

The other point to which I refer is this, Mr. Quie. You recognize that in connection with the administration of the manpower program we deal with the Federal-State employment security system all over the country. We deal in a very meaningful way with a structure which is over 30 years old.

It has played a very large part in the administration of the Manpower Development and Training Act, together with the State vocational education system through which HEW works in administering the institutional training programs under the act.

I would be opposed to bringing that whole program into the kind of regulatory arrangement which I recognize as good sense with respect to these new programs.

I would be opposed to that. I would be in favor of bringing it in to the extent that it is contemplated by title VI, part B.

So I make a pragmatic distinction between those two, and find the rationalization in the fact that one is for new programs, the other is for old programs.

Mr. QUIE. Would you expect as time goes on and the new programs can no longer be called new, that you would shift then? Eventually you would see a phasing out of OEO's activities in supervising the problem?

Secretary WIRTZ. I see a phasing out of poverty in this country in the sense that we have it today. I don't think it is as far away as a lot of people believe or some people believe.

So, my answer would necessarily be "Yes, sir." I do see a future in which it is no longer necessary to set up a separate representation or institutional provision for the poor. I surely do see that.

Mr. QUIE. I hope that is right because if we continue on the road we are now, I think we will find a group of people segregated because of their economic level. This would be as degrading as the segregation of race that we have had for years and years in this country.

Secretary WIRTZ. May I say I think there is a pretty clear-cut time factor here. There is a slimmer possibility of clearing up poverty completely among those who are already through their education. I am quite sanguine about making the educational system work so that this will be a tapering problem from now on. I don't believe there will be many more poverty eligibles coming along in the country.

To put it affirmatively, I think the education system is at this point picking up so rapidly with respect to this problem that it is going to take care of most of the future.

Mr. QUIE. Let me ask you, then, about the Community Action agencies as an effective program. Let us take the Nelson program in particular which was funded under title II. When it was first financed I was under the impression that this would be an opportunity for local Community Action agencies to fund before an earmarking of the funds.

Now, the shift is out of title II to title I. To what extent will community action agencies relate to all the programs you will be operating and administering under title I, part B?

Secretary WIRTZ. To a considerable extent. In working practice, both with respect to OEO programs and with respect to an increasing number of MDTA programs, our operating rule is that if there is