

operation frequently before the community action groups got underway.

Secondly, in the beginning of any new program as complex as title I, I think you have great room for misunderstanding. We feel, however, at this point, that with the number of communities where there was a good relationship, where the community groups and the school groups did get along well together, that the value from this cooperation far outnumbered the groups where we did have difficulties.

We think we have made improvements. We have worked with OEO in developing procedures that would eliminate the kinds of problems that you are mentioning at this point.

Mr. BELL. In some instances the local school boards and OEO were interpreting this as a veto power on the part of the CAP agencies. That is what is wrong.

Mr. ESTES. The local school board does have the responsibility for administering the program under title I, and it is the sole responsible agent for these funds.

Mr. BELL. You are making that clear.

Chairman PERKINS. Can you complete in one more question?

Mr. BELL. I yield to Mr. Pucinski.

Mr. PUCINSKI. Commissioner, I just wanted to ask you about one thing.

We spent \$987 million, almost \$1 billion, in fiscal 1966, and another \$1 billion in fiscal 1967, which amounts to a little more than \$1,000 per child in compensatory education, the youngsters entitlements.

How is this program working? Do you have any tests, studies, or surveys to show that these youngsters in the culturally deprived schools are having some improvements in their academic achievements as a result of this kind of assistance over the last 2 years?

Mr. HOWE. Yes, Mr. Pucinski; I think we do. Let me say, first of all, that because this operates as a highly decentralized program in which the essential program is at the local level and then to the State, that our communications process takes time in getting some assessment. We are beginning to get that.

We will deliver to the Congress within 2 weeks our first publication in this realm of assessment. It will be a report of individual State reports just on the point you raise.

Mr. PUCINSKI. Will there be some results of some testing and various other methods to show us completely, and show the country, that this has been a wise investment?

Mr. HOWE. There will be some examples of this from different States, not from all States. All States did not get their assessment procedures into line with the same efficiency.

Mr. PUCINSKI. Commissioner, there has been a great deal of discussion here today about the inevitability of some sort of a construction program. This apparently is the great problem that our local communities are faced with.

We passed a school bond issue in Chicago yesterday for \$25 million, and we passed a 15-percent increase in the levy, and various other things. But even that just barely touches the surface.

Would you consider amending the impacted areas bill to provide one-half of the cost of educating youngsters at the local level who live in public housing units? This is where the greatest need exists for con-