

and skills and cultural opportunities themselves. This will mean that they can move out of poverty, certainly, within their generation.

Mr. GOODELL. I take it from what you say that children are half of this total number of 27 million in the nonaged poor category. A more significant number would be the number of children who are in families where the head of the household is unreachable because of handicaps beyond our capability to overcome.

Mr. CARTER. What I am trying to indicate is that there are a number, as you say, of children who can be helped if their parents can be helped.

A number of the parents are persons who are employed either every day or a significant part of the week but still cannot earn enough money, particularly with larger families, to get out of poverty.

Then there are mothers who in many cases could be employable, particularly after the children grow beyond the very young period of their life.

Therefore, a combination of jobs and better income support for people who need income support, plus the other kind of programs which provide the education, the new opportunities, and so forth, stimulated by OEO—the combination of those things—would go a long way toward cutting very deeply in that poverty number.

Mr. GOODELL. I did not mean to ask you in an unfair way to give me a precise figure. I take it from your general answers that you are optimistic that we can reach a significant number in this group.

Mr. CARTER. I am optimistic that we can if we are willing to put the resources into it, that we can remove a lot of people, an awful high percentage of those we now classify as "poor," from poverty, yes.

Mr. GOODELL. Of course, removing poverty would mean a variety of ways, including just plain income maintenance.

Mr. CARTER. I included that as one of the tools. As you yourself said, there may be some people in this group who, because they are physically handicapped—we have already taken the aged out—or are mentally handicapped, or because in some transitional period they are poor, simply cannot—

Mr. GOODELL. Recognizing that the only point I am making is that I take it that you are optimistic that we can reach a significant number of this 27.3 million of nonaged poor and make them self-sustaining—

Mr. CARTER. The answer to that—

Chairman PERKINS. I am going to interrupt the colloquy, as valuable as it is, because Mr. Dellenback is going to leave, and I will ask you to yield to Mr. Dellenback for a few moments.

Mr. GOODELL. I understand. I think we have come to a very good interruption point, and I will yield.

Chairman PERKINS. Go ahead, Mr. Dellenback.

Mr. DELLENBACK. I apologize for having missed a portion of this while I was out. I have read the statement, and I caught the first part of what you gave. I have read your complete statement, Mr. Carter.

There are a couple of general questions that I am concerned about that don't become clear to me as I read the Secretary's or your constant backing of OEO.

Now, you favor the purposes and the programs that OEO is administering?