

Dr. LETSON. Mr. Scherle, I think the Government can render a real service in identifying prospective employees but that would not mean that the local school system abdicated its responsibility for this or its right to determine in the final analysis whether an individual became a part of that local school system or not. I would insist on that right for every local school system but I think the Teacher Corps or professional association as the NEA has recently done, I think, can render a real service in compiling, in locating and compiling various information about individuals in order that there would be a clearing-house.

Mr. BRADEMAs. I am afraid the time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. Dellenback.

Mr. DELLENBACK. I see the time limit is an oppressive one at this stage. I don't think there is any of us who is not deeply concerned about trying to benefit the disadvantaged and the stories you tell of the youngster who speaks and walks. Certainly there are moving tales that may be very thrilling and difficult to live with, as I am sure we would find.

Our problem in questioning on this is not to attack but to realize even on a Federal level there are limited dollars involved and what we are reaching for in part in our questioning, at least so far as I am concerned, is to reach in the direction of how best we can use the dollars to achieve those goals we would like to achieve. This is one alternative.

One plan. May I ask Dr. Letson this question. Realizing the goal is improvement of education, quality, and equality-wise, so far as Atlanta is concerned, would you be able to do a better job if the funds that are poured into the program, the Teacher Corps program, were to be handed to you with no strings attached and you were told to use them for the training of teachers?

Would you be able to do a better job or would you do an inferior job compared to the Teacher Corps.

Dr. LETSON. That is a difficult question to answer. I think there might be some isolated cases, cities where a better job or an equally good job might be done, but I would definitely hesitate to make that a nationwide conclusion.

Mr. DELLENBACK. I am talking in your area of competence, Atlanta. Let's ignore all other cities and just talk about the Atlanta school system. If you were having a choice of the same number of dollars that went into the National Teacher Corps used there for the Teacher Corps versus being handed to you with the instruction that you were to use these for training teachers for the disadvantaged, which way would you do a superior job?

Dr. LETSON. I am still of the opinion, Mr. Dellenback, that we would be able to do a better job through the Teacher Corps. This would require some explanation. I think there is a distinct advantage in the national identification of prospects.

We would not, for example, have been able to get Miss Haskins as a part of the Atlanta school system had it not been for this process.

In the first place, I doubt that she would have been coming into any school system as a teacher. So I think that is a service.