

Mr. GIBBONS. Do you feel it makes second-class citizens out of teachers? Does it really affect their income, say, "Well, you got your education partly for free or mostly for free and we are going to take it out of your pay anyway"?

Mr. GORDON. I don't know. I think originally it was to encourage teachers. I don't think it does that. I don't think most people have gone into the teaching profession.

Mr. GIBBONS. Does it have the effect of making people look down on teachers to say, "Well, the only reason you are a teacher is because you got your education free"?

Mr. GORDON. I don't believe so.

Dr. YOUNG. Mr. Crawford may have some comment.

Mr. CRAWFORD. I agree with Mr. Sennett that I do not like the idea of the forgiveness feature, particularly since it applied to teachers, but I would not like it anywhere for a category. If Congress wished to forgive a certain amount for all who went to college that would be a different story. That would be essentially the grants you are talking about. But to pick out casually, I don't like it but so far as teachers are concerned, I don't like it at all.

Mr. GIBBONS. That is interesting. The teacher lobby doesn't tell us the same thing.

Mr. MOULTON. I don't have strong opinions on this one way or the other. I am not involved in it. I was sitting here thinking, however, that if a student in a very expensive college such as Bowdoin manages to borrow \$3,000 and is paying it back on a 10-year basis and is forgiven \$1,500 of it, that represents only \$150 a year. I don't think that a teacher, or for that matter any other group of people, is going to feel extremely pinched for \$150 a year.

Mr. GRINDLE. I have rather mixed feelings about it because it strikes me personally. I was married when I went to college, myself, and self-supporting, and borrowed national defense money and went into teaching and did get a cancellation.

I might comment that I signed a contract to teach school the first year for \$3,900—married and two children. While paying back \$150 or \$200 or whatever it is, I would have done it had I had to. Certainly it was a welcome relief at the end of the year to receive this grace. I am very thankful for it. I don't know how many teachers start at \$3,900 any more. I know they start in Maine for about \$4,700 now. Outside of Maine, they start for a great deal more. Our placement director tells us that those who go into industry or government or whatnot start for anywhere from \$1,500 to \$2,000 more a year than those who go into education. So that theoretically, keeping in mind the era out of which this program was born—the post-Sputnik era—and the great charge ahead for excellence in teaching, I don't have any strong feelings that forgiveness is bad. That was nearly 10 years ago.

The need to attract people I think is still here but the need to cancel may not be here. I really don't know. I don't have strong feelings on it one way or the other. But I don't think that the country has suffered. I don't think the teaching profession has suffered because of