

both on and off the reservation, by using trailer schools as a temporary expedient, and by providing dormitory facilities for public school enrollment in border communities such as Holbrook and Winslow, we have made schooling available for about 22,000 Navajo youngsters this term or approximately 8,000 more than the number enrolled last spring. Furthermore, the work is continuing and by next fall our goal is to provide school opportunities for all Navajo children.

The third major phase of our current program is to provide the adult Indians with better and broader opportunities to make a decent living. I am sure that an Oklahoma audience like this one needs no long-winded array of statistics to spotlight the problem of Indian poverty. Undoubtedly all of you have seen it first-hand and observed its withering effects both on the Indian people and on the general economy in and around the reservations. While it has been with us for many generations, I am personally unwilling to accept the defeatist attitude that it is part of the natural order of things and that nothing practical can be done about it. In fact, right now we are approaching this problem along two major lines.

One approach is the voluntary relocation program which I have already mentioned.

The other approach involves collaboration with people outside the Government on a new program aimed at building up and strengthening the local economy in some of the more important areas of Indian population. As a first step in this process, five outstanding citizens have recently agreed to take the lead in organizing a non-profit corporation to be known as American Indian Research Fund, Incorporated. These men are Mr. Lawrence F. Lee, past president of the United States Chamber of Commerce; Mr. David T. Beals, president of the Interstate National Bank of Kansas City, Missouri; Dr. Clyde Kluckhohn of Harvard University; Mr. William B. Given, Jr., chairman of the board of the American Brakeshoe Company; and Mr. Roswell Magill of the prominent New York law firm of Cravath, Swaine, and Moore. Because of their deep interest in the welfare of the Indian people and in the possibilities for economic development in Indian localities, they have agreed to give generously of their time without cost to the Government and have already taken some of the more important steps in the organization of the new corporation.

As the name of the new corporation indicates, it will be primarily concerned with research or economic surveys in the Indian localities. The thought is that these surveys would be financed by grants which we hope and expect will be forthcoming from some of the major private foundations and the actual survey work will be carried out under contract by research engineering firms with special experience and expertness in making studies of this type. The number of reservations to be surveyed will, of course, depend on the amount of funds made available to the new corporation and the cost of the survey work.

The purpose of the surveys will be to explore both the hidden and the visible resources of the reservation area, and perhaps the immediate periphery, and to provide a comprehensive factual picture of the economic development possibilities. In other words, each survey will provide a kind of prospectus for the area in question and will show whether it is possible to attract industry and what other practical steps might be taken to create a more dynamic and productive kind of local economy. The ultimate objective, of