

Although he seems to talk in terms of strengthening State and local agencies, at the same time each of them are coming from Federal agencies and I see a great duplication of effort on their part.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Steiger.

Mr. STEIGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Stimbert, you made an excellent statement. It was candid and provocative. I think you did a very nice job and I complement all of you for being willing to come and give us the benefit of your thinking.

Is there general agreement on the part of all four of you in support of the bill that we have before us in terms of the Teacher Corps?

Mr. STIMBERT. Yes, with those proposed amendments that you are including, is that what you have reference to?

Mr. STEIGER. Yes.

Mr. STIMBERT. Then the answer is "Yes."

Mr. STEIGER. How much use are each of you making of the Teacher Corps in your own areas and has it had any benefits?

Mr. SPEARS. The funds are limited and the program had to be limited until this time and I think it is one of those programs where school systems, that are short of teachers more than others, will get more mileage out of it and I think that would be proper. You could not expect all of them to use it equally because it is meeting a need and the need is greater in some spots.

Mr. STEIGER. Is there also a general agreement from all of you in terms of transferring the responsibility for title III to the State departments of education?

Mr. Stimbert, in your remarks you hit upon that specifically. Would that be true of all of you?

Mr. PHILLIPS. Yes.

Mr. STEIGER. This is in line with what Mr. Gardner asked.

In title III we are trying to strengthen the State departments. Is there also a general agreement on the part of all of you that this is an admirable goal, that we really should be devoting more time and attention to putting into State departments more resources, and more capability to handle the States' problems.

Mr. STIMBERT. I would give it a No. 1 priority.

Mr. PHILLIPS. It is very basic.

Mr. SPEARS. I would support that statement, too.

Mr. STEIGER. Do you share a concern that perhaps some of us do as to what the role is of the research centers and some of the quasi-public agencies that we have created under some of our legislators which are almost in competition with State departments, they get paid bigger salaries, they can perhaps function in certain ways outside of the State department.

Do you think there is any danger here toward strengthening these outside agencies rather than the State departments?

Mr. STIMBERT. You are referring to the regional laboratories?

Mr. STEIGER. Yes.

Mr. STIMBERT. I think there is a place for such if we continued to look at the label. It is supposed to be a laboratory and dedicated to R. & D. in education.

I think the danger you express is there. Anytime you set up such a device and you strengthen it unduly and do not have it come under