

There ought to be representation for those who need it most.

In order to describe more fully for the subcommittee the background for your consideration of labor relations legislation for farmworkers, I have asked Mr. Frank Potter, Director of the Office of Farm Labor Service, to elaborate on the farm labor situation.

Mr. POTTER. Mr. Chairman, that concludes the Secretary's statement.

Mr. THOMPSON. Thank you very much.

Now, on April 17, as you know, I wrote asking for some statistics and for some background information which I thought would be useful, and I note that you have prepared that information. We would appreciate it if you would offer it at this point. Perhaps we will have some questions as we go along.

May I say to the members of the subcommittee, if you do have any questions as Mr. Potter goes along with this presentation, please feel free to ask them at any time.

STATEMENT OF FRANK A. POTTER, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF FARM LABOR SERVICE, ACCOMPANIED BY JAMES E. GOODGION, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mr. POTTER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, in response to Chairman Thompson's letter of April 17, I have prepared a brief statement providing general background information on farm employers and farmworkers, and about recruitment techniques and programs which I think the committee will find helpful.

I am prepared, of course, to answer, to the best of my ability, questions on any part of our farm labor program about which you may wish more detail.

I. FARMS EMPLOYING HIRED FARMWORKERS

About 1.6 million farms—half of the 3.2 million farms in the United States—used hired workers at some time in 1964, according to the latest census. A May 1965 U.S. Department of Agriculture survey indicates that of these farms, only about 232,000 used at least 100 man-days of hired labor in their peak quarter of 1964 and that of this 232,000 figure, 110,000 used 200 man-days of labor, and only 67,000—2 percent of all farms—used at least 300 man-days.

Mr. THOMPSON. May I interrupt at this point?

That means, does it not, that 2 percent of the farms are the major users of agricultural labor?

Mr. POTTER. I would say this is correct, sir.

Mr. THOMPSON. Do you have any information on the average size of those farms?

Mr. POTTER. In terms of acreage?

Mr. THOMPSON. Yes.

Mr. POTTER. I am sorry; I do not have that available. We could prepare that for the record if you would wish.

Mr. THOMPSON. I think it would be valuable.

Mr. CAREY. Mr. Chairman.

Mr. THOMPSON. Yes.