

1320 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AMENDMENTS

In Willowbrook, Asst. Supt. Thruman Johnson tells how the Corpsmen are helping to save the district many thousands of dollars through a program aimed at cutting vandalism.

Windows and doors were steady targets for vandals, he said. And during last Christmas vacation alone damage was \$3000.

This shocked the six NTC interns and their leader at the school. They decided to do something about it.

The Corpsmen's solution was to each contribute a few dollars and hire teenagers to guard the school.

While it may sound like a "protection racket," the money has now become less important than the pride of taking care of "my school" and in pleasing the new-found teacher friends.

Parents, teachers and administrators in the NTC schools reel off impressive lists of the school-community work the Corpsmen are undertaking, often at long, heartbreaking hours running into 60 and 70 hours a week.

Among these are an open air movies in an area where no theater exists, taking children to zoos, the beach, museums, spending many hours tutoring children and their parents—and countless friendly home visits to show the school cares.

Extra punch

Raymond A. Shields, who at the age of 51 gave up a career as an adult teacher to study for his elementary credential as a NTC volunteer, "to do more for the community I've worked in for 13 years," expressed the feeling of many Corpsmen in this way:

"This is the extra punch that was needed and has been needed all along."

Dr. Wilson says the "extra punch" is now in danger. Congress is debating whether to continue appropriations for the NTC.

Being asked is \$48.5 million for the next two years. Of this about \$12.5 million is needed to finish the two-year job already started.

Job half done

NTC officials say to cut off the program now would waste much money. For only half the job of training the first contingent of Corpsmen is completed.

Many of them, who have been receiving \$5500 salaries plus tuition, still need a year to complete work for their master's degrees and, in California, a full teaching credential.

"The Watts riot cost about \$40 million," said Dr. Wilson. "It would be a shame to kill a program such as NTC, which has a good chance of preventing future catastrophies of that kind."

Mr. BRADEMAs. I take it you do not have a prepared statement to distribute to us.

Dr. WILSON. No, but I have material I could have duplicated and give it to you if you like.

First of all I would like to say I am speaking not only for myself but all of the members of the Teacher Corps at the University of Southern California on behalf of the National Teacher Corps, and also for disadvantaged children that might not, if this program is not funded, or some similar program, might be further disadvantaged.

I do not have to remind you that the problem of cities in the form it is not assuming is most urgent, the most difficult and most frightening domestic problem that has emerged in recent years. It has been said we have left undone those things which we ought to have done and we have done those things which we ought to not have done.

This includes first of all almost a complete failure to find out and face the hard facts of modern, urban problems. The heart of the problem of the cities is a problem of the ghettos which have been claiming rights in the past few years. The careful research behind the Watts report shows school that is forced to accept as much as