

education. General Federal aid to education is therefore desperately needed.

All of us can take encouragement from the message from the President of the United States delivered on February 28, 1967, on proposals for comprehensive programs in health and education. Recommendations on evaluation, sufficient planning time, teacher training assistance, the Teacher Corps, programs for handicapped children, vocational education, adult basic education, television and radio facility and construction and instructional television, are especially noteworthy.

The additional resources recommended under title IV of the Civil Rights Act would support the efforts being made in Philadelphia to achieve the goal of quality integrated education.

The proposed increases in the 1967-68 budget for the implementation of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act will make it possible for the schools of Philadelphia to continue and build upon the gains made from this source of funds. We must not allow the disadvantaged children of Philadelphia to be let down. There should be no retreat from the forward movement already in motion to provide all children with equality of educational opportunity.

The Philadelphia public schools have a special interest in the President's recommendations to extend the benefits of Project Headstart upward. We are already planning to take full advantage of this opportunity as soon as enabling legislation and appropriations are enacted.

America's slums have traditionally supplied the muscle power for the national economy. The technological revolution makes this tradition a liability. Optimum human development now makes this good economic as well as human sense. The schools are now being recognized as the central institutions to bring this about. Increased Federal aid to education must assume an increasing share of responsibility for helping the States and local school systems at this time of educational crisis.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to present my views today.

Chairman PERKINS. Let me compliment all of the greater cities superintendents for coming here this morning to give us the benefit of their views.

We all appreciate the great emergency that exists throughout the entire city school systems of this country for the reasons that the gentlemen have stated.

Next week we will have a day for the rural school superintendents. I think it is altogether important that we get the picture from your viewpoint and the rural viewpoint.

If I understand you gentlemen correctly today, the operation of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act has been very effective insofar as contributing to special education problems in your cities, so-called educationally deprived children, but that the program, by and large, is underfunded.

Am I placing a correct evaluation on particularly title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act that you gentlemen have all placed on the act?