

The Committee expects to double the number of tutors involved in such programs during 1964.

The City of Chicago Commission on Youth Welfare, which has over 50 field-workers carrying on activities in 51 communities, serves to promote and coordinate neighborhood youth employment opportunities. It serves as a neighborhood information center about employment counseling and training resources for youth. It helps to mobilize neighborhood business and industry to provide work opportunities. It encourages the extension of local remedial programs such as college tutoring and follows up with personal contacts in individual cases where family problems are causing unemployment among youth.

It has organized a series of youth employment and opportunity conferences. The neighborhood worker is the on-the-spot representative of all Chicagoans who want to help our young people.

Throughout Chicago there are many other organizations which are carrying on neighborhood based programs covering a variety of activities in this field.

It would be quite proper for this Committee to ask why we are supporting the measures proposed by the President in light of the programs that are being carried out in Chicago. The fact is that many of these programs are only reaching a relatively small number of those who need help.

Other witnesses have given testimony concerning the increasing number of young people in our population. A survey of almost 144,000 of the unemployed men and women showed that fully 68 percent of the unemployed in Illinois had not finished high school and 17 percent had not even finished the eighth grade.

The census reports that in 1960 nearly 9 percent of the population in the city of Chicago, or a total of 190,000 persons, were functionally illiterate, and for Cook County 7½ percent were illiterate. The Nation as a whole reflects these figures showing a total of nearly 8 million or approximately 8 percent functionally illiterate.

In Chicago, we will continue to expand our programs as far as possible within our resources, but we will not be able to meet the urgent needs of many, many thousands of young persons and adults.

The passage of this Federal legislation will permit us to carry on vastly expanded programs and to initiate new programs so desperately needed by so many.

You have already heard experts' testimony concerning the contributions that the Civilian Conservation Corps made in the early thirties. Youth programs I have cited have proven themselves to be successful, but they may not be effective for many of our unemployed, uneducated, and impoverished youth.

In this area, the creation of a Job Corps holds a tremendous promise. There are many young people in our large cities who would benefit tremendously by being able to get away from their present urban surroundings. Under the leadership of trained personnel they would learn not only new skills, but habits of reliability and study. A Job Corps camp certainly is not a panacea for all the problems of our youth, but it can make a direct contribution to thousands of young people who would not ordinarily respond to training in their present environment.

In this testimony I have emphasized titles I and II of the proposed legislation. There has been a common assumption that our ability to find answers to economic and social issues would advance with the growth of specialized knowledge and functions, but it is becoming evident that our national tendency to deal with environmental problems piecemeal has prevented us from formulating a public policy and public responsibility for the broad human and social environment.

Of the greatest importance in the war against poverty is the recognition by President Johnson of the need for a comprehensive program. Certainly poverty is not only an urban problem, and title III, which outlines an attack upon poverty in rural areas, is of the greatest importance.

Programs to increase employment and investment incentives contained in title IV give much needed attention to small industry and small business. If we are to successfully attack all aspects of the problem of poverty, it is essential to have a broad program of research and demonstration projects in the area of family unity, which is provided in title V of the act.

The final title of the act concerning administration emphasizes coordination, which is the cornerstone of the war on poverty. In Chicago, we have appointed a committee on poverty which stresses a comprehensive, coordinated approach. The membership of this committee is composed of the heads of city departments and commissions, welfare and civic agencies, representatives of business