

It is recommended that experienced and able elementary and secondary school men and women be placed in positions of authority along with the lawyers and college students.

Appreciation is expressed for the opportunity of presenting the material herein to Members of the Congress.

Thank you.

Mrs. GREEN. Thank you very much.

Mr. Clifton.

STATEMENT OF A. D. CLIFTON, SUPERINTENDENT, CANDLER COUNTY SCHOOLS, METTER, GA.

Mr. CLIFTON. I am A. D. Clifton, superintendent of Candler County schools, Metter, Ga.

Our system is a small system with 1,716 students and 84 teachers; 1,094 of the students are transported. Eighteen of the 84 teachers are paid in part or in full from Federal funds administered from the U.S. Office through the State department of education.

We have only three schools, and all of them qualify for title I funds under Public Law 89-10. Our allotment is a little more than \$130,000, and we have what we think is an excellent program.

Five of our teachers are vocational teachers, and part of the funds for these programs come from Federal funds administered from the U.S. Office of Education through the State department of education.

I feel that this arrangement, whereby the U.S. Office of Education works out agreements with the State department of education, and local systems work with the State departments, is a good arrangement.

I feel that the U.S. Office of Education is making the right approach when it assists with finances and encourages local systems to develop their own programs. Through this approach there will be many innovative programs that will help students to greater achievement than there would be if the U.S. Office of Education prescribed the programs for the schools that participate. This is assistance without local control. This, I think, is the business of the Office of Education.

However, I think the progress of education has been hindered when educational programs, such as Headstart, have been permitted to be operated by agencies other than the schools.

When the Federal Government decided to use the schools as the medium through which the civil rights laws would be enforced, they imposed problems upon the schools that have made it very difficult to make the progress that needs to be made in education.

When the U.S. Office of Education exercises the control over the use of Federal funds, and cuts off these funds when school systems cannot or will not comply with certain guidelines, in many cases the students that have the greatest need of education are the ones that are deprived the most from lack of these programs financed with Federal funds.

In my opinion, this is too much Federal control.

The U.S. Office of Education has had a serious lack of communication with the local school boards and local people. This has been brought about by: