

Mr. GIBBONS. I am just quoting statistics that came from Sargent Shriver yesterday. He said 70 percent of the kids in Headstart are in private institutions. I have no way of checking those figures.

Mr. QUIE. If you had the responsibility for a Headstart program and you did not have the buildings, would you be able to contract with a church which had the facilities which they would probably only use on Sunday to run a year-round Headstart program?

Mr. SPEARS. If the facilities are proper, you can contract with any body so far as I know, a public institution can, for outside facilities. Of course, you have to be very careful that they meet the sanitation regulations, the number of toilets you need and all of the things that you require of a schoolbuilding. California is very strict about buildings, particularly because of earthquakes.

I don't say they don't meet the regulations, but if you have a school system you have someone who is already disciplined in the type of place for a child to go to school in and when you farm this out to some agencies you are taking a chance. Freedom schools may start somewhere, and the question is whether the requirements will meet the requirements of the schools.

Mr. GIBBONS. I am glad you brought up the subject of California. I visited there several years ago. I have forgotten the name of the town now, but the two finest buildings in the town were the school system and the sewer plant. I guess the sewer plant was used indiscriminately by everybody on a 24-hour basis, but the school system was sitting on this little green grassy knoll in the poverty program there, the tutorial program: they were having to work in some humble place. I asked why they did not use the school and they said they couldn't get cooperation from the school system. They were tutoring Spanish-American people going to that school but they could not use the building.

Is California changing its attitude toward things like that?

Mr. SPEARS. I don't know. You are making a case on one observation but I feel that that is not so generally in California.

Mr. GIBBONS. I could take you to the place.

Mr. SPEARS. Your example is fine and I am accepting your word on it, but that does not represent California as a whole. We push other agencies to use them.

In our last bond issue in San Francisco for buildings, we tried to get other departments to try to come in and build programs, maybe baby clinics and all of that. To try to get the agencies of a community together on something is a little difficult at times.

Mr. STIMBERT. May I just add to that that with some 722 schools they were used by community groups over 6,000 last year. We encouraged the recreation commission, the park commission, community groups and adult education from the universities to use our school buildings. We would like to have them open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, if possible.

Getting back to Headstart, I think it is important, as Mr. Spears has said. Here is an educational program and it does not necessarily follow that some of these innovations such as parental involvement is not something that has been used or heard of by school people in years. This is what we are finding in Headstart—take my own case, for example. I came from Nebraska about 10 years ago to Tennessee. No preschool programs. The State program started at grade 1 and ran through grade 12.