

Dr. HOPPER. You mean have they specifically cut back on the number of dollars I personally may spend for travel?

We have specified in our contract a budget, including a specific amount for travel. We seek to operate within that budget, and we are certain that the budget is considerably less than we requested of the Office of Education. So once we get the contract, my responsibility is to operate within that budget.

Mrs. GREEN. I was thinking of the regional commissioner. He said they had had a 50-percent cutback. Would yours compare to that?

Dr. HOPPER. What we would like to do, I suppose, might approach that, but the laboratories, as a new educational force, have not been funded at a level where any of them were able to operate as they probably should to have the greatest impact.

Mr. ERLBORN. If I might interrupt at that point. Since this is under a contract, it would appear to me the Office of Education will have lost control once this has been cut into. They could not cut back on the educational items for travel, nor could they provide for a freeze in hiring, because once the contract has been entered into for the contract period, the Office of Education no longer has any control.

Is that correct?

Dr. HOPPER. Except reporting control.

Mr. ERLBORN. But they could not vary the terms of the contract to reduce the amount of funds available?

Dr. HOPPER. There are, as in all Federal contracts, of course, provisions for amendments of contract; yes.

Mr. ERLBORN. Renegotiation?

Dr. HOPPER. Renegotiation; yes.

Mr. ERLBORN. Might I ask: Prior to the establishment of the regional laboratories, what was the extent of the research done by the Office of Education in curriculum development?

Dr. HOPPER. As Dr. Findley indicated, in the National Science Foundation, as well as in other localities, with other sources of support, there has been a growing research base. The Office of Education, of course, was starting out with less than a million dollars in 1956, building it on into, oh, as late as 1964 and 1965, when it passed the \$10 million level.

The National Science Foundation had a much heavier investment. I don't have the figures at my fingertips, but I think most people estimate that in this day and age the Federal Government is spending in excess of a hundred million dollars a year now.

Mr. ERLBORN. In curriculum development?

Dr. HOPPER. In curriculum development, not only in the Office of Education, but the National Science Foundation and elsewhere.

Mr. ERLBORN. As I understand it, the National Science Foundation develops curriculum only in the physical sciences. Is that correct?

Dr. HOPPER. In sciences and mathematics. They do have some materials now in the social sciences.

Mr. ERLBORN. Is there any overlapping of the curriculum development in the Office of Education? Do they get into the same areas as the National Science Foundation? Or do they try to coordinate their efforts so that they stay out of the field in which the National Science Foundation is involved?