

Mr. DELLENBACK. This is your Citizen Corps?

Mr. CROOK. This is the Citizens' Corps.

Mr. DELLENBACK. How do you go about selecting these people?

Mr. CROOK. These people will be invited to serve in several ways. For one thing, we are working with Headstart and we will send letters out. We will ask local community action agencies to send letters out asking people to volunteer. The President has signed a letter which will be used to ask the 160,000 or more people who have not been able to get into VISTA not to give up but to give their energies on a part-time basis and to apply to some war on poverty effort, either with Job Corps, with community action, or with summer recreation. There are any number of things that they can do.

Mr. DELLENBACK. How do you plan to organize and control them if they are nonpaid employees?

Mr. CROOK. This is a problem, frankly, that caused us some concern until we realized that we already had 20,000 of them working for local sponsors side by side with regular volunteers and there had not been one incident where control was necessary. They will be working for local sponsors. They will be screened by local sponsors and they will be fired by local sponsors if their work is not satisfactory.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Is there any compensation whatever to them?

Mr. CROOK. No, sir, there is no compensation. If they serve successfully we hope to present them with a certificate which Mr. Shriver, I am sure, will graciously sign.

Mr. DELLENBACK. I notice in the statistics, not what you presented us today but in the background booklet, you have some educational profile of VISTA workers with a tremendous emphasis on college. You have almost three-quarters, if I recall the statistics, of the VISTA volunteers having attended college. This does not mean, I suppose, a degree necessarily but at least some time there.

Is there any change taking place in this? Are you going to continue to be able to tap the college graduate or the college matriculate for this purpose, or are you making any attempt to change this in any way?

Mr. CROOK. You referred to the 75 percent which had attended college?

Mr. DELLENBACK. That is right. I pointed out this did not mean graduate, but some college experience.

Mr. CROOK. That is right. Of that number, 70 percent returned to college upon completing VISTA service. There has been some talk that we are luring college students away. Our answer to that is that probably we are one of the greatest aids to the college dropout problem in the country. Twenty-one percent of the volunteers had high school education only. We are deliberately trying to recruit from the ranks of the poor. We have approximately 10 percent of our volunteers now serving from the ranks of the poor in very effective liaison roles.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Those are not included in either your 22 or 21 percent of your 74 percent?

Mr. CROOK. No, you were asking whether we were considering any change. That would be a change.

Mr. DELLENBACK. That is not yet reflected in your statistics but you are in the process of moving in that direction?