

Mr. RUSSELL. Yes.

Mr. QUIE. You don't have any connection with that, then?

Mr. NICKERSON. Yes, we do.

Mr. QUIE. Do you make the contract with the shoe manufacturing company?

Mr. NICKERSON. With the school system which in turn makes the arrangements with the industry as such. So everything is channeled through the——

Mr. QUIE. Educational system?

Mr. NICKERSON. Yes.

Turning to the Economic Opportunity Act, we are involved in the Neighborhood Youth Corps and the administration of this title. In the beginning, the State of Maine served as the coordinating agency, the department of education coordinating agency, for local Neighborhood Youth projects. This, I think, is a little interesting because while this was approved in the beginning, then there was some thinking that perhaps it should not be done in this way and now they have returned to thinking that this is a good way.

This is well adapted to the State of Maine. The department operates 73 projects in cooperation with the local school system and is assisting 800 students in this fashion to return to school or to stay in school.

It has also contributed in performing useful work in the school systems or in the community.

Mr. GIBBONS. Are all Neighborhood Youth Corps programs run through the State?

Mr. NICKERSON. They are this year. That was not true last year. Most of them were but there were a few of the larger school systems that operated them separately. This year they are all channeled through the State department.

Under title II, part B, the adult basic education programs—this is one which is giving us a little concern at the present time. It is not because of the repeal of the title and the transfer of the administration of adult education to the U.S. Office of Education, because we do consider that the transfer to the U.S. Office of Education of adult education is highly desirable. But we have a problem at the present time with this transfer involving no State matching funds or allowance for any State administration.

Unless some solution is forthcoming, Maine's II-B programs may come to an end.

Mr. GIBBONS. I don't understand that. Will you explain that to me? I knew there was a good reason why I voted against that.

Mr. NICKERSON. We have several adult education programs, but this is the basic one which is for those with less than an eighth grade education. We have been able through a staff member to promote and to assist local school systems in offering this type of program. Being an educational program, I presume, is the basic reason for its having been transferred from its home there in Economic Opportunity to U.S. Office of Education.

Mr. GIBBONS. How does it affect your matching money?

Mr. NICKERSON. The person in charge, the director of the program, has been subsidized or paid through Federal funds entirely in the