

in southeastern Kentucky. It adjoins the States of Tennessee and Virginia at what is known as Cumberland Gap.

I want to thank the committee for the opportunity of appearing here today. I commend each of you for your interest in the education of the children of this Nation. Recognizing that education is the key to raising the standards of living and the wage-earning power of the poverty-stricken and unemployed citizens of this country.

I believe that education is the major means by which most people are going to be able to prepare themselves to shake the shackles of poverty, to make themselves employable, and to take their rightful place in society. In fact, I know of no one in Bell County, Ky., who has an education and wants a job that is not employed.

In my opinion, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 was one of the finest pieces of legislation that has ever been enacted. As a personal evaluation of this act, I wish to illustrate what it has meant to the Middlesboro Independent School District. We have 2,933 students in our district. Of this number we have had 1,350 students who have participated in programs under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This is approximately 48 percent of the total enrollment. Seventy-three of this number are enrolled in a parochial school. Title I programs of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act were implemented for the first time in our school district on March 1, 1966, and have now been in operation 12 full months. With the help of this program for the first time the Middlesboro school system now has (and for the information of the others I have added an exhibit of some pictures of the title I program that have been in operation in the Middlesboro school system, which I have passed on to the chairman. I only have one copy and they are at his disposal) :

1. Libraries with certified librarians in every school. This includes books, library shelving, audiovisual materials, and so forth, and these libraries are open 12 months of the year. Not one of our elementary schools or the junior high school had a librarian or library services before. There is a daily average of 495 participating students who use these libraries throughout the system. These same libraries are being utilized by the teaching staff through the use of filmstrips, films, and audiovisual equipment.

2. For the first time full-time physical fitness programs are in operation for all students, grades 1-12. This includes equipment and materials as recommended by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and is established on the same principles and criteria. Again, none of the elementary or the junior high schools offered these programs before.

Physical participation improvements

	Mar. 1, 1966	Mar. 1, 1967
Rope climbing.....	4 out of 25.....	10 out of 25.
Pull-ups (chinning).....	9 out of 50.....	20 out of 39.
Standing broad jumps.....	4 feet 3 inches.....	4 feet 6 inches.
Sit-ups.....	30.....	45.

These comparisons were made on the same students within a given class. That is indicative of the average throughout the school sys-