

moving one person from the farm to the city and he is just moving from one depressed area to similar conditions in other surroundings.

Mr. JOHNSON. I would like to say, further, that these rural families are not as far beyond help as you might imagine. If we use supervised credit of the Farmers Home Administration, if the county supervisors will work together with the teachers of vocational education, to set up special classes for these people, involving all the agencies, here is where the community cooperation of this program can be effectively used.

These people can become skilled in agricultural pursuits. It is just a matter of being capitalized, and with a little assistance in bookkeeping and planning that the Farmers Home Administration has been doing very effectively all these years in connection with its lending program.

Mr. HOLLAND. I agree with you 100 percent. I think you have made a very fine presentation.

Mr. JOHNSON. Thank you very much.

Mr. PERKINS. Mr. Gibbons.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Johnson, do you envision this program in title III as just affecting the older farmer, the one who is perhaps on a subsistence level but yet not quite too old to work; too old to retrain, to move off into some other area?

Mr. JOHNSON. No; I think if I were administering the program I would give priority to this type of operator under the program. But in many areas we have young families struggling to try to get started in the farming business, who have young families. It has always been a kind of strange thing to me to see these young families on farms—during the period when they needed a dishwasher or a washing machine most they didn't have them. They rear all their children, and most of them raised big families, then you begin to see a washing machine once in a while. These young families in many areas also have the same problem of not having sufficient capital.

I don't know whether you could say that the needs of one of these groups is more important than the needs of the other. They have the same basic problem, regardless of age. I don't think it is a matter of just aged people in rural America in the context of the need for this program, there are many young people and there may be some in between these groups that need help.

I think they can be identified rather easily. In other words, you don't have to go through a lot of rigmarole to try to find out where and who they are. You ride through the country or walk in the yard and see where and who they are. You know where they are and who they are when you see them and the conditions under which they live. So I don't visualize that administering the program and identifying the families that have needs for these grants and loans is difficult to work out. On the other hand, it is a very simple matter.

Mr. GIBBONS. Would these people be farming primarily to keep themselves off relief; in other words, to provide the food that they need there on the farm, or would they be farming primarily to produce cash crops to go into commercial channels?

Mr. JOHNSON. I happen to come out of the "hill country" myself. The people who live in these communities are the proudest people in