

Dr. JOHNSON. No, I don't think so.

Mr. GIBBONS. You think Congress will have to tell them?

Dr. JOHNSON. That is right. Something will have to be provided there so that we can get this kind of information directly and accurately.

Dr. DEHART. One suggestion, Mr. Gibbons, has been made to me from time to time. I can remember only one distinguished person who made it a number of years ago and that was Dr. James Allen, a good friend of mine, now commissioner of education in New York State. But the suggestion runs along something like this: that education or the Federal interest in education is spread over so many Federal agencies that poor man down here, Mr. John X. Public, is just baffled. Even professional men, heads of colleges and public school districts and State commissioners, do not know where to go to be sure that he can take advantage of everything that is available to him. They would like to see programs that are educational put in one office.

Mr. GIBBONS. Let me ask you something along that line right now. Let us talk about the Office of Economic Opportunity.

While it is not directly connected with what you are doing I assume that their regional office is somewhere in this area. Is that true?

Dr. DEHART. It is in New York.

Mr. GIBBONS. In the New England area is the closest contact you have with them in New York?

Dr. DEHART. Yes, sir. I will say this, however. They frequently visit New England and the officers down there have been most co-operative.

Mr. GIBBONS. You have a great many programs in which there are ties and some people say overlaps between OEO and the Office of Education.

Is there any attempt at a regional level to coordinate these problems?

Dr. DEHART. Yes, there is a requirement in the rules and regulations that under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and projects under title II of OEO the Community Action people working with OEO money and the State education department and local educators review each other's programs to be sure that the benefits to the same group are not duplicated, and to insure that the purposes of these acts to help the poor are really being carried out.

Now we have experienced in a practical manner—and I am thinking now only of these programs that affect elementary and secondary education—we have found that the education people and the Community Action people have not known really how to get together.

In some cases they have not been willing to get together and there has been a little of the attitude developed we find in some of the Community Action agencies that one agency has the right to veto the other project.

Mr. GIBBONS. We found that in Maine yesterday.

Dr. DEHART. Well, we found it all over New England. It is an unfortunate thing. Again it is a lack of experience. Education has been rather aloof unfortunately from some other segments of society that it should have been close to.

I think the same thing can be said about health and welfare people. I think we are at the beginning of the period when people are realizing we must work together if we are going to satisfy human needs.