

One of the reasons we in San Diego did not enter the Teacher Corps is that we were told "Here are these people for you" and we told them that we did not want them.

Mr. WHITTIER. It is important that they have enough flexibility at the local level to operate the programs, Mrs. Green.

Mr. STEIGER. Would you yield for a moment?

Mrs. GREEN. Yes.

Mr. STEIGER. I would like to inquire of Dr. Vincent. Will you comment on the Wisconsin State University-Oshkosh program of internship they now have on a semester basis?

Mr. VINCENT. We have had for a good many years an intern program with several of the universities. In respect to Oshkosh, it is working very well. A certain number of their people come for limited periods of time. We have a more extensive program in the local University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. We have had to carry the total cost of it, however.

With limited budget, limited income, ceilings on tax rates and so forth, this has been a rather heavy responsibility. With the National Teacher Corps this gives us very much the same kind of approach to the development of teachers. We have used it and used it effectively.

We would be very happy to have it increased next year. If, on the other hand, the decision had to be made whether or not we would have it in this fashion or have the money to be spent locally, I think I would have to answer that we would prefer to do it locally, as we have done for many years successfully.

But we had to pay the total cost. It was a drain on our budget. It would be an increasing drain on our budget. We are saying that the National Teacher Corps should be continued and we would like to have it funded 100 percent.

Mrs. GREEN. But you would continue it?

Mr. VINCENT. If the money could be used without restriction; yes.

Mrs. GREEN. Is there any disagreement on this panel?

Mr. DONOVAN. I think we are all agreed on that point of view.

Mr. STEIGER. Would any of the others wish to comment on the question of paraprofessional versus teachers and what are the needs?

Mr. VINCENT. I don't think it is either/or. I think Dr. Donovan stated this very well. The basic system of any school system is a teacher and a group of pupils working together. They may do this in a classroom, in a gymnasium, in a kindergarten room, or most any kind of situation.

But you cannot have a basic unit of a school system without having a teacher, a well-trained teacher. If any of her duties can be lightened and she can devote a greater amount of her professional skills to the teaching job, if she does have some of these paraprofessionals assist her, that is one thing.

I think all of us have had this experience in greater or lesser degree. I would not want to say it is one or the other. I suppose if I had to make a decision, I would have to say that we would prefer to have the well-trained teacher who has the qualifications for dealing with the problems incident to these areas of deprivation, as Dr. Donovan pointed out.

Mr. WHITTIER. I would like to comment, if I might. I think in our case, for example, we need about 1,000 teachers. The bulk of