

Mr. DONOVAN. Yes, sir, I believe you have.

Mr. WHITTIER. Yes.

Chairman PERKINS. You all agree that it has contributed to an improvement of your school systems?

Mr. DONOVAN. Yes, sir.

Chairman PERKINS. And that the program is underfunded at the present time; is that correct?

Mr. DONOVAN. That is right, sir.

Chairman PERKINS. With the funds that you have available, you stress the great emergency that has existed in the absence of good teachers, the teacher emergency, and the great need for school construction, with the funds that you have available under title I, do you feel that those funds could be better utilized for programing purposes the way you are presently utilizing those funds than to branch out the school construction and, likewise, do you feel that we must have a school construction bill involving in the end the expenditure of several billion dollars, but until we get that type of legislation, is it your suggestion that we continue to use these funds under title I for programing purposes?

I would like to hear your views on that.

Mr. DONOVAN. I would like to speak on behalf of New York City here. The other gentlemen may speak for themselves.

As far as we are concerned, the funds under title I are needed for programing purposes. I do not feel in my city I could divert them to construction. We would be robbing Peter to pay Paul by doing so.

We feel that until such time as Congress can come to a construction bill, and I hope that is quickly, we would like to keep these funds for the purposes for which they are now being used.

Chairman PERKINS. You can think of no better way that we can utilize the funds than you are now utilizing the funds?

Mr. DONOVAN. I don't know of any better way that we could utilize the funds we have now. If additional funds come, we have another way of utilizing them.

Chairman PERKINS. Is that the consensus among you gentlemen?

Mr. DALLARD. Yes.

Chairman PERKINS. There has been a lot of controversy centered around part B of title V, where you can bypass the State educational agencies. I listened attentatively to the testimony of the city school superintendent from Baltimore who agreed with the proposed amendment.

I am wondering whether the other superintendents are in accord with the statement made by the gentlemen from Baltimore.

Mr. DONOVAN. I would like to make it clear on the part of New York City, and I think here each State and city must speak for itself because we find ourselves in a very delicate position—I think that in the State of New York the relationships between the State education department and the large cities of the State have improved so much recently that I would be in favor of this amendment for giving State and regional planning funds, and I would not particularly be worried at this moment as to whether it was the State education department or the New York City Board of Education that was going to do the planning.