

The subcommittee's economic investigations will focus on the new Great Society developments in order that the Congress and the public can have a more precise knowledge of their scope, their mode of operation, and their effect on the economy. Such information is vitally necessary to the Congress in making wise decisions on programs intended to reduce poverty and bring about economic and social improvement. (Committee press release, Sept. 7, 1965.)

The request for cooperation was sent to heads of departments and agencies responsible for programs that appeared to be clearly within the range of the inquiry, and these were listed in the questionnaire pamphlet. A similar letter was sent to heads of all other departments and agencies, with a request that the committee be advised if the particular organization was responsible for any programs that were judged pertinent to the study.

PROGRAMS TO BE DESCRIBED

The advance list covered those domestic activities of the Federal Government which committee staff identified as either concerned primarily with the maintenance or development of individuals or as having, as a secondary effect, a substantial impact on the development of our human resources.

In selecting programs for description, the respondents were advised as follows:

In each case, the test should be whether or not the program or activity is concerned primarily with the maintenance or development of people or has a substantial impact on the conservation and development of human resources.

Several agencies that were not represented in the original list suggested programs that, in their view, met this test. In most of these instances, formal replies to the questionnaire were invited and received.

Agencies with programs named in the original staff inventory were invited to modify, extend, or curtail the list in the light of their informal judgment and closer relationships to the programs. Comparatively few departments and agencies made such changes before preparing responses, although the tentative nature of the initial selection was emphasized in meetings and conversations with agency staffs.

The initial request, issued early in September 1965, called for replies by October 25, 1965. Before that deadline, however, in response to requests from several departments and agencies, the chairman postponed the deadline to January 28, 1966, and two of the descriptive questions (Nos. 4 and 6) were modified to call for data consistent with the President's budget for fiscal year 1967 and the President's program for legislation or for administrative and organizational changes that might be set forth in messages to be transmitted to Congress during January 1966. (The questionnaire as reproduced in pt. III incorporates questions 4 and 6 in amended form.)

TIMING AND RESPONSIVENESS OF REPLIES

Several departments and agencies formulated their replies before the extension of time was announced. A few transmitted these materials