

Mr. LANDRUM. The gentleman from California may proceed. I have no desire to interrupt him further.

Mr. BELL. Monsignor, relative to this youth program, title I, are you familiar with this particular feature?

Monsignor HIGGINS. Speaking of the Job Corps?

Mr. BELL. Of the Job Corps.

Monsignor HIGGINS. I am familiar with the bill. Of course, the administration of it is another matter.

Mr. BELL. You have, I am certain you have had a considerable amount of experience with the youth throughout the Nation in your efforts.

Monsignor HIGGINS. I have had some. We have a youth department which has had much more, that has a staff in that field, but I have had some, yes, sir.

Mr. BELL. I am concerned about the possibility as far as the Youth Corps is concerned of duplication of effort. I know that we have programs which the gentleman from New York and myself and I know the acting chairman have all supported. Programs such as manpower development and retraining and vocational education and many other programs that I think are also aimed at fighting poverty. We have just recently expanded these two programs adding to it basic education, and so on. My question to you is this: Would it not be a better and more direct approach to the solving of the employment problem or helping to solve the unemployment problem as far as the youth is concerned to go directly and educate them toward gaining new jobs rather than placing them in camps throughout the Nation that may or may not adequately train them for future jobs and economic gainful employment?

Monsignor HIGGINS. Congressman, in answering this particular question, I am speaking in my own name because our organization has taken no position on this section of the bill, to the best of my knowledge. But I would answer in substantially the same way that the Governor of North Carolina answered, that it has been my experience that useful as the other programs are that you have mentioned, and they will be better with the improvements that you have referred to, I can still see great merit personally in the Job Corps program for the reason that the Governor gave; namely, the need to, in many cases, give these youngsters the stimulation and the incentive that they need and that may in some cases require giving them an environment which will make it possible for them to develop those incentives.

I think the experience under the manpower program, at least this is my impression, would demonstrate that very often we are training those who need it least, not that they don't need it. Anyone who is trained under that program I am sure is benefiting from it. But the problem referred to by the Governor I think is a real one, of how to reach those who need it most and who normally would not apply even, as he said, if you gave them all kinds of encouragement. You almost have to lead them in. Therefore, I can see, myself, from my own experience, some merit in the Job Corps program as one approach to this problem of building up incentive. I do not say that it is the only way of doing it. I would be concerned, however, as I said earlier—and I think any clergyman would be, and you would expect them to be—I would be con-