

Mrs. GREEN. You were administering title V?

Dr. HOPPER. Title V, Public Law 89-10.

Mrs. GREEN. And you came here in July?

Dr. HOPPER. Yes.

Mrs. GREEN. What is your relationship to the regional director of HEW?

Dr. HOPPER. It is one of having known the individual for several years, but no official day-to-day responsibilities. The coordination of our laboratory is with the Laboratory Division, Bureau of Research, in Washington.

Mrs. GREEN. And it is completely separate and apart from the regional Office of Education?

Dr. HOPPER. Yes.

Mrs. GREEN. Do you think this is good?

Dr. HOPPER. I think so; yes.

You see, our laboratory is a private corporation, nonprofit, so certified by the Internal Revenue Bureau, and as it represents the educational civic forces of the three-State area, it needs to be independent, and has such independence from the Office of Education.

Mrs. GREEN. It is entirely independent from the Office of Education.

Dr. HOPPER. Yes.

Mrs. GREEN. To whom are you responsible?

Dr. HOPPER. I am responsible to a 12-member board of directors.

Mrs. GREEN. For this region?

Dr. HOPPER. That is correct, which employed me as the director.

Mrs. GREEN. And you are not responsible to the Office of Education at all?

Dr. HOPPER. Not as such; no.

Mrs. GREEN. And yet, the funds come from the Office of Education?

Dr. HOPPER. That is correct. We make application to the Office of Education. We have a contract through which the funds flow.

Mrs. GREEN. What is the relationship of your office and the other regional labs to the State departments of education?

Dr. HOPPER. It varies from laboratory to laboratory, since, under the wording of title IV, 89-10, groups of people in various regions could develop their own structure to form a laboratory.

In this particular region, our structure provides for representation from the State agencies, so of the 12 board members, two are from State agencies, to whom I report. The Governor of each State appoints representation to our 16-member council, and this council elects the board, so that we have direct activity with the State agencies, in situations of higher learning, local school systems, the whole network of educational operations.

Mrs. GREEN. I am not confining my remarks to this region, but because we are here, let me direct them to you.

Do you see any basis of conflict when the regional labs are entirely funded by the Federal Government, and by the Office of Education, and you are in no way responsible to them in reporting and you have no responsibility to report to the regional office.

Do you see the possibility for conflict with State departments of education?