

Monsignor HIGGINS. In many States, Congressman, if you provided Federal assistance for this purpose and required that it be administered through the public education agency, the State constitution would prohibit you from doing that. Not in all States.

Mr. GILL. That being a special problem—even in that case, I do not see anything that would prevent the public school agency from saying to the parochial school, if it was a good one in the area: "Can you send us over two remedial teachers in a certain field for a certain length of time, we will take care of their expenses"?

Monsignor HIGGINS. My question is where the students will get their training. Presumably the public educational agency could hire anybody it wanted.

Mr. GILL. Surely.

Monsignor HIGGINS. And would hire the best people it could find. But I am concerned with the type of problem that the Governor raised earlier this morning, of whether it is psychologically and practically feasible to expect to implement the purposes of this act if it is restricted to one type of educational system—that is where the children would have to go over to this other school. That is why I cited the case which I don't think is purely hypothetical, of children, the predominant number of children, in some towns maybe all the children being in a parochial school. Would it not be possible to write the language in the bill in such a way that for the limited purpose of this bill, which has nothing to do with sectarian education, it would be possible for those children to receive whatever remedial services the Federal Government was going to assist in providing in the school which they actually attend.

I personally think, as a nonprofessional educator, that psychologically it would be better for the children to be doing that, but that is another matter.

Mr. GILL. You would have no objection to supplying personnel and facilities or training techniques and aids for training in an area which is not part of your sectarian school, would you?

Monsignor HIGGINS. No. I am not arguing against the public school doing everything it can in every conceivable way.

Mr. GILL. You would be willing to assist them, too, would you not?

Monsignor HIGGINS. By all means.

Mr. BRADEMAs. Monsignor Higgins, I have no questions to ask you but I might say we are very pleased to have our Chairman, Mr. Perkins, with us today, who had a little stomach upset the other day. We are glad to have him back hale and hearty.

I might say to you, sir, how grateful we are for your testimony. I think there are few organizations that have shown a greater interest in the difficult social and economic problems than the Department of Social Action of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. I know you have long been identified with this work and that you have given great leadership to us in Congress and elsewhere in the country in facing up to some of these problems, so that I am not surprised to see you here today, nor am I surprised by the intelligence of your testimony. I appreciate your being here.

Monsignor HIGGINS. Thank you very much, Congressman.

Mr. LANDRUM. Thank you, Monsignor.