

duct on a continuous basis objective evaluations of the effectiveness of educational programs; (e) developing and maintaining a permanent system for maintaining—

and so forth.

Mr. BRADEMAS. My time has expired. I see the point to which you refer. I do not agree with your interpretation of it. I oppose Federal molding as much as you.

Chairman PERKINS. The gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Erlenborn.

Mr. ERLBORN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to welcome these State school officers and in particular my good friend Mr. Page.

If you were asked to identify the one outstanding problem that you have in administering programs under title I, would you tell me what that one most difficult problem is?

I will direct that to any one of you who is prepared to answer the question.

Mr. SPARKS. Ours has been the date of the final allocation. That has been the most difficult problem we have had.

Mr. ERLBORN. The other day we had the superintendent of schools of the city of Pittsburgh who said that in his opinion unless we changed the time schedule for appropriation and authorization, he felt in a year or two the schools would no longer want to operate title I projects because they just couldn't afford to continue under the present circumstances.

Would you agree with that?

Mr. SPARKS. I wouldn't go that far. If you could see from my report what it has meant to our State and the number of personnel we have employed, I certainly would not go that far.

But it is hurting the effectiveness of the programs which we have, and it has certainly limited our planning to the extent that we can't begin to do what we would like to do.

Mr. ERLBORN. Would you say it has also caused a great deal of waste and inefficiency?

Mr. SPARKS. Yes. We are unable to get our personnel, the types of personnel we would like to have, because at that late date they have been picked over.

Mr. PAGE. I would say in support of that point of view that in Illinois we have had seven school districts notify us that they were dismissing their director of title I because of the lateness of the notice of the allocation of funds.

Not knowing for sure how much money they would get for this year, we received our notification a week ago today as to the final allocation of funds for the State Illinois for this year. Of course, the school year is pretty well underway, as you well know, having started in September. This makes it quite difficult.

We have had, I would say, 75 school districts in our State that have filed complaints, and there is a great deal of concern in cutting back on their programs in title I because they are not sure but what they might have to pick up some of these costs with their existing budgets which could not stand it.

Mr. ERLBORN. In other words, you do have presently problems conducting your regular school program with your State and local