

Mr. SCHERLE. Keeping them off the street would keep them out of trouble, don't you think?

Mr. LEVINE. I have no objection to keeping them off the streets. The point I make is the one Mr. Shriver has made frequently, that the objective of the OEO is not to avoid trouble in the streets. The objective of OEO is to get rid of poverty.

Mr. SCHERLE. Doctor, I can tell you one thing here and now, that neither you nor I nor anyone else will ever eliminate poverty completely.

My next question: How many total Neighborhood Youth Corps graduates have you had?

Mr. LEVINE. About 900,000 young people through the Neighborhood Youth Corps.

Mr. SHRIVER. The Secretary of Labor will be here to testify.

Chairman PERKINS. Why doesn't the gentleman wait until the witnesses who are experts on this program are here?

Mr. SCHERLE. Mr. Chairman, whom do you have here?

Mr. SHRIVER. The idea, Congressman, is that today we would take up in order some of these programs like the one we are talking about, the neighborhood center program. The Secretary of Labor and Director of the Neighborhood Youth Corps will be here to testify about the Neighborhood Youth Corps. What we were hoping to do is cover the community action things at this time.

Mr. SCHERLE. You have so many different programs I hope you will pardon us because it is hard to keep up with what you really have. In fact, I think you have more than we really know about.

I have been told that there is an OEO program in New York which consists of the formation of a grocery co-op under the direction of OEO personnel. Is this true? If so, how can you justify taking \$ dollars to put the poor and any factor of Government in direct competition with neighborhood grocery stores?

Mr. BERRY. Your information is incorrect. We have funded a program in New York, in Brooklyn, a consumer action program, which was jointly developed by the community and the small businessmen in that neighborhood for developing an intelligent program of consumer education, buying information, price information, and the development of credit unions that would enable the community to more actively and effectively use the dollars within that community so that both business as well as the people will be benefited by it.

It is not a program that is putting the community action agency into business.

Mr. SCHERLE. How big is this warehouse or general store, whatever you call it?

Mr. BERRY. It is not a general store, and I did not use the term "general store."

Mr. SCHERLE. I did.

Mr. BERRY. It is not a warehouse either. It is being developed in connection with a neighborhood service center.

Mr. SCHERLE. Certainly you must have a lot of merchandise on the shelves.

Mr. BERRY. No, sir.

Mr. SCHERLE. And a lot of people employed.