

Dr. GOTTLIEB. That is what I want to speak on next. But over a course of 150 years the combined efforts of the public school system, the vocational educational system, public service health programs, there were still two and a half million young poor people in this country who were out of work, out of school, who cannot read and—

Mr. GOODELL. Irrelevant. Everybody can see we weren't doing the job and that we have to do the job better. The argument is the best way to do it.

Chairman PERKINS. Don't you think that has a bearing?

Mr. GOODELL. I say we are not doing it now.

Chairman PERKINS. Mrs. Green.

Mrs. GREEN. Why is the Job Corps so great because somebody has failed for 150 years? The Federal Government too has failed to correct these problems for 150 years and by that same argument then the Federal Government couldn't do it now either. The public schools haven't done it for 150 years. Welfare agencies haven't done it for 150 years.

What is the logic that suddenly the Federal Government is the one that can because they are in that same category, but I think there are good things that we ought to turn attention to do and not a blind defense of a program that maybe we can make some improvement upon.

Chairman PERKINS. I feel the Federal Government is also involved in vocational education. I would like to see greatly expanded programs of vocational education, and modernization, more funds for residential school centers, but at the same time I see no conflict because of the tremendous job to be done, and what we are trying to find out is just the type of job that the Job Corps is doing at the present time.

I think we are constantly improving. Mr. Goodell admits that they have improved considerably in the last year. We are getting better and certainly we all admit that we want to do the job the best way, but I do think we must consider what has happened in the past through the vocational educational school system of this country and today they barely touch the surface. They have scraped off the cream of the crop through the area of vocational schools and have done a tremendous job, but they have selected the youngster that was not difficult to train.

It is the difficult youngster that we have to face up to and I don't think at the present time unless there is a lot more evidence to come in, and we will bring in the evidence, that we could say that the Job Corps has not done a good job and is not getting better all the time.

It certainly can be improved. The cost is coming down. I feel that the Director is personally doing an outstanding job from the evidence that I have heard and observations and examination of Job Corps that I have made.

Mr. GOODELL. Mr. Chairman, I wouldn't embarrass you by quoting what you said in the paper on the Vocational Education Act as to what vocational education is going to do under that act—how it was directed.

Chairman PERKINS. Let me say to the gentleman that I conducted the hearings on—

Mr. GOODELL. A great deal more than we are, but I don't think you or I then felt it was directed at the cream of the crop. We had to begin to get to the hard core. We can do it better.