

So at the risk of being accused of making a fast pun it seems to me what you are saying is that you can't have esprit without "de corps."

That seems to be the sum and substance of the argument. My deep concern is about late funding of the educational program. Now I don't sit here as an original advocate or even today as an advocate of Federal aid to education.

I would like to see block grants or tax sharing as the vehicle. As long as we do have these programs I think we ought to get a dollar's worth for a dollar spent. It seems to me that after 2 years of operation no one in the educational community will say that we have gotten this.

One of the principal reasons is the fact that we have late funding. The school districts have not known until well after the school year—until well after the beginning of the school year—how much money they will have of title I funds.

Now we presently have an authorization that will extend until the end of the fiscal year 1968. I understand that the Department has no intention of coming in this year, this session, with a request for an extension of this authorization which means that it will have then to come in the second session.

We will be considering the authorization for fiscal year 1969 probably on into the beginning of fiscal year 1969 or if not that late at least close to it since the appropriation process will extend into fiscal year 1969.

Again we will have this late funding problem. Will you explain to me why it is you have no intention of asking for extension of the authorization in this session rather than waiting until the second session?

Secretary GARDNER. This is something we have discussed at some length. May I ask Commissioner Howe to respond?

Commissioner HOWE. I was asked this question the other day here, Mr. Erlenborn, and responded that our reasons for not bringing up the Elementary and Secondary Education Act for renewal were really two: One, the press of business we created for this committee and for the Congress by bringing up the Higher Education Act and the National Defense Education Act a year earlier for the same reasons you considered we ought to consider the Elementary and Secondary Act and secondly, the fact we had just been through the second year of having brought it up 2 years in a row and all of us were perhaps looking for a vacation from the process of examining that complicated formula and allowing it to operate for a 2-year period on a consistent basis.

At this point I am going to make it clear that we are not unfriendly to the idea of looking at the Elementary and Secondary Education Act this year. We would like to discuss with your chairman this possibility.

Because if there is a possibility, in the crush of all the other business we have, of accomplishing what you suggest we would clearly like to make arrangements to work on that. So that it seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that this is something that we might consult about.

Mr. ERLBORN. Let me ask this. In the event that you do not ask for an extension of the authorization until the next year, until the be-