

one—research on the link between population control and poverty—on which the administration has so far remained conspicuously silent.

The whole enterprise is a natural for Democrats hungry to recreate some of the fervor of the New Deal days. Since the 3 Kennedy years were largely devoted to programs long sought by businessmen, it was especially necessary that the White House produce an issue like this in 1964. The issue came ready to hand. The rising pressure of the Negroes for a full share in the benefits of American life, coupled with a wider recognition of the damage being done to our society by neglect of the underprivileged at large, created a massive demand that cannot be met without an attack on poverty at large.

Governor WELSH. We have digested this down from original material an inch thick. We have left part of the explanatory text out for this committee so that we would not have an overlong statement. It has dropped.

Mr. QUIE. It has dropped. So when you say it reached 88,000 that means it reached down to it rather than up to it?

Governor WELSH. Apparently so.

Mr. QUIE. In using those words "reached" and "swelled," it makes it sound as though it is an increasing rate rather than a decreasing rate.

Governor WELSH. Not in percentage but in sheer numbers. The population has increased.

Mr. QUIE. The same is true of dropouts. You say 23,000 dropped out of school. There has been even a more substantial decrease in the number of dropouts on the national level over the years percentagewise, but not as great in total numbers. Would that not be the case in Indiana, the number of dropouts is less in 1964 than they were 10 years previous to that?

Governor WELSH. I am not familiar with the figures of 10 years ago.

Mr. LEROY. I think the point you are getting at is this, if I am catching the train of your thought, that as with the school dropout rate—where we have an average of approximately 40 percent school dropouts, if we were to go back to 1910, we would find in the comparison of figures that our school dropout rate has improved immeasurably.

Mr. QUIE. Or even 10 years ago?

Mr. LEROY. Or even 10 years ago. We would find our dropout rate has decreased approximately 5 percent. In other words, we are holding more young people in Indiana in school than ever before in the history of this country, this is true. But our rate of increase has been not so great. Our population has been increasing, and increasingly large numbers of people, because the population is increasing, are not completing school. The problem, as we see it, is this, that as the rate of technology is increasing, the demands made upon these young people are increasingly great. Their ability to fit into society today is certainly not at the same level as their ability was 10 years ago or 20 or 30 or 40. When we refer to figures and when we are talking about a given income rate, I probably don't have to tell you that things buy considerably less than they did then.

Mr. QUIE. You did not say that the total number of dropouts is higher than it was 10 years ago.

Mr. LEROY. I believe you would find that the case in Indiana.

Mr. QUIE. Then I would like to find out what makes Indiana so unique, because nationally there are a fewer number as well as a substantially lower percentage of dropouts.