

REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT TO THE RECEPTION FOR THE
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAW AND POVERTY -- JUNE 23, 1965

Some 100 years ago, a distinguished member of your profession noted that the goal of a free society was to give every man a chance in life. Like Mr. Lincoln, this Administration is committed to giving to each man the opportunity to make a living, the opportunity to make something of his life. Happily, all of society is responding to President Johnson's leadership in America's struggle to break the shackles of poverty.

I am pleased to salute the American Bar Association tonight for its support of "programs for expanding the availability of legal services to indigents and persons of low income." Legal aid and public defender societies have long performed a vital service to America. Today we ask you to do more.

Only now are we awakening to the fact that the poor man has no less a need for complete legal services than the big businessman. A lawyer's advice on housing leases, installment buying contracts, or domestic relations can give the poor man the confidence so necessary to our lives. A lawyer can bring new order to the poor man's life, ending society's

rejection of him.

There must be an integration of social services in the war on poverty. The special services of the law must join the churches, the schools, the welfare councils, and the many volunteer organizations enlisted in this struggle.

I am confident that the leadership of Mr. Powell, Mr. Coggs, Mr. Voorhees, and their distinguished successors, the state, city and county bar leaders and our law professors and, most importantly, the work of individual lawyers will give a new and vital impetus towards our goals.

Mr. Louis Powell, President American Bar Association

Mr. Theodore Coggs, President, National Bar Association

Mr. Theodore Voorhees, President; National Legal Aid and Defender Association



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