

part of 874, this would provide a great deal of help at this particular time, with around 2,000 students who are in the category recognized under 874 but not enough to bring us within a 3-percent part.

Mr. QUIE. Last year, in an amendment, I had wanted to see 874 changed so that we would get away from the inequity where if you had less than 3 percent you had to absorb all the 3 percent, if you had more than 3 percent you get paid for the entire 3.1 percent or what you have above it.

I would like to see it so that everybody would eventually absorb 3 percent—1 percent the first year, 2 percent the second year, and 3 percent in the third year. I think it is significant for Minneapolis schools especially now when we do have the problem of a loss referendum.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Bell?

Mr. BELL. Referring to the last exchange in which I believe Dr. Whittier was saying that the money should be available or at least they should have knowledge to make their plans around this time, this particular period, to do the job effectively.

So, we are running out of time right now. Now would you feel the way the operation worked last year, for example, that you should have had full authorization of the full amount of money.

Dr. WHITTIER. Naturally we feel we should have had the full amount; yes.

Mr. BELL. Do you think you could have handled it if you had had the full amount?

Dr. WHITTIER. Yes; we had our programs all set up. We have had to back up, as a matter of fact after we got initial guidelines which we assumed on full percentage and then found we were to get 85 percent.

We had to have a reappraisal of what we were doing.

Mr. BELL. This possibly would not work for your area, however, I notice that the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Howe, stated that—

I presented testimony last year to the effect that full funding of the total authorization would create a situation which would mean in all likelihood unwise expenditure of funds. I still believe that is the case.

In other words, he does not go along with you, that he feels for last year really the funding would not have been handled as expeditiously as they could nationwide.

Dr. WHITTIER. I am talking about our particular school district.

Mr. BELL. I noticed here earlier there was considerable conversation about Headstart program working better if it were to be moved over into the Office of Education under the Commissioner of Education rather than under the Poverty Act.

I must say I fully concur in this. However, the adult basic education was removed from the Poverty Act this last year and moved under the Education Commission.

Have you had any indication to show that it is working better as a result of the change?

Dr. BRIGGS. You will get a very good reaction to this. We had one of the big projects and a very successful one. But when it was moved over one little thing happened. It wasn't funded. I must confess it worked much better when it was funded even under OEO.

But we, like our programs, seem to work so much smoother when they are funded. This one was not funded. It was moved over but