

Miss MOFFETT. They might have. I think the Federal Government could. You asked "could." There wasn't the legislation to allow it but I think that at one time we made a proposal that these children be taken to a nearby abandoned camp and young people be brought in to teach the children. This would have been a Federal project. But the Federal Government is not free to move into Prince Edward County with an educational system. The field has been preempted.

Mr. QUIE. I know there was not any money but I was wondering if we had a program.

Miss MOFFETT. If legislatively that had been possible, the program could have been done by a Federal agency.

Mr. QUIE. Do you think it would have worked as well?

Miss MOFFETT. I think so.

Is your question whether you need local involvement to make these things work?

Mr. QUIE. Yes.

Miss MOFFETT. If so, you do. Whether it is in response to Government initiative or private initiative, you need local involvement.

Mr. PERKINS. Mr. Dent.

Mr. DENT. Without detracting from the value of proposals and suggestions relating educational and juvenile delinquency phases of this program, I want to compliment the witness for touching on something that is more directly in line with our present struggle to wipe out poverty. As we plan, many of the features of this act go into the planning for tomorrow's winning of the war on poverty. I notice on page 11, you touched on, just slightly, but very pointedly, the things I believe ought to be done now. I do not believe that the program can move forward to achieve a base strictly on poverty until we move into the area of social security, and until we move into the area of unemployment compensation. If there was any valid reason for having social security passed in 1935, 1936, and 1937 and perfected, then there is more valid reason today to implement it and make it work. This is the one program, these are the props, that through the years have kept this poverty situation from becoming as explosive as it is now. However, it has carried as much as it can carry under the old concepts of social security and unemployment compensation.

Mr. Chairman, I do believe, and I have made this point for the last 8 or 10 years, that our failure to update social security, our failure to make unemployment compensation work in every area of our industrial complex, farming, mining, and industrial, has been probably the greatest contributor to the present crisis in poverty in our country. As we lower the number of years that a man has to produce, whether it is through automation or any other outside influence in the area of production of goods, as we lower the number of hours required to make things, certainly in the bottom we have to increase the number of years that we send children to school to be better prepared for the new type of operation and then reduce the number of years that a person has to work.

We seem to have completely forgotten that in the past 30 years.

Of all the witnesses who have come before us, at least the young lady who is presently addressing us has put her finger on what I think is the most vital part of the program, and it is not covered under any conditions in the war on poverty.