

I would like to insist that there is also the desirability of maintaining those programs which make whatever we do here part of a program to get the hard core unemployed into a better position.

Mr. GOODELL. I agree with you.

Secretary WIRTZ. It is a fine balance of the extent to which one should pay institutional training, on-the-job training, payment of part of the salary or tax credit. That is a kind of spectra.

Mr. GOODELL. The tax credit proposal is not going to be enacted in this Congress. We are talking now about an Industry Youth Corps proposal for giving some kind of assistance to pay wages to these poor people who are defined in the Opportunity Crusade as those having low skills and low income, to try to get them jobs in private enterprise.

The question is directly there. It does not have to be fogged up with any discussion of tax credit because that is not in the books so far as Congress is concerned this year or probably next. We are talking about a very urgent problem, and you have characterized it very very affectively. We are not going to have tax credit for 2 or 3 years anyway. Should we not move in this direction with a rather big problem?

Secretary WIRTZ. No.

Mr. GOODELL. You are opposed to the Industry Youth Corps?

Secretary WIRTZ. Yes, I am. My answer may put me at a disadvantage, and I appreciate this fact. I am not, at this point, however, prepared to say that I think the right answer is for the American taxpayer to subsidize American employers in terms of direct wage payment. My answer to that is "No." I am strongly in favor of a control of a program along the lines of the on-the-job training program.

Mr. GOODELL. You already, in effect, have said that you are doing that in three experimental programs by this fine line that is drawn for giving them enough money for equipment and personnel. You apparently don't think it is wrong to subsidize the employers indirectly where you don't have the authority to do it directly.

I think you would be better off to have proper standards to effectively administer such a program whereby this can be done directly and openly.

Mr. DENT. It could be done by broadening the powers of the Secretary so that he may, without being tied to a specific program or amount to be spent in that area, where he can, through the administration of this act, using the discretion he has, the discretion that he can sue in the matter, select certain training programs where he can pay, we give him the right without stipulating amounts, without telling him rules and regulations as to how it should be done, but I believe he has to have a year or so experience in starting this type of program because eventually, we have to come to it.

Secretary WIRTZ. You know, we are so close together that to suggest a basic difference would be a very great mistake. I don't want to suggest that. I just want to add one other thing along the lines of what you have just said, Mr. Chairman.

One of these types of experimental programs or perhaps two—I am not sure which one comes closest to what Mr. Goodell is talking about—which were proposed and which we had explored, carried among other things a terribly high price tag, about \$8,000 or \$9,000 per person. I am talking about those programs that go the furthest in the direction you are talking about and which we had considered experimenting with. Now that is too high.