

departments of education to operate in accordance with an overall plan for the improvement of education.

They can be working on some phases of this while we are working on other phases. All of this will come together into a total plan and operation. We are staying very close to the laboratory in all of its planning activities to be sure that our planning and their planning are paralleling and that we are coming out with something that will have an impact on the needs of that region.

The R. & D. center at the University of Texas is concentrating its efforts in the area of teacher education, carrying on experimental work in a number of the school systems to prove up some of these new practices in education. They are working in the field of engineering at these practices so that they can be transmitted throughout the State.

Our regional service centers are going to serve a very important role as the disseminating agent of helping to transplant these new practices out of the school system in which they have been proven up over into the other parts of the State so that we get a widespread implementation of these new ideas and new practices.

So there is room with the number of youngsters we have and the size of the territory to cover for all three to play a very vital role in the development of new practices in education for the improvement of education, and bring about the changes we all feel needs to be made.

So it is not an either or in my thinking. If any lab is operating in competition with a State department, then I think we are in trouble. We have done everything we can to make sure this does not happen. It is all one operation one effort.

Mrs. GREEN. I agree there is enough work to keep a lot of people busy. But if I follow your logic, then let's set up a lot of different agencies so we would have a better chance of getting them done.

If there is enough work for three agencies to do, I think there would be argument that there would be enough work for 10 agencies to do. Why not set up 10 in Texas?

Mr. HITT. We could use them.

Mrs. GREEN. And you would again favor that?

Mr. HITT. No, I did not say I would favor it. I think we have all we need at the moment.

Mrs. GREEN. Thank you.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Brademas.

Mr. BRADEMAS. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Hitt, following some of the questions that Mrs. Green has asked which I think are quite relevant to the whole new look we are seeing, is it fair to say that there are many programs that have been passed in the field of education in the last several years of our country that authorize support for elementary and secondary, for preschool education and higher education, that legally could have been undertaken by States a long time ago?

Mr. HITT. That is correct.

Mr. BRADEMAS. But they were not. We are all familiar with some of the reasons that they were not.

I take it that you are not advocating that we should not have had the NDEA of 1958 and the several programs that it authorized to help support our elementary and secondary schools, or our colleges