

country our perhaps greatest concern is spiritual poverty. This is why I was so impressed.

Monsignor HIGGINS. It would be rather difficult to write a bill on that.

Mr. GOODELL. That is absolutely true. This is why I was so impressed with this part that I read from your pamphlet here because I agree so much that it is the material poverty which frequently breeds the bitterness and resentment and the hatred and the spiritual poverty is the breeding place for this also.

Thank you.

Mr. LANDRUM. Mr. Brademas.

Mr. BRADEMAs. I yield to Mr. Gill for a question.

Mr. GILL. Monsignor, I am not certain that we are reading section 204(b) in the same way. Of course I realize we are walking through a very delicate minefield here which can blow up and cripple the participants and the bill as well. What 204(b) says is that the elementary and secondary education program assisted under this section shall be administered by the public education agency or agencies. Now, I am not sure that that prohibits a situation where a county school board, public agency, could set up a program where different sections of the training was done in the public schools and conceivably even in the parochial schools as long as the programs were administered by the county school board.

Monsignor HIGGINS. Well, I would have to yield to the committee in interpreting this section. It is quite possible that that interpretation is the one that was meant, but it is my impression from the line of questioning which has been followed in some of the previous meetings of the committee that that perhaps was not the intention, the one that you referred to is not the real intention of the language but, rather, it was meant to say that nonprivate schools may not participate in the program.

I must yield to the committee in interpreting its own bill.

Mr. GILL. My suggestion is that the language here does not say that the nonpublic school cannot participate insofar as their facilities, their personnel, whatever other training accouterments there are.

It merely says the program in that area will be administered by the public agency.

Monsignor HIGGINS. Yes, sir.

Mr. GILL. In other words, in the town situation that you posed here, the public agency, if there was one, would have to have the money. They could not hand it over to your parochial school and say "you set up the program."

Monsignor HIGGINS. But, you see, in many States, Congressman, the very constitution of the State would prohibit the State agency from doing that. That is why, in the case of the school lunch program, a formula had to be devised which would in those cases make it possible for the Federal administrator of the program to deal directly with another system.

Again, I do not want to pretend or appear to be toothcombing this thing constitutionally, but I raise the question so that hopefully it will be given a complete hearing by the committee in its own session.

Mr. GILL. I think we certainly will have to take a good look at the language to see what is really meant here. Frankly, I do not see any problem that cannot be surmounted here with proper administration.