

tirely as if it were not happening. I wish they filled this room today so they could respond to this comment.

Mr. MEEDS. I would like to pursue this a little further.

One of the methods which has been found effective under the Office of Economic Opportunity when segregation is not proceeding fast enough or is not achieved in areas where the Office of Economic Opportunity has had Headstart programs was to carry these on in private institutions or through parochial institutions and schools.

Do you understand that you would be able to do that with the law as presently written?

Mr. LIBASSI. I am not sure on that question. I am not capable of answering that.

Mr. MEEDS. I tell you, you could not.

So at least as the law is presently written, this is one of the methods of achieving desegregation used by the Office of Economic Opportunity which would not be favorable to you; is that right?

Mr. LIBASSI. That is right.

Mr. MEEDS. I think that is all.

Mr. CAREY. The gentleman from California, Mr. Burton.

Mr. BURTON. How many people do you have working in your particular area?

Mr. LIBASSI. In the Office of Education trying to handle all of the school problems in the South, we have 43 professional staff people attempting to work with the 5,000 school districts in the South.

At the last count we had about eight that were trying to work on all of the school problems of the North and that is the extent of the professional staff.

Mr. BURTON. What kind of staff background—staff backup do you have?

Mr. LIBASSI. There will be stenographic and clerical, but that is the entire administrative executive program planning, research, that is the full professional staff.

Mr. BURTON. So there are 43 professional staff people working in how many Southern States?

Mr. LIBASSI. In the 17 Southern States.

Mr. BURTON. And there are five?

Mr. LIBASSI. I believe there are eight that are at this time working on the problem of northern schools.

Mr. BURTON. When was your part of the HEW set up?

Mr. LIBASSI. The Office of Education began working on school desegregation in July of 1964. It had no appropriation for the program that year and the staff was reassigned to the job. It was not until the following year that they got their first appropriation, in July of 1965.

I would be glad to provide for the committee the amount of funds available for the administration of title VI in the schools of the country, and I would also be glad to provide the exact figures on professional and clerical staff that are employed. But it is not adequate to provide the assistance to school districts that they need in order to plan for orderly desegregation. It is very thin.

Mr. BURTON. Could you provide us with the annual dollar amounts and personnel, professional staff, for each of the last 3 fiscal years, which is the period of time that you have been discussing?