

working in the elementary schools are attached to that division of the school system.

The experience has been very favorable. The teachers have been very happy to have these interns in their situations. They are being used in some of the lowest income schools in the District and are having a very good effect. Incidentally through the training program that involves some of the universities, they have done a great deal to involve the universities and the resources of the universities in our school system.

This has been sort of a spillover effect that has been very helpful.

Chairman PERKINS. Does your knowledge of the universities assume the responsibility of doing the training? Have they ever had any pressure on them from the Office of Education or have they ever been interfered with in any way?

Mr. SESSIONS. I am quite sure they have had none.

Chairman PERKINS. Have the Board members in your school system had any suggestions from the Office of Education in the way of interfering with the curriculum or in any other manner?

Mr. SESSIONS. Not at all.

Chairman PERKINS. You tell me that you have about 40 teachers who were recruited by the Office of Education through the National Teachers Corps recruiting system in your District of Columbia school system?

Mr. SESSIONS. That is right.

Chairman PERKINS. Do—just how effective have these teachers been?

Mr. SESSIONS. I can tell you of at least one school in which several of these Teachers Corps interns were working in elementary schools which most people feel was one of the most ineffective schools in the District and today within a year the parents tell me they feel they have one of the best elementary schools in the District of Columbia.

I don't think that is entirely the result of the Teachers Corps but I think they have made a great contribution to the improvement in this particular school which happens to be the Anthony Bowen School.

Chairman PERKINS. I know we have an explosive situation here in the District of Columbia but I have felt for several years if we are ever going to do something about the real problem existing here in the District of Columbia it is through the elementary and secondary educational system. I take it that you feel that the educational system here in District of Columbia has been immensely strengthened as a result of the Teachers Corps.

Am I correct in that statement from your testimony?

Mr. SESSIONS. Yes, I think I should emphasize for the Teacher Corps interns don't go very far in a school system and we have concentrated these in a few.

Chairman PERKINS. Are they working with the people in the disadvantaged areas of the city where the income is the lowest and where the need is the greatest.

Mr. SESSIONS. These are exactly the schools we put them in. I think I should emphasize they don't just teach during the schoolday. They run tutorial programs after school and work with these kids in the evenings. We are having a very real impact in some of these areas.