

projects that would be of interest to both Neighborhood Youth Corps and title I (education of the disadvantaged) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

The Office of Education must also maintain close contact with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, since at the present time all architectural and engineering services for construction of facilities are provided by this Department. It is my understanding that eventually these services will be transferred to the Office of Education.

In the summer and early fall of 1966, joint meetings were held in each State with representatives of Health, Education, and Welfare. These meetings were designed to promote better coordination of services.

It is evident that a great deal of overlapping occurs now in the services available for children in the agencies of Health, Education, and Welfare. The States, in turn, have been making an attempt to pass this idea for better coordination down to the local agencies concerned.

The Office of Education in Atlanta maintains contact with all of the professional educational associations in the States, the region, and the Nation. Staff members of the Office hold positions in regional and national associations. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, which is the accrediting agency for Southern States, is headquartered in Atlanta, and the Office maintains a close relationship with this organization.

We have also been interested in and worked with various foundations concerned with education. There are five regional laboratories which cover some of region IV. The research adviser on the staff of the Atlanta office has made contact with two of these laboratories and plans to work with all of them to promote the cause of education in this region. The research adviser reported for duty about a month ago.

I would like to call to the attention of the committee some areas of needs so far as the office is concerned.

It is a known fact that in student financial aid, this region has the poorest collection record on loans that have been made to students. I would like to call attention to the fact that with the large number of colleges and universities in this region, we need additional staff to serve the institutions properly and to help them in setting up proper procedures for making collections on loans. With the present staff it is impossible to make frequent personal contacts that are necessary to improve the collection procedure.

In the area of adult and vocational education, we need representation in library services and construction. We also need a position in the area of health occupations. There is a great emphasis on training people in this broad category.

If title III projects of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and small research projects are approved here we will desperately need a contracts officer to negotiate the contracts. This is now a bottleneck in the Office in Washington, and if we are going to be of better service to our clients we need someone here on the staff to negotiate contracts. The position has been established, and the person has been selected but cannot be appointed until the freeze is lifted.

I cannot close this statement without emphasizing the need for more travel funds. Personnel who are located in the field and are expected to keep constant contact with clientele are practically useless when sitting in the office.

My understanding is that funds for travel have been cut by approximately 50 percent, and that we are now at the end of the third quarter so far as funds are concerned, even though we are still in the second quarter of the fiscal year chronologically.

Madam Chairman, thank you for the privilege of appearing before you and the committee. My colleagues and I would be happy to attempt to answer any questions which you and members of the committee may ask.

Mrs. GREEN. Thank you very much.

Without any objection, the exhibits to which you refer will be made a part of the record.

(Documents referred to follow:)