

ers more than just the urban centers. There is a tendency to limit it to the urban centers since that is where the institutions of higher learning are located. You have to bring them to the institutions for their learning sessions.

You seem to have the concept, however, that the Teacher Corps is not only to bring people who previously had no interest in education, but developed one later, into the teaching profession, and also to bring them special training in the culturally and socially deprived children. Also you mention the help that they give to the children in the district.

Since this is the case, and I find people tend to look at a Teachers Corps the way the blind man looks at the elephant, would you be willing to fund a portion of the stipend or the salary of these teacher interns to the extent of the benefit you receive in your school from their services?

Mr. JOHNSON. I personally would be willing to fund a part of it through the local funds. But one of the points that this committee and Congress has recognized is that there is a need to provide these programs over and beyond what is now being done.

If we were required to match the funds, which in essence is what the question you are asking is about, I might say yes, I would be willing to, but whether we would be able to is something else. In Westchester County, three of our larger cities are right up against the tax limitation, and what we can do and what we would like to do are sometimes different.

We would not, in my opinion, be able to go into such a program next year, or perhaps the year following that: Philosophically, I agree with you, sir, but matching funds sometimes if categorically applied drains away the general support of education.

If you were asking would I support this in legislation, no, sir, I would not.

Mr. QUIE. Then with the glowing remarks you made about the Teachers Corps, they are really not sufficient, however, to cause you to put some local funds into this program because it would even be superior and more necessary than some of the education activities you are already engaged in with local funds.

Mr. JOHNSON. You see, this is comparable to the situation of when I go to my desk and take on the pressing jobs, but many times the less important jobs. I do the things which have to be done that day and not the long-range, important things.

That same thing would apply here. It seems to me it is an obligation of the State, more than of the local area, to provide this kind of educational program. It is the obligation of the country, since these people will be working in all kinds of areas, it is the obligation of the Congress and of the local State to provide this training in education of teachers, and not that of the local district which is concerned vitally with the day-to-day providing of reading, writing and arithmetic and those other things regarded as important by the local community.

Mr. QUIE. So the assistance provided by the teacher interns is not sufficient to lessen the load or improve the education of the young people in your schools where you would be willing to transfer some funds from another purpose to this one?