



This plant at Belcourt is just one among 40 new industries that have been developed on or near Indian reservations in the past few years. Economic development has been a primary emphasis of the Bureau for the last four years, reflecting the concern of the Administration for the economic well-being of all Americans.

Does this industrial development effort pay off? I think the record speaks for itself. There are 1,500 Indians at work today who were jobless before new industries were brought into their areas through the Bureau's efforts. Meanwhile, business attracts more business, as the situation on the Eastern Cherokee Reservation in North Carolina proves. There are four plants there now, one of which is soon to be dedicated--and there is actually a shortage of Indian labor, as a result. But the whole economy of the areas has improved, with benefits accruing to non-Indians as well as to the Indians.

This is the kind of economic development that is helping break up pockets of poverty in the United States. It is the kind of economic development that we hope to see generated among the Indians of the Dakotas.

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