

that the reasons that there had not been the breakthrough in education and the attention paid to economically deprived children is the States' lack of leadership and lack of funds; is that correct?

Dr. MATTHEIS. Yes. It is prevalent in either or both situations.

Mr. MEEDS. Let me tell you we have heard a number of administrators and State school officers testify to this same effect so you are not alone in this. In this line of reasoning, however, I would just like to ask you if you think the State of Minnesota prior to the adoption of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act has been doing enough in your larger cities, Minneapolis and St. Paul, in educating the economically deprived children?

Dr. MATTHEIS. I did allude to it earlier in response to a question. I am not aware as significantly as fine a job being done in Minneapolis as in St. Paul. St. Paul previously had Dr. Forrest Conner. I think he and their board were excellent leadership, did a very fine job of beginning this program of work in the core city of St. Paul with both exceptional staff and recruitment of staff and additional funds to be placed into these schools.

Mr. MEEDS. So your answer would be you have done enough?

Dr. MATTHEIS. The answer is "Yes and no." We have done some very fine things prior to the enactment.

Mr. MEEDS. Don't you think, however, in the final analysis when you people come in here and talk about a lack of leadership and a lack of funds that it is a question of priorities within your State as to what you do with your educational programs prior to the enactment of ESEA?

Dr. MATTHEIS. Yes, sir; and no more than it is the Federal level setting priorities.

Mr. MEEDS. If we found, as a matter of fact, then in this committee that there had not been enough throughout this Nation for the education of economically deprived children, don't you think we ought to do something about that problem and provide some leadership and some funds?

Dr. MATTHEIS. Yes, sir.

Mr. MEEDS. And it is a problem that has not been taken care of?

Dr. MATTHEIS. Not sufficiently well.

Mr. MEEDS. It had not been given the priority it needed, sir?

Dr. MATTHEIS. Yes.

Mr. MEEDS. Isn't it also true with the Federal help we still have not solved the problem, and we have not sufficiently taken care of the economically deprived child?

We have not done it before, and we have not done it yet.

Dr. MATTHEIS. We have a way to go.

Mr. GARDNER. I would like to explore this a little bit more. We seem to have a variance of thinking on the committee. It would seem to me the big problem facing the States throughout the country has been a lack of funds.

The distinguished gentleman from Michigan in the questions he asked you seemed to harp on leadership. I think the big lack has been in the area of funds.

It seems to me a majority of our States seem to operate on a sounder financial basis than does the Federal Government. I don't think I could include the State of Michigan in this group.