

and I will not take your time to detail them here. At that meeting in Annapolis four years ago I said: "It is shameful and intolerable that in this year 1960 there should be children in the United States who are dying of malnutrition, and entire families who are living on a government subsistence handout which is only 30 per cent of minimal nutritional needs. It is intolerable that we should have whole counties where the yearly family income is less than \$400, and where children can't go to school because of lack of clothes and shoes." These feelings have been echoed many time since then, and I know that they underlie President Johnson's deep and burning desire that something finally be done to eliminate the appalling conditions which are plainly visible to any traveler in Appalachia.

To me one of the most significant features of the present bill — in addition to its being based on a cooperative federal-state-regional approach — is the fact that it is aimed specifically at the causes, and not merely the symptoms, of the economic distress of the region. If you will permit, I would like to quote again from the address which I made before the first Conference of Appalachian Governors four years ago. "We can never," I said at that time, "arrive at a permanent solution to the problems of the Appalachian region until we stop thinking of the mountains as a 'distressed area' and begin to think of them as an underdeveloped region with vast untapped human and natural resources — a region that can only find its rightful economic level through a plan of over-all economic development, programmed for a period of five, ten, or even 20 years. This program must not only deal with the basic problem of correcting the growing imbalance between manpower and job opportunities, but should also concentrate on the building of new highways, flood control projects, and increasing educational and vocational training levels throughout the region."

This approach, I am happy to say, is exactly the one to be found in this bill. In that connection, I am especially pleased to note the emphasis which this bill has placed upon highway construction. Here we see an approach to road-building that was first developed by the ancient Romans — the use of roads not simply to serve traffic already there, but to open up a region for economic development and growth.

Isolation has long been the curse of Appalachia. The high mountains running north and south effectively blocked the region from the primarily east-west flow of American economic development. Highway and rail builders usually found it casier to by-pass Appalachia than to traverse it. Only a good modern road network can end this