

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Reid.

Mr. REID. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

First I would like to warmly welcome Dr. Hazlett, Dr. Breit, Dr. Johnson, and Mr. Stapleton, particularly Dr. Johnson of White Plains, who, I believe, is doing an outstanding and creative job as superintendent of schools in White Plains in administering a number of these programs.

Dr. Johnson, I certainly want to thank you for your detailed and thoughtful comments. I have a few specific questions I would like to direct to you, if I may. On page 13 of your testimony you refer to the very considerable overhead in administrative planning costs incurred by State educational departments and local school systems participating in federally aided projects.

One suggestion that has been made is not only to increase the amount of administrative funding for title II from 3 to 5 percent, but equally perhaps to have a sliding scale percentage available to the local school district too, so that, for example, on a large grant, 5 percent would be adequate for local administrative costs, whereas on a smaller grant, it might be necessary to have 10 percent.

Would you favor some sliding scale, too, of that kind to meet this problem?

Mr. JOHNSON. Yes, I would.

Mr. REID. Second, with regard to the vocational education act amendments, the act provides for original construction and initial equipment. Buildings suitable for vocational education are available in some places but cannot be purchased.

Would purchase of such buildings be desirable? In other words, not necessarily having to rely on original construction, but the use of other buildings that could be rehabilitated for vocational education purposes, would that be of assistance in White Plains?

Mr. JOHNSON. Yes, it would be, Mr. Reid.

Chairman PERKINS. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. GREEN. Could I ask unanimous consent to proceed a little longer?

Chairman PERKINS. The gentleman—the gentlelady from Oregon asks unanimous consent that Mr. Reid be permitted to proceed for an additional 3 minutes. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Oregon is indeed generous.

Dr. Johnson, I would also like to ask you now a broader question with regard to title I funding in general. With such specifics as you could supply with regard to White Plains—being an excellent illustration of the immediate city problems—as you know the Congress has authorized \$2.4 billion for fiscal 1968 in funding for title I programs. The President's budget, however, only requests \$1.2 billion.

The question has been raised here in colloquy both with the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Howe, and the Secretary of HEW, John Gardner, whether or not there should not be full funding for title I.

Dr. Gardner has indicated in his judgment that, as an educator, he would favor that, were it not for budgetary problems.

He also stated his belief that local school districts in a number of States, and I believe implicit in that is New York, could take full