Congressional relief remained very much in doubt.

Senator Ernest F. Hollings of South Carolina provided the personal highlight of the McGovern hearings with a blunt confession that there was serious hunger in his home state, among both blacks and whites, and that he, as Governor, had pursued a policy of covering it up.

His answer to the problem was almost equally direct: "We don't need any more guidelines or studies or investigations. It would be much more economical just to go ahead and give them the food."

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 23, 1969]

HOLLINGS' CANDOR ON HUNGER BRINGS PRAISE, JABS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

(By Don Oberdorfer)

With a white State Senator on his right and an NAACP leader on his left nodding agreement, Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) leaned across a polished witness table on Capitol Hill last week and testified—to almost everyone's astonishment—that "there is hunger in South Carolina."

In his rich Charleston drawl, he retraced recent home-state tours for the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, describing sick and hungry children beset by worms and rats, a family that subsists on grits for breakfast and greens for supper, a retarded mother of ten who never heard of food stamps and a shack in the low country without lights, heat or water where one child has rickets, another has scurvy and a man suffers from pellagra—which is officially extinct in the United States.

PROBLEM COVERED UP

"I know as a public official I am late to the problem," said Hollings, who has spoken little of such conditions in his 20 years as state legislator, lieutenant governor, governor and U.S. senator. As Governor, he declared, "industrial development plus state pride resulted in the public policy of covering up the problem of hunger. We didn't want the vice president of the plant in New York to know the burdens. We told him only of the opportunities. You don't catch industry with worms—maybe fish, but not industry."

The following day, Hollings and Committee Chairman George McGovern (D-S.D.) called on Secretary of Agriculture Clifford Hardin and, after an 1½-hour conference, announced that free food stamps would be offered on a "pilot" basis to two of the most impoverished South Carolina counties. Within 24 hours, South Carolina Gov. Robert E. McNair approved the plan.

STRONG REACTIONS

The swift Government action won headlines across the nation but at home in South Carolina, Hollings' candor and his confession drew the strongest reactions.

In his hour in the witness chair, he broke more accepted rules of Southern politics than most lawmakers break in a lifetime.

"Bravo. South Carolina now has a statesman instead of a hack," wired a housewife to the senator. "Your actions make us all even prouder of our Charleston heritage," telegraphed a home-town lawyer. Another Charlestonian, however, demanded to know "why did you not ask those people why they have no garden, chicken, eggs, etc. which they raise themselves . . . you are doing an excellent job of raising the tax burden of the state and country."

And a widow from Beaufort County, one of the two counties to receive the food wired that "It is a poor bird that will nasty his own nest for personal gains."

"THE TRUTH HURTS"

From the State Capitol at Columbia, the Associated Press reported that a majority of legislators seemed to agree with State Sen. Rembert Dennis, who declared that "this is a situation where the truth hurts . . . South Carolina is undoubtedly being hurt by the publicity but the situation is so serious and so demanding of action, I think our junior U.S. Senator should be commended."

The political allies of the state's senior U.S. Senator, Republican Strom Thurmond, dissented. The S.C. Republican Executive Committee made belittling remarks about Hollings' poverty tour, and GOP State Rep. J. Victor Rowell suggested Hollings was seeking a liberal reputation in an attempt to become the 1972 vice presidential running mate of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, Hollings' friend and his across-the-hall neighbor in the Senate Office Building.

In his office on Capitol Hill, Hollings says of his critics, "they can raise sand if they want to, but I think I'm on the right track."

For years as a state official Hollings directed more public attention to state sovereignty and the threat of Federal "encroachment" than to the problem of poverty. Now he asks, "Why should we with the lowest per capita income and the highest rate of illiteracy nag the Constitution? We've got work to do in our own back yard, just as anybody who's candid knows he has work in his own back yard, and I'd rather clean it up than cover it up."

TOO MUCH FOR STATE

"You ask me why didn't I get to this before, and I'll ask you why you didn't write about it, and win a Pulitzer Prize for doing it," says the silver-haired senator.

"The state government couldn't possibly cope with this, the governor has his hands full seeking new taxes, but if all the scattered programs of the Federal Government can be made to work it might not cost too much more money."

Hollings has been a U.S. senator only two years, and only last November did he win a full six-year term, boosted into office by one of the largest pluralities in S.C. history. He won 97 per cent of the Negro vote, according to an independent analysis, and thus hardly needs to undertake dramatic action to win black support. A few months ago he reportedly told a friend that "for the first two years of a six-year term, a senator can do what's right."

FORMER NAACP FOE

As lieutenant governor in 1955, Hollings declared that "if there's one thing against our way of life in the South, it's the NAACP. And if the U.S. Supreme Court can declare certain organizations as subversive, I believe South Carolina can declare the NAACP both subversive and illegal." Today he says of such attacks, "that's what we talked for ten years. All that's gone now, it's done and over. We can't play moonlight and magnolias. We've got to work the long road, not the short road, and we've got to clean up."

The Rev. I. DeQuincy Newman, NAACP field director for South Carolina, accompanied Hollings on his poverty-area tours of the state, and testified in support of the senator before the Senate committee. He has known Hollings as a state representative from Charleston, and felt ever since that Hollings wanted to do "the right thing" if it should become politically possible to do so.

Newman has worked with white South Carolina politicians for many years, but mostly on a covert basis to save them embarrassment. Now he is working with a powerful office-holder in public view for the first time.

NEW COALITION SEEN

Negroes make up about one-fourth of the electorate in the state today, enough to influence state politics but far from enough to dominate. Newman says that if Hollings chooses his issues carefully—and hunger is a good starter—he may be able to build a new coalition of whites and blacks in the state to substitute for the traditional antagonism.

A back-handed tribute to Hollings' daring and his political impact came from Sen. Thurmond, who is the epitome of the old politics in South Carolina. Two weeks ago, discussing his colleague's poverty tour of the state, Thurmond told James Batten of The Charlotte Observer that while there may be some poor people at home "you had 'em back in the days of Jesus Christ, you've got some now and you'll have some in the future. You'll always have some people who are not willing to work."

FEEDING THE LIONS

When Hollings was asked about the Biblical theory of poverty last week, he observed that "the only feeding program the government had in the days of Christ was feeding Christians to the lions. I hope we've advanced beyond that."

On the eve of Hollings' committee appearance, Thurmond amended his position, telling the Senate that "each of us" should be concerned about the unmet human needs inherent in poverty and hunger. "I certainly am," he said, "and I am prepared to use my office to meet those needs."

In Charleston, a politically-conscious attorney looked on with amazement at Hollings' portentous change of direction and Thurmond's temporary turnaround. "Congratulations on a modern miracle," the lawyer wired Hollings. "You fed a 66-year-old lion to the Christians."

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 23, 1969]

ECONOMIC TEAM MEETING PROBLEMS WITH INTELLIGENCE

(By Hobart Rowen)

We had a shocking illustration of the truth of McCracken's statement in the revelation of the situation in two South Carolina counties, where extensive malnutrition is the rule, not the exception. Agriculture Secretary Clifford Hardin is to be congratulated for having responded to the urgings of Sens. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) and George McGovern (D-S.D.) to get some free food to hungry people.

McCracken said that a major Administration objective will be "rationalization and improvement of the income support system." There seems good reason to hope that this will involve a full study of all ideas, including the controversial negative income tax.

[From the New York Times, Feb. 24, 1969]

THE HUNGRY ARE HEARD

It is proving a bitter harvest. The effects of this nation's wrong-way agricultural policies on millions of poor continue to be etched in testimony before Senator George McGovern's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs. Medical experts report that nutritional diseases long thought abolished have reappeared. They have linked irreversible mental retardation to dietary deficiencies in the very young.

The impact of this testimony has produced a few encouraging changes, but not nearly enough.

The Senate has overridden its own Rules Committee to assure the investigating committee adequate funding. The Secretary of Agriculture, Clifford M. Hardin, has worked out plans to provide free food stamps for those near starvation in Beaufort and Jasper Counties, S.C.

Distressing aspects of the problem, however, almost overshadow these positive developments. The Agriculture Department remains virtually in contempt of court for not providing food or food stamps to the hungry in California. An examination of its departmental budget for the current fiscal year reveals the cruel extent of the nation's twisted policies.

The total outlay for farm income stabilization programs comes to about \$4.5 billion, while the total for surplus commodities and food stamps, the programs aiding the poor, comes to only \$564 million. Thus the nation spends about eight times as much propping up farm prices as it does helping the poor to receive adequate diets. Additional funds go into the school lunch program, but surveys show this program often excludes the very poor, who need it most.

Large farm operations receive fantastic subsidies, particularly in California. The J. G. Boswell Company in Kings County, Calif., for example, received more than \$4 million in diversion payments in 1967. The Rancho San Antonio in Fresno County, Calif., received nearly \$3 million. Senator James Eastland's plantation in Mississippi received well over \$100,000.

The Agriculture Department, while lavishing subsidies on large operators, refuses to spend the money made available for commodity distribution programs. It turned \$227 million back to the Treasury last year. It even refuses, despite a court injunction, to provide food or food stamps to the poor in several California counties. With assistance from the Office of Economic Opportunity, the poor in these counties have had to sue to win the benefits of programs designed for them. Similar suits have been brought in other states.

Secretary Hardin, new to office, is hardly to blame for these wrong-way policies or for the widespread hunger in America. Nonetheless the responsibility is on him to move vigorously to meet a problem that has now been so clearly exposed. The conscience of the country, having heard the voice of the hungry, demands action to answer that cry.

[From the Oregonian, Feb. 24, 1969]

HARDIN REVERSES FREE FOOD POLICY—"REAL BREAKTHROUGH"

(By Carl P. Leubsdorf)

WASHINGTON.—Dr. Robert Coles recalls that two years ago he and five other physicians were told "we were wasting our time" when they sought to convince federal officials something should be done quickly about extreme hunger in the United States.

And when senators sought then to get the Johnson administration to distribute free food in areas of severe malnutrition, they were rebuffed by federal officials who contended they were without authority to do this.

But last week, in just 90 minutes, two senators convinced Secretary of Agriculture Clifford Hardin that he should move against hunger in rural South Carolina by authorizing free food stamps to the poorest of the poor in two counties.

There's an unwritten rule in Washington that it takes two years for an idea to germinate," said Sen. George S. McGovern, D-S.D., one of the two senators and the chairman of a special Senate committee investigating the extent of hunger in affluent America.

IDEA GERMINATES

Last week the idea germinated, and the fight to alert the nation it should move more aggressively against hunger at last achieved some measure of success.

These things happened:

The Senate, rejecting a 40 per cent cut by its Rules Committee, authorized the full \$250,000 budget for the committee's investigation. Support was so overwhelming opponents yielded without a roll call. McGovern said, "They were really making a commitment to end hunger in the United States."

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., leaped into the vanguard of the fight against hunger with a frank admission that, as governor, he deliberately covered up the problem of hunger and disease. "You don't catch industry with worms—maybe fish, but not industry," he said.

Hollings' Republican state colleague, Sen. Strom Thurmond, muted his earlier opposition to the hunger probe and said "The main concern effective way to resolve these needs [sic]."

DISEASE RIFE

Testimony during three days of hearings clearly established that, in at least two counties of rural South Carolina, hunger and disease are widespread and existing federal efforts are having limited impact.

One witness testified there is evidence that as many as one million persons in the Southeastern United States are afflicted with parasites, including intestinal worms up to 15 inches long.

And Dr. Coles, a Harvard psychiatrist-physician, testified that conditions in many places "are a medical and moral emergency of incalculable proportions."

Sen. Allen Ellender, D-La., a committee member who had sought throughout to defend the Agriculture Department and blame ineptitude at the local level, learned to his surprise parasites exist in his state.

And when one witness described the difficulty people have in existing on meager food and funds, Ellender agreed that "I can't see how these families can live with such a small income."

Hardin, reversing the policies of Secretary Orville L. Freeman under the Johnson administration, launched what he said is an experiment and what the department termed an unprecedented action in authorizing the first distribution of food stamps without any charge to the recipients. Hopefully, distribution may begin within a week.

"I think it was a real breakthrough," McGovern told a reporter after he and Hollings met with Hardin last week.

And as the committee concluded the South Carolina phase of its hearings, the South Dakota Democrat said:

"If we can get the concept established that the poorest people ought to get fed for free, we're well on the way to eliminating malnutrition in the United States."

McGovern said he is pleased at the evidence of changed attitudes in Congress and the executive branch and said "I think the climate is much better than it was two years ago."

PROBLEMS REMAIN

But these significant problems remain:

Lack of funds.—Hardin is using a \$45 million fund established by Congress last year for child feeding and other food distribution, but this is a relatively small amount. Aid in South Carolina will only go to a small number of desperately poor, not even to many of those whose plight was described to the Senate committee.

Health.—Testimony to the committee indicated that nothing short of a massive education, sanitation and disease-eradication program will improve conditions in such areas since most youngsters who receive one-shot treatment are quickly reinfected when they return home.

Public apathy.—As Sen. Philip A. Hart, D-Mich., put it, "I get a lot more mail expressing outrage at people dying in Biafra than on people starving in Detroit. And they probably passed it (the starvation) going in on the freeway to mail the letter."

Local resistance.—Hardin made certain state and local officials were willing before he announced the South Carolina pilot program. But witnesses told the committee that administration of various food and welfare programs has been hampered by the attitudes on the state and local levels.

OUTSIDER ASKED

"The political facts"—to use Hollings' term. He said "Politically, hunger cannot be seen through the eyes of any but the neighbor. The quickest way to cut off help to the hungry is for an outsider to head this program."

Congressional resistance.—While strong support for increased federal food programs has been evident in the Senate for some time, some key House members have succeeded in balking most efforts. Hardin is well aware that congressional committees hold the key to how much money he gets for any new or expanded food programs.

And despite the path blazed by Hollings, there still is a tendency among officeholders to become defensive when conditions in their states are criticized.

Thus, Sen. Spessard L. Holland, D-Fla., responded to a newspaper story last week about poor living conditions among migrant workers in Florida's Collier County by saying that when he was there at Christmas he saw some migrants on the streets "and they were apparently well fed, healthy, laughing and happy."

McGovern's committee, however, will go to the scene to find out. Its next hearings will be in Collier County on March 10 and 11.

[From the Press Associates, Inc., Feb. 24, 1969]

HUNGER INVESTIGATION GETS MONEY—SENATE REVERSES RULES COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON.—In a rare move, the Senate has reversed its Rules Committee and voted to give the Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs the full \$250,000 it has requested to investigate hunger in the U.S. The Senate took a voice vote, adding \$100,000 to the amount recommended by the Rules Committee.

The Senate was apparently moved by a report given to the Committee earlier by Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D.—S.C.). Hollings had made a personal survey of poor areas in South Carolina and came back saying, "there is substantial hunger in South Carolina" and asking for Federal aid to end it.

Sen. Strom Thurmond (R.—S.C.) who had earlier called Hollings' survey, political, and said there would always be hungry people in the world, took a second look at the problem. Thurmond told the Senate that he was concerned with the problem of hunger and "I am prepared to use my office to meet these needs."

Hollings said his tour through the backroads and urban slums of South Carolina took him to homes where there was no light, water, heat and no food except for fatback or some greens. He urged that food stamps be given free to needy people.

Hollings and Sen. George McGovern (D.—S.D.), Chairman of the Hunger Committee, met later with Agriculture Secretary Clifford Hardin who approved a pilot project giving free food stamps to hungry people in two South Carolina counties. Hardin said the program would depend on state and local approval.

[From the Atlanta Constitution, Feb. 24, 1969]

FEEDING THE HUNGRY

Hungry schoolchildren should be fed.

That, really, is the basis for the argument which follows. Sen. George S. McGovern, D—S.D., the chairman of the special Senate committee on hunger says he will ask the Nixon Administration to exempt school-lunch programs when federal funds are cut off because of civil-rights violations.

This is tricky terrain. There must be no retreating from strong enforcement of civil rights legislation and of the school integration guidelines of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

We have urged President Nixon and HEW Secretary Robert H. Finch to make clear their determination to enforce these regulations. We urge again that the Nixon Administration insist on such enforcement. Too many Nixon Republicans in the South have suggested that the new administration might be willing to go slow on school desegregation. We oppose this and will speak out against it.

But, at the same time, there are hungry schoolchildren.

One great flaw in the present enforcement of school integration in this country is that—as it stands—too often a school district is able to give up federal money without facing any other immediate enforcement action. This, in part, is simply a matter of lack of sufficient staff in the U.S. Justice department.

Sen. McGovern commented, "It's a mistake to use a civil right issue to aggravate a serious malnutrition problem."

We agree with this position and urge the Nixon Administration to consider this proposal favorably. In some situations, the cutting off of federal money does not have the effect of enforcing school integration. While we think the loss of federal money is still a powerful influence, there certainly is some question about a procedure which cuts federal school lunch program money without actually achieving school integration.

The director of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations, Paul Matthias, certainly not a segregationist group in any sense, recently testified before Sen. McGovern's committee on hunger.

Matthias testified that school-lunch programs were stopped in 14 South Carolina school districts when federal school funds were cut off. "The recalcitrance of school officials should not be the reason for stopping these lunch funds," he testified.

The real answer to this cruel dilemma is swift enforcement of civil rights regulations, so that fully desegregated school systems can again qualify for all federal funds. But, meanwhile, we agree with Sen. McGovern and Mr. Matthias that hungry schoolchildren must be fed.

[From Time magazine, Feb. 28, 1969]

HUNGER—AN UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRY

The \$100,000 in dispute seemed hardly a sum to spur debate in the Senate, which routinely approves multimillion-dollar measures. What prompted Senate Majority Whip Ted Kennedy to lead a successful floor battle against the cut in a minor committee's budget last week was the conviction that something much bigger was at stake.

In the fight to meet the original budgetary needs of the Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, Kennedy and other Democrats decided that the time had come to rebel against the Senate's Pavlovian habit of slashing nondefense appropriations while passing military spending bills unscathed. The grim testimony presented to the "hunger committee" proved the validity of that position.

Largely ignored, millions of Americans are hungry and sick in poverty pockets across the nation. Yet in some areas, especially the South, local, state and federal officials have refused even to acknowledge the problem in their own bailiwicks. Last week their disingenuous silence was broken by Senator Fritz Hollings of South Carolina.

While Governor of the state (1959-63), the junior Senator admitted, he had supported "the public policy of covering up the problem of hunger" in order to attract new industry to South Carolina. Hollings told the committee of the misery he had encountered there on a recent ten-day tour of impoverished counties. "There is hunger in South Carolina," said Hollings. "There is pellagra, a disease supposedly nonexistent in this country. [There are] rickets and scurvy." He was especially shaken by the high incidence of parasitic worms among the rural poor, who often live without even the most primitive forms of sanitation.

Even crueler than the physical disabilities that accompany chronic malnutrition is the apparent mental retardation suffered by children who barely survive on deficient diets. Says Hollings: "Many is the time that friends have pointed a finger and said, 'Look at that dumb nigger.' The charge is all too often accurate. But not because of the color of his skin. He is dumb because we denied him food. Dumb in infancy, he has been blighted for life."

Hollings' testimony was supported by several nutrition experts and social welfare workers who stressed the problem of parasites. Of 177 children they examined in Beaufort County, S.C., 98 were infested with intestinal worms, which sometimes grow to a foot in length. They reported that many of the children get only 800 calories a day. That, asserted Vanderbilt University Pediatrician Dr. James P. Carter, is "certainly not enough to support the child—and rarely enough to support the worms."

FEW FREE LUNCHES

Paul Matthias, director of the South Carolina Council on Human Relations, told the committee that school-lunch programs have been stopped in six of the 15 South Carolina school districts where federal funds have been withheld for noncompliance with the federal school-desegregation law. This eliminated the only real meal that many poor children ever got during the day. Matthias also testified that in the town of Union, all schools were given additional federal food funds except one all-black high school, where only 300 of the 1,000 students receive lunches, and only ten children get them free. He reported that some Negro children, after switching to integrated schools, were told to go back to black schools if they wanted free lunches.

TOO BIG A LUMP

Mrs. Landon Butler, a volunteer worker among the poor, testified that only 15% of the 18,000 people with incomes below \$3,000 participated in the food-stamp program in Beaufort County. The stamps, which cost as little as \$2 per month for those with incomes of less than \$100 per month, were simply too high. Said Mrs. Butler: "The lump sum outlay of cash required to purchase the stamps makes it impossible for a majority of the low-income families to benefit from the program. The response I received from those eligible but not participating was the same over and over again: 'I can't afford it. It costs too much.'"

This problem may be at least temporarily relieved in some areas of South Carolina. Following his testimony, Hollings and South Dakota Senator George

McGovern, chairman of the committee investigating hunger, met with Agriculture Secretary Clifford Hardin. Within a week, said Hardin, free food stamps should be available to needy families in Beaufort and equally deprived Jasper County. When Hollings walked into a Democratic Campaign Committee luncheon the day after Hardin's announcement, Ted Kennedy stood, shook his hand and said: "Well, I'll be damned! You did in one day what Bobby tried to do for a year and a half."

While the testimony thus far has focused on South Carolina, the committee will investigate hunger in impoverished areas in a dozen states. In two weeks, the committee will hold hearings on hunger among migrant workers in Florida's Collier and Palm Beach counties. Later in March, it will investigate Boston's school-lunch program. These field trips will be followed by others to Appalachia, to Indian reservations and to the Mexican American ghettos. By exploring and exposing the plight of the poor, sick and undernourished, the hunger committee will surely demonstrate that for a sizable segment of its populace, the U.S. is an underdeveloped country.

[From Newsweek, Mar. 3, 1969]

HUNGER—IT'S THERE, ALL RIGHT

Official Washington has long resisted admitting that affluent America has a serious hunger problem—even when newspapers headlined it, TV cameras filmed it, doctors diagnosed it, foundations studied it, the Poor People marched about it and Robert Kennedy made it a Presidential primary-campaign issue. But last week a committee of the U.S. Senate produced an extraordinary star witness—a Southern U.S. senator, Ernest F. Hollings of South Carolina, who confessed not only that some people were going dangerously hungry down home but that he had himself supported "the public policy of covering up the problem." Hollings' confessions worked wonders that two years of sustained agitation had not. He helped force the Senate to admit that there is at least enough hunger to warrant a full-dress investigation—and he got the Department of Agriculture to do something about it.

FOOD

The U.S. already helps some 6 million of the needy subsist, more or less adequately, with free surplus food allotments or cut-rate food stamps redeemable for several times their price. But studies already in hand suggest that perhaps 10 million persons may be afflicted by malnutrition, with rural blacks, Indians, Mexican-Americans and migratory farm workers heavily represented among them. The Senate did charter a select committee inquiry last year with a modest \$25,000 budget, enough for some preliminary hearings. But this year, when committee chairman George McGovern of South Dakota asked for \$250,000 for a definitive investigation, the Rules Committee chopped his request by \$100,000 without a word of explanation.

McGovern, a mild-tempered soul, was furious. He called New York's Jacob Javits, ranking Republican on the select committee, and told him: "Jack, I'm going to fight . . . I'm so damn mad I won't compromise even if the committee offers to settle for \$249,999.50." Challenging the Rules Committee simply isn't done—not successfully anyway—but Javits joined up. And so did Teddy Kennedy. McGovern and Kennedy divided a list of their brother Democrats and got on the phone, while Javits and Minority Whip Hugh Scott worked over the Republicans. But they ran into resistance and, unsure of his strength, McGovern wangled a 24-hour delay so he could play his trump: Fritz Hollings.

WORMS

Hollings, a tall, handsome ex-governor (1959-63), had decided late in January to make his own tour of two supposed South Carolina hunger counties, Beaufort and Jasper. He thought he could manage in one day; he stayed ten and was horrified at what he found. He saw cases of scurvy, rickets, pellagra and near-starvation; nearly three out of four black pre-schoolers in one recent study had roundworms or whipworms. Home-state business leaders charged Hollings with hurting the state's image with his "worm hunt," and Republican Sen. Strom Thurmond chastised, "You had them [the poor] back in the days of Jesus Christ, you've got some now and you'll have some in the future. You'll always

have some people who are not willing to work." But Hollings nevertheless called McGovern on his return. "I want to testify," he said.

McGovern, delighted, put Hollings on. "I know that as a public official I am late to the problem," he said. And then he told the committee: "There is hunger in South Carolina . . . I have seen it with my own eyes. The hunger and burden of the poor can no longer be ignored."

For all practical purposes, the war ended then and there, though it was left for the Senate formally to restore the budget cut that afternoon. In a voice vote instead of a roll call, the mumbled ayes by far outnumbered the few nays, and McGovern had his full investigative budget.

Next day, he and Hollings went calling on the Agriculture Department—a path Bobby and others had beaten to no avail in Democrat Orville Freeman's day. Agriculture's new Secretary, Clifford Hardin, was more receptive. He agreed to try a pilot program in Beaufort and Jasper counties issuing food stamps free to the neediest poor and supplementing them with direct distribution of surplus foods. Since Freeman had always denied he had the statutory authority, the free stamps amounted to a major victory, however modest the territory to be covered by the experiment. Soon thereafter, Teddy Kennedy chanced to meet Hollings on the Hill and wrung his hand. "Bobby worked for a year and a half," said Kennedy, "to get done what you did in two hours."

[From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Mar. 5, 1969]

FOOD STAMP RULES TOO STRICT—MOST OF NEEDEY FAIL TO QUALIFY

BEAUFORT, S.C., March 4.—Critics complain that the Government's experimental free food stamp program has such strict qualifications that persons on welfare are virtually ruled out of the program.

Distribution of free food stamps to families with less than \$30 monthly income in two coastal South Carolina counties began yesterday. Seventy-nine households in Beaufort County and four in Jasper County, representing about 300 persons, received the stamps under a program agreed upon after testimony before the United States Senate of widespread hunger and malnutrition in the counties.

Mrs. Hazel Frazier, mother of 10 and leader of Welfare Rights organization in Beaufort county, challenged the contention of state and federal officials that about 180 households, representing more than 1000 persons, would benefit from free food stamps in Beaufort County.

"Where are the 180?" she asked. "They would have been here if they were eligible."

SOME MUST PAY

Some persons in the two counties must pay for the stamps although they get stamps worth more in food than the money they pay out.

Mrs. Frazier and about a dozen other disgruntled welfare recipients stood outside the county courthouse and refused to purchase their monthly allotment of stamps. Mrs. Frazier said that Washington officials "promised us they would be free. The people here are so disappointed."

Arvid Dopson of Atlanta, assistant regional director for food programs in the Department of Agriculture, said there had been a widespread misunderstanding that all persons taking part in the regular food stamp program would be eligible for the same amount of free stamps.

State welfare officials said that there were 723 persons now eligible for the regular program and of those 20 to 25 per cent would be eligible for free stamps.

Dopson said that former Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman determined several months ago that the free stamps could not be distributed generally. Free food stamps for those with less than \$30 monthly income means that those on welfare cannot get them.

The Agriculture Department's free food stamps program followed a public hearing by a Senate subcommittee on hunger and malnutrition in the United States.

Senator Ernest F. Hollings (Dem.), South Carolina, was a star witness. He told of disease and dire poverty in Beaufort and Jasper counties.

Mrs. Frazier, who testified before the subcommittee, said that she and other members of the Welfare Rights groups in the two counties would travel to Washington and "raise hell" until all those on welfare are deemed eligible to receive free food stamps.

Dopson and State Senator James M. Waddell Jr. (Dem.), Beaufort, acknowledged that Congress probably would be requested to lower the eligibility requirements.

Dopson was asked about reports that the widely publicized pilot project was actually costing the Federal Government less than \$500 monthly, based on the estimate that some 200 families would be eligible to receive about \$2 monthly in free stamps.

"There is not going to be a great deal of money in this," he replied. "The biggest thing to come out of this will be some streamlining of the program."

Free food stamps will purchase any food item at groceries except imported foods.

[From Science News, Mar. 8, 1969, vol. 95, No. 10]

POLITICS

HUNGER FUNDS RESTORED

The U.S. Senate has voted to give its Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs (SN: 2/22, p. 188) the full \$250,000 appropriation it asked for.

The Senate thus reversed a decision by its Rules Committee which had cut \$100,000 from the hunger probers' budget.

Senator George McGovern (D-S. Dak.), chairman of the hunger investigation, had lined up 53 of his colleagues in support of the full appropriation. The Senate seldom reverses a Rules Committee cut in an appropriation, but the support for McGovern's committee was so strong that it won on a voice vote.

Much of the new money will be spent on surveys of malnutrition, conducted by outside consultants to document the case that there is widespread and severe malnutrition in the nation.

[From the New York Times, Mar. 8, 1969]

HOLLINGS FIGHT ON HUNGER IS STIRRING THE SOUTH

(By Marjorie Hunter)

WASHINGTON, March 7.—A few months before his death Senator Robert F. Kennedy passed the word that he was thinking of touring hunger pockets in South Carolina.

His friend Senator Ernest F. Hollings, Democrat of South Carolina, quickly took him aside.

"For the Lord's sake, don't," Senator Hollings pleaded. "You'll set us back 10 years. I'm already working on this."

It was no idle promise. Last month, Senator Hollings appeared before a special Senate committee and said quietly:

"There is hunger in South Carolina. There is substantial hunger. I have seen it with my own eyes."

To many startled liberals here, perhaps, was a new voice from the South, a dynamic young politician destroying once and for all the old myths as he described the stark poverty that he and other Southerners had seen and smelled for a lifetime but had been loath to admit.

In a South beset with racial troubles, championing the cause of the poor, particularly the black poor, might seem politically risky.

FLOCKING TO THE GOP

Furthermore, angered by what they consider Federal meddling over civil rights and handouts to the lazy, many conservative Democrats have flocked to the Republican party in areas of the South where, scarcely a few years ago, the word Republican was akin to sin.

Why, then, did Mr. Hollings do it? Was he angling for the Vice-Presidential nomination in 1972? Was he headline hungry? Had he fallen under the influence of his Democratic neighbor across the hall in the old Senate Office Building, Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts?

Until recently, there had been little in the 47-year-old Mr. Hollings' record as a Senator to suggest that he would one day attempt to lead a crusade against hunger.

He had been considered a reasonably moderate Southern Governor (1958-63), attracting new industry to his state, increasing teacher salaries and imploring compliance with desegregation orders.

He had been one of a small handful of young Southern politicians who supported John F. Kennedy's bid for the Presidential nomination—a move that he believes cost him a Senate seat in the 1962 election.

But finally elected to the Senate in 1966 to fill a two-year unexpired term, he became virtually indistinguishable from his arch-conservative Southern colleagues, both Democratic and Republican.

He voted against civil rights bills and many social welfare programs and he spoke out for sharp cuts in Federal spending. He opposed the appointment of Thurgood Marshall as the first Negro Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

But the shedding of his conservative image this year may prove to have been more politically astute than politically risky, for the South of today is far different from the South of a few years ago.

New industries have brought in Northerners. There are plush resorts and military reservations. And the Negro has become a major source of votes, making up nearly 25 percent of the electorate in South Carolina alone.

Some measure of this change can be seen in the thousands of letters and telegrams that have flooded into Senator Hollings' office in recent weeks. The vast majority are favorable.

"You've made me proud to be a Southerner," one South Carolinian wrote.

This theme—pride in a new South, in a seemingly new kind of Southern politician—is echoed again and again, in letters from those still living there and those who long ago fled in what many of them plaintively described as "utter frustration."

"For years I have regarded you as a handsome young Southerner, getting his kicks from playing politics," wrote a North Carolina businessman. "You now reveal yourself as a true nobleman."

"Be assured, Senator," a young South Carolinian wrote, "there is a rising class of new Southerners."

And from a Virginian came a letter: "My only regret is that a Virginia Senator has not said what you have said."

Many Southerners sent carbon copies of their letters to their own Senators. Already, Senator Herman E. Talmadge, Democrat of Georgia, has indicated he will begin a hunger crusade in his own state. Other Senators have hinted that they may do the same.

To those who speculate aloud over his motives, Senator Hollings has a stock reply. He is doing it, he says, because for the first time he feels free to do it.

"Thank the Lord for a six-year term!" he said fervently, leaning back in a big leather chair in his cluttered fourth-floor office.

As Governor, he said, he concentrated on getting more jobs for those able to work. And during his two-year Senate term he always had his eye on re-election.

"If I'd done this then, folks would have said, 'Oh, he's just politicking,' he said wryly. "They'd thought it was just part of the campaign."

But, re-elected last November to his first six-year term, he now feels he has time "to stay around for a while and get some things done."

Once as critical of Supreme Court decisions and Washington "handouts" as many of his Southern colleagues, he now says impatiently:

"I can't stand around hollering about the Constitution and cussing Washington with hungry mouths all around us. Frankly, I'm tired of hearing me on the Constitution."

He staunchly denies that he is eyeing the Vice-Presidential nomination in 1972.

"I've got my hands full," he says. "I don't know of a Southern political leader who could handle anything more than the problems of his own state. We've got a lot of work to do."

HAS TAKEN SOME RIBBING

He has taken some ribbing in recent weeks, both in his home state and among Senate colleagues. Some call him "Hookworm Hollings." And he has a few letters from angry South Carolinians threatening to "get him" during the next election.

"I give you the back of my hand for being a big phoney," wrote one. "Bah, humbug on you and all your kind."

But the critics, those who usually are the first to write, are in the minority. Less than 5 per cent of the thousands of letters Senator Hollings has received on the subject of hunger have been critical of him. Many, however, have been critical of his South Carolina colleague, Senator Strom Thurmond, an erstwhile Democrat turned Republican.

[From the New Republic, Mar. 8, 1969]

SLEEP WELL

Skip this piece if you have a weak stomach. It's about worms. Worms in people. Poor people. By almost common consent Americans shun it. I notice reporters who cover Sen. George McGovern's hearings on hunger sidestep it. Facts are facts. Here they are.

Charles Fraser is a quiet-voiced executive of a private resort area in South Carolina with tennis and golf and some of the finest beaches in the world. A lot of local blacks have parasite infections and Mr. Fraser thought it could be eradicated. To his surprise he found that in the entire *US Cumulative Index Medicus*, 1961-67, there is no article on mass eradication. There are 224 articles on symptoms and side effects of round worms (*Ascaris*) and whip worms (*Trichuris*) but nothing on mass control.

Mr. Fraser knew that farm journals abound in pieces on worm control in cattle—in pigs. If your dog has worms you know it's sick and you do something. Mass infestation in people, it appears, is different.

The Fraser group checked further. The *Index* showed 18 articles on community parasite control in Russian medical journals; also in Japan and other far-off places. But these weren't translated.

Well then, the group asked, is infection prevalent in the US? Spot tests by doctors astonished them. In some impoverished areas three out of four had either roundworms or whipworms. Not just in South Carolina, it appeared, but among low-income people in 153 similar counties in seven states. Maybe one to three million people. (No government survey has been made.)

The McGovern subcommittee heard disgusting clinical details. Sen. Ellender (D., La.), a well-meaning conservative, acted as a kind of straight man. He told a harrowing personal experience. "When about eight, I remember running to my mother because of the worms coming out of my mouth. . . ." The matter was brought to medical attention, he said. Then "a campaign of all of the people" stamped it out. Why don't "local people" (blacks) act here, Ellender asked?

Doctors explained patiently that "personal hygiene" is difficult in the near-animal conditions of some areas. Blacks and some whites live in shanties without running water; in many cases without privies. People use the woods. The parasite ova contaminate the soil. Ignorance is such, they testified, that many actually believe the worms "come from sugar." How about kindergarten-type educational leaflets to inform them? The government prints none. How about films? HEW has a library of 480 films for national distribution on child-rearing; not one on worm infestation.

Officially, worms don't exist. Actually, some witnesses guessed "about a million" children are infested. "It is our firm conclusion," Mr. Fraser testified, "that nothing of any substance is presently being done in the US to eradicate the continuing heavy worm infestation of low-income families."

Mrs. Landon Butler, a trim, slender white volunteer worker in Beaufort County, S.C., said, "I found entire families existing on rice, sweet water and bread, often rationed in small amounts." When individual children are treated for worms, she said, they go home and are immediately reinfected. Others noted that a poor family might, perhaps, borrow \$1,500 to build a new pigsty under OEO programs, but not to install a pump, well, or a hygienic bathroom.

Dr. James Carter, nutritionist from Vanderbilt University, has worked in Guatemala, Nigeria and Egypt, and said hunger symptoms in children here are about the same; in samples he found "distended stomachs in 41 percent," attributed to secondary effects of roundworms.

In bald terms, when food is swallowed it's a question who gets it, child or worm. Between 1960-64 the US sent over \$392 million abroad, he said, to help underdeveloped countries get "water supplies and waste disposal system." It would have been nice, he said mildly, to have had some of that money here.

Sen. McGovern is pushing his astonishing inquiry. He has beat a Senate effort to cut his funds. He has won astonishing support from Sen. Hollings (D.,

S.C.). He has even got assistance from the Department of Agriculture. Hunger, it is now believed, causes irreversible brain damage in children. And these children, McGovern notes, are not merely hungry from birth; they are hungry before birth, in their mother's womb.

Dr. Robert Coles of Harvard had trouble controlling his anger. Fresh from surveys, he and a team of doctors tried to get aid from the Department of Agriculture. But spokesmen said they feared Congress—the chairmen of agriculture committees particularly. After all, the billions spent are to support farm prices, not feed the hungry. Rep. James Whitten is chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee on agriculture. Coles charges Whitten's Mississippi district "has an infant mortality that rivals any place in the world—including India."

Once in the intestine, an ascaris worm grows to 6 to 14 inches. In the normal life cycle the immature worm migrates from the bloodstream to the intestines by way of the lungs (often causing pulmonary symptoms or bleeding). Fifty worms of this size in a child are classed as "moderate" in medical articles, Mr. Fraser said.

It is hard, of course, to teach a hungry child. Sen. Ellender, age 78, appeared nonplussed that areas in Louisiana are still heavily infested. Apparently, he thought it was all ended when he was eight. He said he would visit the communities. "This has been kept under cover," explained Dr. E. J. Lease, University of South Carolina, "for reasons that you can guess as well as I. This matter has not ever really been taken before the public."

"If I brought in a jar of some child's round worms," Mr. Fraser said, "a great many people would be thoroughly nauseated. It is the sort of thing that is left unsaid, undiscussed and unreported throughout the US."

A good note to close on! Let's not disturb folks. The thought of that jar upsets refined people. Things should be kept in their place, in the . . . well, let's skip it. Sleep well, good people—only a few million kids are affected.

[From the New York Times, Mar. 9, 1969]

HEALTH FOOD PLAN SET FOR CAROLINA

TWO COUNTIES WILL SUPPLEMENT FREE STAMP PROGRAM

COLUMBIA, S.C., March 8—A "food by prescription" program for expectant mothers and preschool children will begin Monday in Beaufort and Jasper Counties in South Carolina.

It will supplement a pilot free food-stamp program in those counties with distribution of a dozen Federal commodities of high nutrient content.

Dr. E. Kenneth Aycock, State Health Officer, urged yesterday that all counties provide administrative costs to implement the program on a statewide basis.

"This program is aimed at offsetting the mental and physical retardation that can and does occur in low-income groups because of a lack of nutritionally adequate food," Dr. Aycock said. It will reach about 4,000 people in the two counties, he estimated.

To participate, low-income families have only to visit county health clinics and have children or expectant mothers examined and found to be in need of supplemental food, Dr. Aycock explained at a news conference. The program is also expected to attract greater participation in health clinic programs by low-income families.

An aide to Gov. Robert E. McNair said the Governor "thinks it's the best program to come along to combat hunger and he is 100 percent behind it."

The county bureaus of the Office of Economic Opportunity will store 66,000 pounds of food now being transported by truck for picking up at the health clinics.

Those eligible will receive identification cards and certificates entitling them to pick up a one-month's supply of food. They can continue to get food at monthly intervals for three months, then have their certificates renewed by revisiting the clinic.

The foods are canned evaporated milk, corn syrup, dry milk, fruit juice, canned fruit, canned vegetables, scrambled egg mix, farina, fortified chocolate milk drink, peanut butter, instant potatoes, and canned meat or poultry.

TO EXPLAIN PREPARATION

Personnel will be stationed at the clinics to explain to the recipients how the foods, such as powdered eggs, should be prepared and the remainder stored for future use, Dr. Aycock said.

The pilot food-stamp program began in the two counties last Monday, but a group of poor people from Beaufort were in Washington Thursday protesting that it was inadequate and reached only a handful of people.

Participation in the "food by prescription" program will not mean loss of eligibility to participate also in the food-stamp program, according to Neil Freeman, a Department of Agriculture official.

The program is scheduled to begin in three other counties—Colleton, Hampton and Allendale—in a month, Dr. Aycock said.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 9, 1969]

FREE STAMPS CAN'T ERASE BEAUFORT'S DEEP MISERY

(By Bruce Galphin)

Washington Post Staff Writer

BEAUFORT, S.C.—Whenever he has money to buy some lumber or window sashes Moses Coakley works at building a house for his family of 16 in rural Beaufort County. He has been at it for several years, and its wood siding is painted battleship gray. But work hasn't progressed far enough for him to occupy the new house; there are still gaps in the exterior walls.

Meanwhile, Coakley, his wife and his 14 children, who stairstep from two to 18 years in age, live immediately behind the unfinished house in a tiny shack that is only a little more protection against the elements. There are holes in the outside walls where they have not been patched with scrap lumber or tin or paper.

A small wood stove serves for cooking and "heating." Furnishings consist principally of filthy bedding and some wooden boxes. There is no electricity or running water. There is not even a privy; the yard serves that purpose—the yard where the children play bare-footed and where a few chickens peck around for their food.

One morning last week there were four people at the house: three pre-school children and 15-year-old Jeanette, who takes turns with her 12-year-old sister baby sitting. That means she misses school every other day. She has repeated two grades, she said, and school officials have complained. But when both parents are working, someone has to look after the youngest.

It was nearly noon, and Jeanette was cooking rice and beans. That night, she said, there probably would be chicken with the rice. The Coakleys are not eligible for free food stamps under the pilot program being tested in Beaufort and neighboring Jasper County. No matter the size of the family, \$30 a month income is the cutoff.

There is a surprising number of unfinished, unoccupied houses like Moses Coakley's within a few miles of Beaufort. They seem to symbolize the dashed hopes of people who believe that the recent spate of attention to their condition meant that immediate help was on the way.

There's an informal poverty tour trail these days. Sen. Ernest Hollings (D.-S.C.) has traveled it. Before him, there were local legislative, welfare and health people. Washington officials have come, too, and more recently, newsmen covering the distribution of free food stamps.

"At first, they thought that things were going to be better right away," said insurance agent William W. Grant Jr. "Now they've reached the state where they want to be left alone."

HELP FOR HUNDREDS

A solution has not come overnight because the problem is so enormous. Free food stamps may reach a couple of hundred families in Beaufort and Jasper, and purchased stamps perhaps a thousand more. But even food is only part of the cycle of malnutrition and misery. On a proper farm, animals are housed better than many of the poor in Beaufort and Jasper, and these counties typify hundreds of others throughout the country.

Most medical authorities agree that intestinal worms contribute to malnutrition and heighten susceptibility to disease. Poor people make up 41 per cent of the population of Beaufort County. Three out of four of them are infested with intestinal worms.

Eggs are constantly spread through human excrement, so that even after medical treatment, a victim is quickly reinfested. Worms can reach more than a foot in length, and one person might be host to a couple of hundred of the parasites. They can block intestines or even the esophagus.

Another problem in Beaufort is unemployment. There is no heavy industry. The Federal Government is the biggest employer, at installations like the Parris Island Marine training center. Shellfishing is important but seasonal. Farming is still a significant employer, but is diminishing. The other major industry is tourism.

Wage scales are low. The going rate for domestics is \$5 a day—when such jobs are available.

But if the problems of the poor have not vanished overnight, at least they have become visible to the rest of Beaufort County. When Dr. Donald Gatch began saying publicly a couple of years ago that there was widespread malnutrition in Beaufort County, he was universally condemned by his white colleagues and ostracized by most of the other whites of the county. Health and welfare officials disputed his findings. They argued that if hunger and worms existed, they were isolated cases.

The county's Negro leadership decided not to allow Dr. Gatch's assertions to be forgotten. They founded the Grassroots Rehabilitation and Involvement Program (GRIP) and launched an effective boycott of white merchants.

The boycott paid off in jobs for Negroes in local retail stores, banks and county offices. It also forced officials to look at the hunger that they were saying didn't exist.

Among those who had their eyes opened was State Sen. Joë Waddell, probably the most influential political figure in the county. He subsequently testified before Sen. George McGovern's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

"I was shocked at some of the things I saw and I've lived here a long, long time," Waddell said last week.

BURIAL POLICY PEOPLE

I saw some of the cases that shocked Waddell, and a few others not on the standard "poverty tour." The guide was William Grant Jr., who as an insurance man has a unique knowledge of the people along the unnamed dirt and sand roads that meander under moss-draped oaks and across marshy flatlands.

Grant's clients are not the well to do. Most of them are the very poor who put aside their insurance premiums before they spend any of the rest of their Social Security or welfare or payroll checks. They don't pay much—60 cents, \$2, \$4 a month—and they don't buy much—a little policy to pay for their burial, or an annuity to provide a few hundred dollars for their children's college education.

Grant was born 35 years ago in Beaufort County's Burton community, the son of a minister and one of 19 children. An Army veteran, he studied insurance and real estate for two years at Boston's Lee Institute and returned to Beaufort because "This is my home . . . I could do more here than in Boston."

The tour suggested some of the enormous dimensions of poverty in Beaufort County. In a clearing shared with one neighbor stands the house of Julia Boles. It is a parody of Snuffy Smith parodies. The one-room shack leans so far that one wall is propped by poles wedged in the ground.

Mrs. Boles was sitting on her front porch that mild morning. Although she is 83 and complains that arthritis has prevented her from working for the past seven years, she responded alertly in the honeyed accent of the tidewater country.

She said she received \$51 a month in old age benefits but never has purchased food stamps because she couldn't get around well and it was too complicated to get someone else to do it for her. An Office of Economic Opportunity Outreach worker came by just then to talk to her about that Mrs. Boles is also about to benefit from another OEO project: a sturdy new house behind her shack.

Others are not so fortunate. In the yard behind another cabin, a woman of indeterminate age was scrubbing clothes she had just "boiled" in iron pots. She mumbled shyly, and we never got her name. But we did learn that she lived with her mother and 9-year-old daughter and was their sole support.

She didn't buy food stamps. She said she earned too much to be eligible—as much as \$30 a week in oyster and crab seasons, if she worked all week. (That would exclude her from free stamps but not from the bonus value of purchased stamps, but she did not understand this.)

AN OMINOUS LUMP

Lucille Smith was babysitting for the neighborhood and a half dozen tiny children darted around at play. One was a 3-year-old named Elijah who had received severe head burns when the family's house burned two years ago. It left a shiny mass of scar tissue.

Grant said heatedly that the county health department should have arranged skin grafts. But worse than the scars was a lump the size of a woman's fist under the child's ear. It has been growing rapidly, Mrs. Smith said. There was a split in the growth, revealing raw flesh.

Grant drove down a paved road and passed a woman standing at her mail box. "I bet \$10 she's waiting for her welfare check," he said. "It was supposed to come yesterday."

There was more proof of misery and need, if any were needed; seven people living in an 18x18-foot house billed as "four-room"; babies playing in a dirt yard full of litter and excrement. We didn't select only the worst examples, and yet there are some in Beaufort who will not believe that there is any real hunger or malnutrition.

A courthouse clerk insisted that there were only isolated examples of hunger among Negroes "that we're treated like brothers and sisters. Couldn't they grow collard greens year-round?" she asked. "And we have fine oysters and crabs. Anybody can go get them.

"Of course, these people have a history of indolence," she added. "Don't quote me. That's not what you want to print anyway."

LOOKING FOR HELP

Many of Beaufort County's white leaders have become concerned, however, and are trying to improve conditions. They are considering more Outreach workers and nutrition teachers recruited from the poor, and allowing food stamp recipients to purchase them weekly.

But even with increased property taxes, the resources of the county are woefully inadequate. White officialdom and the poor alike look to Washington for help.

The free food stamp program is encouraging as an expression of interest, but hardly gets to the root of the problem. At the time it was instituted, there were about 180 families on the food stamp rolls who became eligible for free stamps. But because they earned less than \$30 a month, they were paying as little as 50 cents and no more than \$3 anyway. A few new families have been added to the rolls as a result of the publicity.

Almost anyone on welfare is barred from the free stamps because monthly checks are usually more than \$30. A family of ten or more is also ineligible, no matter how great the nutritional lack, if the total family income exceeds the arbitrary \$30.

But even if all the poor were fed, there still would be the awesome need for housing—and health—and sanitation—and education—and jobs.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 16, 1969]

SEMIMILITARY LIFE OFFERED SOUTH CAROLINA HUNGRY

COLUMBIA, S.C., March 15.—Ray Harris, South Carolina Republican chairman, advocates that poor people suffering from hunger, malnutrition and disease be encouraged to attend "semimilitary" rehabilitation centers so they can be taught "a better way of life."

At a news conference Friday, Harris unveiled his plan for helping "the most destitute" people in South Carolina.

He said families would be relocated on a voluntary basis in mobile home-type housing units, "all inhabitants would be awakened at the same time, given time and opportunity to dress and marched to a communal mess hall."

"Our program," he said, "is aimed mainly at children, teaching them that there is a better way of life than they now have."

The GOP official said "we have talked with the poor, with the taxpayer and with the welfare professional and with the White House."

[From the New York Post]

FOOD HELP PLAN IN WORKS FOR CAROLINA'S "POOREST OF POOR"

WASHINGTON.—Agriculture Secretary Clifford M. Hardin, under pressure from senators investigating hunger, said Wednesday he would disclose plans soon for a pilot program to help feed the "poorest of the poor" in rural South Carolina.

He apparently turned down a suggestion by Sen. George S. McGovern (D., S.D.) at a meeting in his office that he declare a hunger emergency in Beaufort and Jasper Counties, S.C., to qualify residents for surplus food commodities.

Instead, Hardin indicated he would work within the existing food stamp program to make special provision for pregnant women, nursing mothers and extremely young children.

South Carolina takes part in this form of a federal food subsidy for the needy, but Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D., S.C.), who recently toured "hunger pockets" in Beaufort and Jasper Counties, said undernourished and worm-infested children there are somehow not being reached by the program.

McGovern, chairman of the Senate's Select Committee on Hunger [sic] and Human Needs, and Hollings conferred with Hardin after a nutrition expert testified that malnutrition in some areas of Beaufort County probably was serious enough to qualify the residents for foreign aid if they were overseas.

HUNGER CAN'T STAY HIDDEN

What your eyes see, your heart must believe.

We are unsure of the origin of that primitive bit of philosophy, but we recognize its value in the testimony before Sen. George McGovern's committee investigating hunger and malnutrition in the United States.

There still are pious denials from some Southern politicians, but the weight was clearly on the side of those who favored restoring \$100,000 cut from the study planned by Sen. McGovern. Much of that weight came from Sen. Ernest Hollings who toured his own state of South Carolina and found children so hungry they could not learn in school and adults so dulled by a life of hunger that they were incapable of working.

Sen. Hollings demonstrated political courage when he testified that the "dumb Negro is dumb because we denied him food. Dumb in infancy, he has been blighted for life."

That is a statement easily understood by physicians and social workers familiar with the dulled eyes and the dulled senses of children of the poor. It is not merely a problem of the rural South, but one of national scope. The child in the Chicago ghetto suffers from the same malnutrition that strikes the children of the idle miner in Appalachia. It is a simple matter to find hungry children among the migrant families at Immokalee. It is just as simple to find them in the heart of Miami's ghetto.

Sometimes it is a case of poor nutrition rather than a lack of food. But both produce children slow to learn and both problems must be faced.

[From the New York Post]

THE DISCOVERY OF HUNGER

When he was Governor of his state, Sen. Hollings (D-S.C.), admitted this week, his administration was more interested in the care and feeding of factory-hunting industrialists than in the feeding and care of the poor. He was, he said regretfully, party to a "public policy of covering up the problem of hunger."

The uncovering process, begun long ago by a few horrified citizens and still fewer cooperative public officials, continued this week before the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, headed by Sen. McGovern (D-S. Dak.). Appalling medical testimony has become almost routine in that forum; it has identified routine neglect that is equally shocking.

It is due, in large part, to the "public policy" of which Sen. Hollings spoke and which still guides scores of Southern legislators—including his senior colleague, Sen. Thurmond (R-S.C.). Among their preoccupations is furnishing cheap labor to industry, but as Hollings conceded: "The people I saw couldn't possibly work."

The McGovern committee was recently shorn of \$100,000 in appropriations, but the chairman succeeded in persuading the Senate to grant its full request of \$250,000. It will now be able to pursue a full schedule of hearings and research and, before long, it will have legislative recommendations to make; they will ultimately involve much larger sums of money. This starvation scandal can no longer be covered up; the only question is when this overfed nation will wake up.

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various positions in the office of the Secretary of the State of New York, for the term ending on the 31st day of December, 1901.

APPENDIX C

PRESS RELEASES AND COMMUNICATIONS

[For release Mar. 4, 1969]

McGOVERN CALLS FREE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM INADEQUATE

Senator George McGovern, D-S.D., Chairman of the Senate's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs today said the Department of Agriculture's pilot free food stamp program was "far from adequate to meet the needs of Beaufort and Jasper Counties, South Carolina." In a letter McGovern sent to Agriculture Secretary Hardin last week and released today, he pointed out that only 203 families on food stamps in the two counties would be eligible for free stamps under USDA's present limitation that those with incomes of less than \$360 a year can participate.

"While the pilot program is a real breakthrough, since it does mean that the poorest of the poor will get free stamps, the resident of Beaufort and Jasper counties are justifiably upset that the more than 1700 families with incomes of less than \$100 a month will still have to pay 30 to 50% of their income for stamps," McGovern said. "If only those who are now paying 50¢ a month for their stamps are eligible for free stamps," McGovern said, "this program will cost the Federal government a grand total of about \$600 a month at its present level of activity."

In his letter to Secretary Hardin, Senator McGovern urged that the South Carolina pilot project be made a model food stamp demonstration and that USDA incorporate eight specific reforms as part of the project:

First, the local citizen group be enlisted in an outreach effort to find every family not now participating in the food stamp program to sign them up for food stamps.

Second, that families in the lowest income category now eligible for the pilot program but not participating be signed up for free food stamps.

Third, that the pilot program be expanded to include all 1695 families in the two counties whose incomes are less than \$1,000 per year.

Fourth, that the purchase price of food stamps be lowered throughout the counties so that no one pay more than the average American's expenditure for food—17% of their family income.

Fifth, that the food stamp bonuses be raised so that the total value of stamps for every participating family equal the amount of money which they must have to purchase an adequate diet.

Sixth, that such things as insurance premiums, clothing expenses and school expenses be deductible from a family's income in determining eligibility for food stamps.

Seventh, that transportation be provided to food stamp offices and to participating retail grocery redemption stores.

Eighth, that USDA carefully monitor and evaluate the success of the model food stamp program.

(The full text of the letter follows:)

FEBRUARY 25, 1969.

HON. CLIFFORD HARDIN,
The Secretary,
U.S. Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for your cooperation at our meeting last Wednesday and for your prompt response to our request that steps be taken to provide free food in Jasper and Beaufort Counties, South Carolina. As I stated last week, the new pilot free food stamp project represents an historic breakthrough in our efforts to assure

(1409)

that many Americans who cannot afford an adequate diet need no longer suffer from chronic hunger and malnutrition.

I also believe this pilot program can become a model for other counties and for future Food Stamp program reforms. I hope, therefore, you will find it helpful if I set forth here several observations about the Food Stamp program and some suggestions for additional measures which I think should be incorporated as quickly as possible as the pilot project progresses.

The staff of the Select Committee along with several local community leaders conducted a brief but intensive survey of the Food Stamp program in Beaufort and Jasper Counties the week before last. The results of that survey were presented to the Committee last Thursday by Mrs. Nancy Butler and two other Beaufort County residents. Because their statements reveal many of the problems with the Food Stamp program in those Counties which may be typical of other areas of the country, I am enclosing a copy of their testimony.

Following up on this survey and so that our Committee can be of assistance to you in assuring the success of the pilot program, I have asked our staff to continue to observe and closely monitor both the existing and the new Food Stamp program in those counties as the pilot project progresses.

The following facts about the Food Stamp program as reported by our Committee staff I think illustrate the need for specific reforms beyond that of giving free stamps to under \$30 per month income families.

First, there are more than 3367 families in Beaufort County with incomes below the \$3000 per year poverty line. Of these families, approximately 1145 have incomes of less than \$1000. Yet in January only 700 families actually participated in the Food Stamp programs. The situation is similar in Jasper County. 1641 families are below the poverty line of which 550 have incomes less than \$1000. Yet only about 275 families are participating in the Food Stamp program.

These facts illustrate the need for much greater efforts to enlist the participation of more families in the Food Stamp program.

I suggest, therefore, that local citizens groups such as the Committee of 95 formed last week by Messrs. Thomas Barnwell and William Grant, be enlisted in an outreach effort to sign up all those eligible families who are not now participating.

Second, of the 700 Food Stamp families in Beaufort County, 180 are in the minimum income category of less than \$30 per month. In Jasper County only 23 of the 275 participating families are in that lowest bracket. Thus at least 203 families will presumably be eligible for free stamps under the pilot project. Testimony before the Committee has revealed the existence of many other families in these two counties in the same lowest income category who are not on Food Stamps. I hope USDA will also seek out these families to assure they receive free Food Stamps under the present plan.

Third, our survey found many, many families at all income levels who were not on Food Stamps because they simply could not afford the purchase price. While the pilot program will take care of this problem for those with incomes of less than \$30 per month, I suggest the program be expanded to provide free stamps for most if not all the 1695 families in these two counties with incomes under \$1000 per year.

I would hope also that the purchase requirements for remaining families in poverty—both those now on Food stamps and those not presently participating—can be lowered to reflect the 17% of their income that the average American family spends for food. While I know that adoption of such a flat percentage charge for Food Stamps would not be permitted under the Food Stamp Act itself, the emergency provisions of Amendment 25 to last year's Appropriation Act, I believe, are broad enough to permit this reform on a pilot basis.

Fourth, our Committee as well as others which have examined the Food Stamp program have consistently heard testimony that the bonus schedules for Food Stamps are insufficient to provide a total stamp value to enable the purchase of an adequate diet during the month. For example, the Food Stamp schedules for the Southeastern States provides a total coupon value for a four person household ranging from \$58 per month at the under \$30 income level, up to \$102 per month at the \$340-\$370 per month income level. Yet USDA's official estimates are that a family of four must spend at least \$107 per month to purchase a minimum adequate diet at today's prices.

Low bonuses together with high purchase prices require some families to spend as much as 40-50% of their income on stamps, while they end up with a total value that permits them to buy only enough food for three weeks, forcing

them to buy on credit during the fourth week of the month. Moreover, their stamps must be stretched so far that the recipients often cannot significantly improve the types of food they purchase.

I suggest therefore that, together with revisions in the purchase price and the issuance of free stamps, the bonuses be raised to assure that every participating family receive stamps of sufficient total value to allow them to purchase adequate nutritious food for the entire month.

Fifth, there is need for a simplified and liberalized certification system, particularly with respect to the definition of expenses which can be deducted when computing the income upon which the purchase of stamps is based. For instance, many families do not participate at the beginning of the school year because of clothing expenses as well as textbook deposits. Both items should be deductible. Another critical item is insurance. Many families carry life and accident policies costing as much as \$18 a month. These policies are their passports into local hospitals. They cannot afford to maintain the policy premium and participate in the Food Stamp program. Despite the urging of local welfare officials, they will understandably not give up the policies. The payments for such items should be deductible from a family's income.

Sixth, transportation both to welfare offices and redemption grocers is a severe problem, particularly in Beaufort County where most of the rural poor live on isolated coastal islands and peninsulas. It seems to me that nonprofessional aids could be enlisted to deliver stamps to remote recipients and assist in food purchasing.

An expanded transportation system, such as that now in operation in Jasper County, is needed for both counties to permit stamp recipients to travel to the major area markets where they can purchase higher quality products for lower prices. This is an especially acute problem in these two counties. The smaller neighborhood grocers, particularly in the more rural areas, charge much higher prices than the major markets. The County Welfare Director told a Committee staff man that he travels all the way to Savannah, Georgia, to avoid paying the high prices in the county. To be entirely fair to the small grocers, the Department might offer its expert marketing services to help them become more efficient and lower their prices while maintaining a fair profit margin.

Seventh, these two counties provide an opportunity to demonstrate a model nutrition aide program to teach proper purchasing and food preparation habits. Such a program could be intimately tied in with the certification and distribution system. Recipients could be informed of the aide program when certified and when they receive the stamps. The aides, hired from the ranks of the recipients themselves, could provide assistance on an individual and group basis. Such a program should be adequately financed to permit the aides to go where they need, when they need, as often as they need. Testimony by Beaufort County State Senator James Waddell indicates that the county extension personnel are now severely restricted in their duties because of grossly low traveling budgets.

Eighth and finally, our staff's survey clearly indicates a need for additional monitoring and evaluation efforts to assure proper administration of the Food Stamp program by the State and county welfare departments and by participating retail groceries. I hope that the on-going program in Beaufort and Jasper Counties as well as the new pilot project will both be monitored with utmost care.

I shall shortly introduce legislation designed to incorporate these and other reforms into the Food Stamp Act. Most, however, can be undertaken administratively under that Act and I believe all can be commenced on a pilot basis under the authority of Amendment 25 of the Agriculture Appropriation Act last year.

I would appreciate your letting me have your thoughts as to these suggestions. I hope these and other reforms can be made a part of the South Carolina pilot free Food Stamp program and that this new project will be a model for the rest of our country.

Sincerely yours,

GEORGE MCGOVERN, *Chairman.*

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., February 26, 1969.

Hon. GEORGE MCGOVERN,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR MCGOVERN: Your letter of February 25 to Secretary Hardin containing your additional thoughts and comments with regard to the South Carolina counties arrived when he is en route to Washington from Bogota, Colombia.

You may be sure that your comments and recommendations will have his attention just as soon as possible after his return. I mention this in recognition of the fact that a good deal of tomorrow will find him tied up at the Governors' Conference as a part of his Cabinet responsibilities.

Sincerely,

E. F. BEHRENS,
Executive Assistant to the Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington, D.C., March 14, 1969.

Hon. GEORGE S. MCGOVERN,
Chairman, Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs,
U.S. Senate.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary Hardin has asked that I reply to your letter which made suggestions for modification of the Food Stamp Program.

A broad review of the programs affecting hunger and nutrition is now under way. Your suggestions are very much appreciated and will be given serious consideration as we develop possible proposals for changes in our present programs.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

RICHARD E. LYNG,
Assistant Secretary.

NEWS RELEASE—FROM THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR ERNEST F. HOLLINGS,
FEBRUARY 4, 1969

WASHINGTON.—Officials of the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce met with Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., Tuesday to discuss hunger as a national Jaycee project.

Hollings also met with Secretary of Agriculture Clifford Hardin to deliver a preliminary report on the progress of a pilot program for free food stamps to poverty-stricken families of Beaufort and Jasper Counties in South Carolina.

The Senator talked about the Jaycee project with Wendell E. Smith of Tulsa, Okla., national president of the organization, and Ken Scrivner, promotions manager.

Robert Kellahan, first vice president of the Charleston Chapter of Jaycees, talked with the Senator about establishing a pilot program by the civic organization in South Carolina. He was to investigate it further with Jack Brantley of Columbia, state Jaycee president.

In his meeting with Hardin, Hollings said he filled the secretary in on the current effectiveness of the program. At the same time, he proposed several "adjustments" to broaden the scope of the food stamp project in the two counties.

"We have every hope they will be forthcoming," he said.

The program, coordinated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and South Carolina welfare officials, began Monday.

Prior to the new program, food stamps were available in the two counties but families had to make a token payment—based on their income—in order to qualify for them. The new system extends the food stamp benefits to families who could not afford the minimum of 50¢ to receive \$18 worth of stamps.

NEWS RELEASE—FROM THE OFFICE OF SENATOR ERNEST F. HOLLINGS,
FEBRUARY 19, 1969

WASHINGTON.—Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., tonight announced a national pilot program would be set up soon to feed the hungry of Beaufort and Jasper counties in South Carolina.

"The details have not been worked out yet," Hollings said following a meeting with Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., and Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin.

"This will be a pilot program of feeding the hungry with help from the Agriculture Department but administered by local authorities," Hollings said.

"We don't want a bunch of money spent without local planning and guidance," he said. "This must be a program which is local, reasonable and which can be coped with."

The Senator praised Secretary Hardin for his willingness to cooperate in solving the problem caused by "destitute hunger" in the two counties.

Further details on the program, first of its kind in the United States, can be expected later, Hollings said.

NEWS RELEASE—FROM THE OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR ERNEST F. HOLLINGS,
MARCH 1, 1969

WASHINGTON.—Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., said Saturday the Department of Agriculture is moving to implement recommendations to improve a pilot program for feeding the poor in two South Carolina Counties.

Hollings said the department was working toward setting up a citizens advisory committee in Beaufort and Jasper Counties and the mailing of food stamps to poor families.

The Senator said he had sent a list of recommendations to Agriculture Secretary Clifford Hardin on Tuesday, including the suggestion for a committee of local citizens to advise the department on the food stamp program.

He also said the mailing of stamps would get the stamps "to the poorest of the poor, the dire destitute."

Hardin last week authorized a pilot program of feeding the poor in the two counties, granting free food stamps to families with an income of less than \$30 per month. It was considered a major breakthrough in efforts to get the food to the poor.

In response to question, Hollings said there has been criticism of the planned pilot program on grounds it does not reach enough low income families. He said, however, he knew of no plan for any march on Washington or demonstration against the program.

"This program has got to reach the hungry," Hollings said, "But you've got to take the first step to go a thousand miles. We've taken that first step."

The recommendation passed on to Hardin came from consultations with the Rev. I. DeQuincy Newman, South Carolina field Secretary of the NAACP, and Thomas E. Barnwell, Jr. and William Grant, leaders of a citizens group in the affected area. Suggestions also came from Sen. George McGovern's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs.

One suggestion was to bring the food stamp program to more poor families by reducing the amount they must pay for stamps. Many of the poor must spend up to 47 percent of their total income to buy food stamps, which are redeemable for greater amounts of food at grocery stores.

U.S. Department of Agriculture studies show that it requires a minimum of \$108 per month to feed a family of four. Maximum benefits under the food stamp program are only \$102 worth of food per month.

Hollings said there had been suggestions that transportation be provided to carry poor families to distribution centers.

"We're trying to feed the poor, not spend a lot of money on trucks, buses and drivers to carry people around," he said. "By mailing the stamps out, we'll get the job done."

The secretary also was asked to make the stamps available weekly rather than monthly.

The department was urged to undertake an educational program in connection with food stamps.

"This program must be conducted by trained personnel familiar with the needs and resources of the poor," Hollings said. He said officials of Clemson University had indicated they would help.

Another suggestion was to hire the poor to help administer the pilot program. "It takes an expert to determine who is or who is not getting a nutritional diet," Hollings said. "The thing is again, to feed the hungry. The very poor cannot make judgments on nutrition."

Hollings praised Secretary Hardin. "The people of America are indebted to you for your attitude and realistic approach to the hunger problem," Hollings said.

SAVANNAH, GA., February 24, 1969.

Senator GEORGE MCGOVERN,
Select Committee on Malnutrition and Human Needs,
Washington, D.C.

(Attention of Mr. William Smith, Beaufort County, S.C.).

A committee of 95 citizens of Beaufort County, 76 of this number being members of the low-income group, met Saturday, February 22, to discuss the food stamp program for Beaufort and Jasper Counties.

We feel that since we are the ones suffering from hunger that we know what is needed if we are to be helped. We are not interested in halfway measures. Therefore we urge that the following suggestions be incorporated in the pilot program of food stamps in Beaufort and Jasper Counties:

1. That \$40 worth of food stamps be made available to each member of each family eligible for food stamps in order to provide a nutritional diet.

2. Free stamps should be issued to individuals on the following basis: If the breadwinner's income does not allow \$40 to be spent on food for each member of the family, for example if a family of four has an income which allows less than \$160 a month for food, that family should be eligible for free food stamps.

3. That an advisory committee be formed to oversee the administration of the food stamp program, to select employees, to make recommendations to improve the administration of the program as situations arise. The advisory committee should be composed of recipients of food stamps, welfare rights members, existing agencies concerned with the poor, and a cross-section of community representatives.

4. That additional staff be hired to implement the pilot program and that recipients of food stamps should be hired and trained, if necessary, as paid personnel. There should also be a roving team whose responsibility will be to go around the two counties and seek out those persons who are eligible.

5. Food stamps should be made available on a weekly basis and should be mailed to those persons who desire that this be done.

6. Many persons who have not availed themselves of the food stamp program because they have no transportation and have had to pay more than they could afford to get to the stores to use the stamps. Therefore we recommend that free transportation be provided on a regularly scheduled basis for persons with this program.

7. That an educational program on nutrition be launched which will be staffed by persons who can communicate with the poor.

The select committee has rendered us a great service by holding the hearings and working with other agencies to alleviate our needs. We pledge our cooperation in this program.

Signed:

THOMAS C. BARNWELL, JR.,

WILLIAM W. GRANT, JR.

CoChairmen.

Mrs. FRIEDA B. MITCHELL,

Secretary.

COLUMBIA, S.C., February 25, 1969.

Senator GEORGE MCGOVERN,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.:

As citizens of South Carolina who are sympathetic to the needs of the poor in our State, we feel very strongly that the pilot food stamp program in Beaufort and Jasper Counties needs to be strengthened so as to insure its greatest possible effectiveness. If this operation is to serve as a model for similar programs throughout the country, we recommend that the following suggestions be incorporated as a part of it:

1. Revision of the coupon issuance tables so that no household shall be required to pay more than 20 percent of its monthly income to secure stamps. In

some instances now families have to use as high as 47 percent of their income.

2. Formation of a citizens' advisory committee to oversee the administration of the food stamp program, to select employees, to make recommendations to improve the administration of the program as situations arise. The advisory committee should be composed of recipients of food stamps, welfare rights member, existing agencies concerned with the poor, and a cross-section of community representatives.

3. Hiring of poverty-stricken individuals to assist in the administering of food program, educating others as to the use of stamps, providing assistance as nutritionists and home economist aides and as out reach workers to improve participation and utilization of the program.

4. Making food stamps available on a weekly basis and mailing them to persons who request that this be done.

5. Provision of free transportation to food stores for the very poor who would otherwise have to pay for it. The potential for making the Beaufort-Jasper program the most effective yet in our country is there. We urge you to use all influence at your command to see that it functions as it should.

Rev. I. DEQUINCY NEWMAN,
Field Director, NAACP.

PAUL W. MATTHIAS,

Executive Director, South Carolina Council on Human Relations.

L. F. JAMES,

Rural Advancement Program Director of the National Sharecroppers Fund.

Rev. HOWARD McCLAIN,

Executive Christian Action Council.

PENN COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.,
Frogmore, S.C., February 26, 1969.

Gov. ROBERT MCNAIR,
*State Capitol,
Columbia, S.C.*

DEAR GOVERNOR MCNAIR: Today I was appalled to see the guidelines for issuing food stamps for the pilot program in Beaufort and Jasper Counties.

Numerous surveys have been undertaken in this area regarding health needs; the University of South Carolina has participated in at least one. Following a recent tour of Beaufort, Senator Hollings, Dr. Aycock, Dr. Parker Jones of the Beaufort Health Department, and Senator Waddell agreed basically with previous findings of the widespread incidents of parasites and malnutrition.

Recent testimony before the Select Committee headed by Senator McGovern, by South Carolina residents including Senator Hollings, detailed those conditions. Widespread publicity was given to the decision of the Department of Agriculture, urged by Senators Hollings and McGovern, to issue free food stamps to alleviate the conditions described. This action was hailed as a "breakthrough" for the poor of Beaufort County.

We here in Beaufort County felt that there had been a genuine response to the needs of the people here and anticipated a program that would deal meaningfully with the problems. About 100 persons, most of them receiving food stamps, met last Saturday and forwarded you recommendations on how the program should operate.

I understood from a news story on Saturday that the Department of Agriculture would ask South Carolina officials to determine the provisions of the pilot program. If this is correct, presumably your office established the guidelines issued today.

Under the guidelines, the pilot program is limited to families with a maximum income of \$30 a month—or \$360 annually. While this group needs assistance, such a category is limited to only a small proportion of the poor. It represents an income of only one-tenth of what is considered the poverty level income.

Likewise, the amount of food stamps available is entirely inadequate to correct the problems of malnutrition—it provides only an existence—and a bare one at that. Under the guidelines for the pilot program, the amount of food stamps ranges from a top amount of \$16 monthly for a single down to \$10.50 per person monthly in a family of eight.

Concerning those families eligible for the pilot program (\$30 a month maximum), relatively few persons in Beaufort County would be effected. In 1960,

1,145 (14 percent) of the 8,030 families with a total population of 44,187, received less than \$1,000 annually, another 13 percent earned less than \$2,000, and a total of 41 percent earned below \$3,000.

Families on welfare would be excluded from this pilot program, since the maximum grant under Aid to Dependent Children for a family with one child and no other income is \$45 monthly. Certainly if the special food stamp program is to deal meaningfully with conditions here, the level of income of those eligible for free food stamps must be increased substantially. Furthermore, the amount of food stamps available to the poor needs to be considerably increased. The South Carolina Department of Welfare in its manual uses the table based on the findings in 1948 by the Department of Agriculture and the South Carolina Department of Welfare in regard to the cost of a minimum family food budget. For one adult the monthly cost is \$16.50 and for a child of seven to nine years, \$14. (The figures increase to \$19.00 for a teen-age boy). The Agricultural Research Service of the Department of Agriculture estimates that in 1968—twenty years later—the low monthly food cost for a man is now \$41.60. Surely a pilot program should make available an amount equal to a minimum food budget.

The pilot program as announced will only frustrate and anger low-income persons here who were led to believe that something substantial would be done about malnutrition in Beaufort and Jasper Counties. In my opinion, such a program is a betrayal of those here and across the nation who felt that the federal government was going to deal with problems described last week before the Select Committee.

Under the pilot program as now released, conditions in Beaufort County will remain basically the same. Unless provisions are changed, a committee will find similar conditions here in five and probably ten years.

Since the federal government will bear the major, if not the entire cost of the pilot project, I urge you to set levels of grants and participation which will remedy the conditions of malnutrition here. Let not the burden of such an inadequate program be the responsibility of state or local officials.

Sincerely yours,

COURTNEY SICELOFF.

"PILOT PROGRAM" OF FOOD STAMPS IN BEAUFORT AND JASPER COUNTIES TO MEET CONDITIONS OF MALNUTRITION

Persons eligible for free food stamps:

Families of 3 or less earning less than \$20 monthly.

Families of 4 or more earning less than \$30 monthly.

What changes does the pilot program provide? Previously, families earning under \$30 monthly paid 50¢ per person monthly—with a maximum of \$3 for food stamps. Now those families earning less than \$30 monthly will receive stamps free.

How many families in Beaufort County earning less than \$30 a month are able to pay the present monthly charge of 50 cents each? The director of the Beaufort County Welfare Department stated on February 26 that 179 out of the 180 families certified in this income category are now obtaining their food stamps. Thus, the "pilot program" will enable one family to get stamps that was not using them before. Such a program cannot cure malnutrition in Beaufort County.

How does the "pilot program" help families earning more than \$30 monthly? Not at all.

What percentage of the total population does this group represent? Of the 8,377 families in Beaufort (1960 census), 180 families represent 2 percent of the total population. 14 percent of the Beaufort County population earn less than \$1,000 a year, another 13 percent earn less than \$2,000, and a total of 41 percent earn below \$3,000, the established amount denoting poverty.

The \$30 monthly category entitled to free food stamps represent an annual income of \$360.00—or one-tenth the poverty level income.

Why should the "pilot program" be expanded? 99.4 percent of the families to be covered by the pilot program are already participating; this group represents 20 percent of the families taking advantage of the program.

Families above the \$30 monthly income are the ones who often cannot afford to buy food stamps, because so little of their minimal income would be left for

electricity, fuel, school costs, clothing, and rent for some. Conditions of malnutrition cannot be dealt with through the program as presently set up.

How adequate is the amount of food stamps issued providing a nutritional diet? Totally inadequate to correct problems of malnutrition.

What is the amount of food stamps available under the pilot program?

Family size	Total stamps issued for month	Amount per month per person
1.....	\$16	\$16.00.
3.....	44	14.67
5.....	66	13.20
7.....	80	11.45
9.....	90	10.00

How much constitutes a nutritional diet? The S.C. Department of Welfare in its manual uses a chart based on the findings in 1948 by the Department of Agriculture and the S.C. Welfare Department entitled "*Cost Of Minimum Food Budget According to Age*"

Age :	Amount per month
Child :	
1 to 3 years.....	\$9
7 to 9 years.....	14
Boy : 13 to 18 years.....	19
Adult	16

The Agriculture Research Service of the Department of Agriculture gives food plans at three cost levels in September, 1968:

	Low cost	Moderate cost plan	Liberal cost plan
Child, 1 to 3 years.....	\$18.20	22.80	\$27.30
Child, 6 to 9 years.....	26.30	33.70	41.80
Boy, 15 to 20 years.....	41.20	52.20	62.80
Man, 20 to 35 years.....	35.50	45.20	56.20

What do some people say who get food stamps? "My stamps run out about the third week"—"I can't afford to give my child milk on the food stamps"—"I can't get soap or toilet paper with food stamps, and nothing left I can use to buy them."

How many stamps should be provided under the "pilot program?" Enough stamps to provide a nutritional diet in 1968—an average of at least \$30 per month per person.

What minimum provision should a "pilot program" contain?

1. Free food stamps to families with an income of less than \$40 per person; families earning more should pay no more than 20 percent of their income.
2. Enough food stamps to provide a nutritional diet.
3. Creation of an *Advisory Committee* to oversee the administration of the program; most members of the committee should come from persons receiving food stamps.
4. Additional staff be hired for the program, to come from low-income groups.
5. Food stamps would be available by mail on a weekly basis, if desired.
6. That transportation be provided in rural areas to food stores.
7. That a nutritional-educational program be instituted, staffed by people who can communicate with the poor.
8. That all persons with income less than \$30 a month be placed on welfare immediately.

February 28, 1969.

HAZEL FRAZIER.
JOSEPH MCDOMICK, Jr.

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