

Secretary WIRTZ. No, I was not referring to "Jobs Now," which costs are well under \$1,000. There were some proposals which we did not accept because even after discussions to reduce the costs, there still would have been a bill of \$8,000 to \$9,000 per trainee, which is beyond the level which we can undertake on any extensive basis.

Mr. SCHEUER. What is the possible cost of a 1-year Job Corps experience? How would you rate that in terms of cost-benefit comparability?

Secretary WIRTZ. I have some sensitivity on that point because it is a program we don't administer. Not only sensitivity as such, but I have limited information about it. I should point out again that the Job Corps is taking the hard cases. It has taken them from the beginning.

It is taking those cases in which it is almost essential to get the boy or girl out of the home environment or lack of home environment and into a camp environment or training center environment, where he lives there.

I don't know whether or not \$8,000 or \$9,000 on those terms is too high. I would not be prepared to say it was. There is a large capital investment however there.

If I knew that the \$8,000 or \$9,000 which a private company says it needs to hire this individual was going to be productive for that individual, I would not count it a loss because we are talking about youths who may otherwise need public assistance for the rest of their lives.

So it would be a pretty good investment. I am pretty sure, as far as the Job Corps is concerned, that you get value received for the amount of money spent.

I don't have any basis for believing the \$9,000 subsidy to an employer would produce that same result.

Mr. SCHEUER. If it were a large corporation that had a well-designed training program it might be justifiable but I would be a little bit dubious if this kind of subsidy were given to small corporations which don't have the capability of operating these programs, even if they wanted to.

Secretary WIRTZ. That is the real problem. If we knew in this country that we could cure every human fault, counting an individual fault in this situation, at \$9,000 apiece we would snap it up in a minute. So it is not a question of the cost in absolute figures. It is a question of whether that cost will do the job.

Mr. SCHEUER. Right. Also at that time you testified that in your opinion the present limiting factors on the scope and extent that we could expand these training programs—the New Careers programs, the on-the-job training programs—the limiting factors were two.

First, experience, which approach would really do the job, and second, manpower, personnel to run the programs. I suppose in the last 6 months there has not been a great deal of additional experience.

Do you have any suggestions as to how we can fill the manpower gap? How do we train the trainers? Do you have the present organization to do so or do you need additional legislation to set up programs to train the trainers assuming in the next year or two experience will prove that we are on the right track and that our underlying assumptions and the basic validity of our rationale is sound?