

Dr. DEHART. Once we are fully reorganized, and they have not started on us yet here, I think we can set up an organization that will establish uniform services throughout all the States of the region. Actually if we have the funds to travel, the distances are not so great but that we can get back and forth quite conveniently.

Mr. QUIE. What part will you play in the guidelines? One of the criticisms we have is that the guidelines are changed and the guidelines come out before the project has to be in. Do you have any feedback on guidelines to the U.S. Office, on how it ought to operate because of the peculiar interest problems of your region?

Dr. DEHART. Up to the present time the guidelines have been defined in Washington and mailed from Washington directly to the local constituent. The region eventually gets copies of them. The program people get copies of them usually before I do.

Mr. GIBBONS. You mean they don't consult you in developing the guidelines?

Dr. DEHART. They don't consult me. I am the general administrator. Some of the program people from time to time are called to Washington to do program work. I suspect they have had a voice to some extent in developing some of the guidelines but not all of them.

My colleague, Dr. Johnson on my right, has been called to Washington on program matters. We do feel that the Office of Education has been quite deficient, though, in making as much use of valuable services, services we think would be valuable, of experienced field staff in sharing from the beginning the development of new programs.

Mr. GIBBONS. Tell us briefly the development of the field staff here. How long has it been in existence and when did it start?

Dr. DEHART. Back in 1950, with the functional advent of the school systems program in federally affected areas, one regional person was placed in each region. At that time I served New England out of the New York office. There was not a resident person here.

That program grew and has been conducted, I think, quite admirably. In 1958 with the passage of the National Defense Education Act, after the implementation of the act, I should say, in 1959, Dr. Johnson was placed here in New England in charge of the student assistance work and other details related to the higher education parts of the act. That staff has grown as the act has been amended and services have been demanded by the field, until now Dr. Johnson has a total staff of four professionals and a small clerical staff.

Then in 1960, when Dr. Derthick was Commissioner, he crystallized the thinking that had been discussed for a long time about the advisability of really extending the field staff of the Office of Education.

Between November 1959 and February 1960, a Commissioner's representative was placed in each region. I reported here February 8, 1960. We were not directly supervising the programs. The contact with program people has always been directly with program supervisors and leaders in Washington.

The Commissioner's representatives were assigned what was termed administrative supervision of the office, and to work with the regional director and on matters of educational concern, and to represent education in cooperation with related efforts of other Federal agencies, the welfare people—