

Is that the way you have viewed the situation?

Mr. STAPLETON. Mr. Chairman, our experience on the equipment purchased, the decisions to purchase certain kinds of equipment, for the laboratories or whatever the case may be, were still sound decisions. We had a gap and the gap was in service education and working with teachers.

But this was just a matter of time. We continue to work on this constantly.

Chairman PERKINS. I know that gap existed in eastern Kentucky, where they were not able to fully utilize these items at times because of a lack of competent personnel.

Mr. Dellenback.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Let me ask this question, if I may, and it follows down again on this point of Teacher Corps versus training teachers yourself.

As a background to this, let me say when a question was put this way to your colleagues from the larger cities who testified yesterday, the majority of them spoke in terms of preferring to train their own teachers if the choice were between self-training and Teacher Corps.

So recognizing there is not time for depth in discussion, putting the question this way, if the funds were to be made available to you to train your own teachers as an alternative to using Teacher Corps as a training system, which would you prefer—the gentleman from New Mexico first—would you prefer to use those funds for training your own teachers or would you prefer to have those funds used for a Teacher Corps?

Mr. STAPLETON. I guess I can speak on both sides of this question.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Unfortunately there is not time.

Mr. STAPLETON. I will just indicate that because of the same reasons given earlier by my colleagues in order to dramatize the need and the special programs required for the massive infusion of personnel for these programs, at least my feeling would be that I would see the need for the Teacher Corps.

Mr. DELLENBACK. And Dr. Hazlett, you have spoken to that question.

You prefer the Teacher Corps?

Mr. HAZLETT. I would prefer it. We could not train our teachers without the cooperation of universities.

Mr. DELLENBACK. We are not plowing here the ground that was plowed yesterday. I read most of your answer as saying because of what happened before and you were not able to get this cooperation, you therefore would prefer it.

But that has been plowed. Now in light of the situation, you would still prefer the Teacher Corps to self-trained?

Mr. HAZLETT. As I envision the training; yes.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Mr. Johnson?

Mr. JOHNSON. Locally, for myself and my district, I would prefer the funds. On a national basis, I think the national interest would be better served by the National Teacher Corps.

Mr. DELLENBACK. My question is for you and your district, that you know best.

Mr. JOHNSON. For my own situation, for my community, I would prefer to have the funds and to set up a program of teacher training in collaboration with one of the colleges and universities.