

In some States, there is a postgraduate requirement for teacher certification, and the teaching profession generally regards the real professional training as coming in the postgraduate realm.

I think this allies itself with what really has been progress in the requirements for becoming a teacher.

Mr. STEIGER. But don't we in a sense almost work against ourselves? The Teacher Corps and its concept is aimed at trying to help the culturally deprived and the disadvantaged child by making available to him more professional training and yet more individual training.

The higher the requirements, the longer it is for an individual to achieve that place in his training at which he can then go and help these people. This is my concern, to be honest with you, as to whether or not this kind of a requirement given the purpose of the corps would not be contradictory, or whether or not we should make some kind of a change to broaden the scope, to allow others, even though they don't achieve the professional level of a bachelor's degree or a master's degree.

Can you involve more individuals in your program if you went that other direction?

Mr. HOWE. I think there is a lot of appeal in this. One of the authorities we will have as a result of this new Higher Education amendments proposal which is coming along, will be to train teacher aides, for example. Teacher aides don't require 2 full years of training, as we are suggesting in the Teacher Corps.

But coming back to the Teacher Corps itself, it is addressed to finding those people who really want to stick with this through their lives. This isn't a quickie business for this group. We are looking for people who want to make that kind of commitment. Therefore, if they are going to be successful teachers in school systems that have high standards of employment, they will benefit in the long run by having postgraduate training.

It seems to me that we ought to pick up your suggestion and hook together some of the teacher aid training that is being suggested in some of this other legislation with the Teacher Corps.

This would be a very good thing to do, Dick.

Mr. STEIGER. May I urge you to try working this out along those lines? I think there is merit to it.

I was interested in a comment made this morning. The phrase, as I recall it, was that the corps is involved in a better way to train teachers. This is an interesting area.

May I ask only for your comments on why you have indicated that this is a better way to train teachers?

Let me give you just a very short background in terms of the reason for my question. I have criticized, as I am sure many have, the teacher training programs that exist at the University of Wisconsin.

We lost Dean Stiles who was very active in attempting to reorient the teacher training program. You indicated that this is a purpose of the corps, that this is one of the underlying bases for the continuation of the corps as it is now.

I would like your comments on what you are doing, Mr. Graham, to make it possible to break some of the standards. Why are you innovating and how are you innovating?