

**STATEMENT OF DR. J. A. BYRNE, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF
EDUCATION, COLLEGE OF ST. THOMAS, ST. PAUL, MINN.**

Dr. BYRNE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, Mr. Quie. I would like to say first of all I do support the idea of including the Teacher Corps materials now under title I.

I think they are probably quite appropriate to that point. Generally speaking I am sympathetic to the amendments as they pertain to the Teacher Corps.

What I did feel, Mr. Quie, last summer, I think refers to the experience as we had initially with the Corps. St. Thomas has never operated a Teacher Corps program but we were asked as one of the first institutions to take a look at it. I might point out on a Friday afternoon we were told a team from HEW would visit us on Monday morning and we were asked to make a decision with regard to our accepting the Corps by that afternoon.

It developed that when the representatives came from the HEW office that they were not prepared to discuss the program with us. They pointed out that they had been briefed for about one-half hour before they arrived on our campus. We had to sit down together with Mr. Heineman who is the director of the teacher certification in the State of Minnesota. We also sat down with the local superintendents of schools and I think in a period of about half a day we had pretty much described what the Corps might be like to the people who had come to explain it to us.

After we had made a careful investigation of the advantages and disadvantages we chose not to involve ourselves with the Corps at that time not because of any strong feeling about it but simply because we did not feel we had the adequate personnel at that particular moment to take on the Corps responsibility.

I would like to point out, too, that I am not inclined to follow the arguments which suggest that the Corps is an incursion on the part of the Federal Government into local school systems. The people with whom I have spoken, administrators for example, in Philadelphia, in Detroit, in Chicago, in Pittsburgh have indicated that they can see some real good coming.

They don't worry about this particular point particularly. What has disturbed them and I think has disturbed all of us once announced the Corps got off to a very slow start and we are told, for example, that the funds were reduced, that appropriations were late particularly because a Senator was ill and was not able to be present for these appropriations and the like.

At any rate, as of the end of the summer, the first working period of the Corps, there had been no Federal funding. As a result of this, 15 percent of those who were involved in the Corps in the initial summer experience were lost to the Corps.

As of October there was still no funding. I think there has been some discouragement as a result. I would like to point out that discouragement comes not only to those interested in the Corps in view of the experience they might have in participating.

I think part of the ill feeling that one might have toward some of these programs on the part of the collegiate institution that trains