

the bills we have passed, with the one exception, and that is vocational education.

This is an area where we must expand the programs. Otherwise, we are going to pay for it in other ways which will be much more expensive.

The reason in Oregon that we have not provided adequate vocational education is that it is more costly than just an academic program.

Across the country, we have refused to provide the funds that are necessary for vocational education for those who are not going on to college, and we have refused to spend the few hundred dollars per pupil per year, and now, when the youngster drops out of school, we turn to a crash program such as the Job Corps, where the average cost per boy per year, in 1965, was \$9,100, and the average cost per girl per year, in 1965, was \$8,400, with the individual costs in certain Job Corps camps going up to \$13,000 per year per student.

If there is anything that proves the statement that society is going to either pay for the education of the boy, or the ignorance of the man, I think these statistics prove it.

But with that in mind, I hope that there will be a real push for the program that Dr. Venn has outlined. In Dr. Venn we are going to find outstanding leadership.

Dr. MULLING. We are quite pleased.

And I want to say, so that you don't misunderstand me, we have developed a rather extensive system. At the completion of our construction program next fall, we will have 25 of these in operation, and we think this is making a considerable difference in the educational pattern.

However, at the high school level, we do not have very much. We are making a move at the high school level. It is slow, but we feel it is significant, and will be more so.

Mrs. GREEN. I hope my State of Oregon and your State of Georgia both push on this

But where do we have the dropouts?

Dr. MULLING. They are in the high school program. No doubt about it. And we are losing nearly half of ours before they get through high school. And we think this is critical.

And I think one of the points Dr. Venn makes, that we must give some orientation at the junior high school level, is essential if we are to ever do anything about this.

We are very much in favor of it, and I hope some provision will be made for the funding of this program, because it has been left out in everything that has been done.

Mrs. GREEN. Congressman Erlenborn?

Mr. ERLENBOORN. In your statement you say that there is concern in the States growing out of the reorganization of the Office of Education. Can you explain why?

Dr. MULLING. Well, let me say to you at this point our concern is not as great as it was before Dr. Venn came on the scene. We had a great deal of concern about this business of levels, and whereas vocational education now is a division within a bureau, it is not comparable to higher education, or elementary and secondary education, and we feel it is just as important.