

Mr. BELL. One more question which is a sort of general one: I am wondering if you feel that the Teacher Corps program per se as provided by the amendments to this bill is the right approach to that problem?

Do you feel that it is?

Let me get more specific. Do you think the Teacher Corps program as set out in the amendment is the best approach to handling this problem or could the problem be handled better by financing the program through the States without the national Teachers Corps?

Some problem would be worked out on the part of recruiting but basically do you think it could work better in that fashion or do you think it is better as it is?

Dr. WHITTIER. I think it might be better the other way of organizing it actually. I think that there is a certain esprit de corps that can come from a national effort of this kind than there is from that impetus which you can't deny but we have had a certain number of problems with the way both have been funded as you know.

In the present year we happen to have one of the cooperative programs and it has been a real headache because of the lack of funding and lack of availability of funds initially which caused considerable consternation.

I suppose one of the biggest concerns I would have is, if we are going to have it, to know that we are going to have it and have it funded rather than let us be in the position this year of not knowing where we were going, with having all the students and knowing we could not gracefully back out because we had the commitments and not the funds.

Whatever system is devised, if we can be fairly assured of what we are going to have when we make a commitment, then I think we would be much more comfortable about it.

Dr. DAILARD. I agree with that. If the amount of money is limited the Teachers Corps program does zero in on a problem of providing needed staffing for the areas of deprived children. It is narrow.

I think we would all answer and did answer earlier in the day that we would prefer to see the program come to us providing that, using the term you used, there was adequate funding.

If there is a limited amount of money, this is probably the way to do it. There is an amendment on which I commented this morning. I would feel that the amendment to make sure that the people assigned are from the local district is important.

In a State with tenure as we have, we are responsible for it, we want to be sure that the people have a reasonable chance of succeeding in the community before we accept them.

The present program of limited scope is hitting at the problem that we all have, of finding an adequate number of teachers to stay in the deprived area. We would like to build our intern programs into some of the other programs.

Dr. BRIGGS. I agree.

Mr. BELL. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman PERKINS. Let me thank all of you distinguished educators for coming before the committee and helping us write this bill.