

Bill Kelly - 500 Corps  
Abe Marks - Scholarship  
Amos Barnes - Book

3:00 p.m.  
July 26, 1967

Alice Clemens  
Ray Virgin

REMARKS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
AT MEETING  
AMERICAN RETAIL FEDERATION  
AND  
MASS MERCHANDISING RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
COUNCIL FOR THE JOB CORPS

This meeting today with you has three profound meanings for me at this particular moment of our nation's crisis.

First, contrary to what some extremists are saying, there are indeed Americans who care about other Americans who are in need and in difficulty. The scholarship program for Job Corps graduates, which men and women like you are making possible, shows that there is a concern, a compassion, an understanding among the so-called power structure which can be mobilized to give our disadvantaged an opportunity.

Second, contrary to what extremists on the other side of the fence are saying, our disadvantaged Americans are prepared to take advantage of opportunities provided for them. They are not "lazy, immoral or shiftless" who want to be on welfare rolls all their lives. Tens of thousands of young men and women have already successfully gone

through the rigorous and taxing demands of Job Corps training. And the great majority of them are doing fine, thank you. Here today we are honoring two of them.

(ALICE CLEMONS and  
ROY VIRGIN)

Third, Job Corps experience of the last two years proves this basic point: the best defense against unrest and violence is the creation of social programs that meet the basic needs of those who have been left out all these years. There are today over 40,000 young men and women in Job Corps centers across the land. They represent all races, nationalities, all sections of the country -- but they have one thing in common. They have all been denied adequate opportunities for self-improvement and escape from poverty. In their Job Corps settings, they have been getting education and physical care and job training, but above all they have been getting the feeling that someone cares, that they can have a bright future. And in all of these many months,  
here is one part of America that hasn't seen a single riot or disturbance.  
If only every man, woman, and child in America could have the sense

of hope that programs like Job Corps instill, we could feel better  
about the days ahead.

So let us continue doing things like the Job Corps -- but doing them even better and in even larger measure.

I commend this group of leaders in America's largest industry -- retailing -- for its splendid contributions to winning this crucial war against poverty.

MEETING OF THE  
AMERICAN RETAIL FEDERATION  
AND  
MASS MERCHANDISING RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
COUNCIL FOR THE JOB CORPS

DATE: Wednesday, July 26, 1967

PLACE: EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM, Room No. 823  
Office of Economic Opportunity  
1200 19th Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20506

For further information or assistance, please contact:

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Wm. Kelly - Job Guy

Albe Marks - Schoolbook

Ann Barnes - Books

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