

Mr. GIBBONS. I see why your representative supports this program so vigorously. I see that amount of money.

Mr. EATON. I am pleased to know that he has.

We also have had programs under title I, title II, and title III, Elementary and Secondary Education Act. I call particular attention to the title III program, which is a program for the entire State of Maine. Bangor was kind enough to act as the applicant and receive and administer the moneys for this program which brings a fine professional chamber orchestra to the State. This is a highly professional group which divides itself into four ensembles, and these ensembles travel throughout the State, two string quartets, one woodwind quintet, and a brass quintet. This is a highly innovative and highly successful program. So highly successful that New Hampshire wants to pay a part of the program.

I think you will see something of a further innovation of two States sharing the same program.

In fiscal year 1968, however, we have some difficulty in this because under present guidelines in the U.S. Office of Education we are unable to get approval of program for fiscal 1968 until after May 1. In fact, I understand they don't want any submission for approval until after May 1. If we are going to retain these musicians under contract, I think we are going to have to get some kind of sanction either by the U.S. Office or take a real flyer, ourselves, and hire the musicians.

Right now we don't know exactly how to get around this. This is a difficulty not only here, but in many other programs that we have where we are not sure they are going to continue into the next school year. It is difficult to employ teachers, and they should be employed by March 1 or during March because this is the time for the reemployment of teachers. So we have a timing difficulty here with which I am sure the U.S. Office is concerned because there was a question, like in the questionnaire sent out by your committee, concerning this particular point.

Mr. HATHAWAY. This group travels around the State?

Mr. EATON. Yes.

Mr. HATHAWAY. Instruction as well as music?

Mr. EATON. No. This is performance, not instruction. Music in Maine has not gotten into the instruction business. The attempt is to motivate, and already this motivation has brought good results, and some communities are providing or plan to provide more instruction in music than we have heretofore.

Mr. COATS. They do provide workshops, though.

Mr. EATON. That is true, the director, who is a competent conductor, I would say of national repute, does conduct workshops with music personnel.

Mr. MERCIER. This is not entirely a musical assembly, however. It is an instructional type of program where they explain to the youngsters the type of instruments and the background of the instruments and then follow up. So it is really a combination.

Mr. HATHAWAY. Carried on during regular classroom hours?

Mr. MERCIER. During the regular school hours.

Mr. CIARAVINO. They also put on a demonstration of the different instruments.