

had statements made that vocational educators have been ignoring this need; that all they are doing is meeting the needs of the skilled people, the potentially skilled people.

I don't believe that for a minute. Do you?

Mr. CARTER. The vocational educators, it seems to me, by and large have programs focused in the way that they have developed in the schools. And by and large they are not for youngsters who are at the eighth grade of education. They are for youngsters who at least have moved to a level within high school where they can be reached by the kind of comprehensive skilled training over a long period of time which vocational training offers.

Moreover, vocational education is giving even greater emphasis to post high school education and to technical school education, and this is all extremely important. It is what we need in this Nation, in terms of developing the kinds of skill we need.

But there is a need to deal with these youngsters who have left school in the eighth grade at the age of 16, or who have left school even after the eighth grade but are functionally below an eighth grade level.

And by and large that has not been defined as the role of vocational educators. I am not blaming vocational educators. That has not been defined as their role. I think it is absolutely wrong to expect that the vocational education should become a dumping ground, as you would say, in a different context, for people who have failed academically. That should not be the role of vocational education. These youngsters need additional help.

Mr. GOODELL. You people are the ones who used the term "dumping ground." I never would use that term.

Mr. CARTER. You were suggesting that about the Job Corps, and I was just translating it over to vocational education.

Mr. GOODELL. I was saying that the approach we have taken in the Job Corps is to say we need a special facility for rejects who have failed where we can put them all together. I have suggested rather that we should integrate them into a community facility where we give special attention to those who have failed, along with the attention we are giving to others.

Now, you have used some very adroit phrases, that by and large vocational education has been directed at those who have skill potential and are above the eighth grade. No dispute exists that vocational education has other functions such as post high school training; no question about that.

But the key point is: Haven't vocational educators been for years focusing on the programs of those who are at below eighth grade level who particularly need this special help, and who are poor? And are they not capable now of running a program based upon the experience they had for years and years in this field, as well as or better than OEO?

Chairman PERKINS. Would the gentleman yield to me?

Mr. GOODELL. I would like an answer. Then I will yield.

Mr. CARTER. I would like to say that I do not feel that what you have defined in your last sentence is defined by vocational educators as their primary mission.

Mr. GOODELL. Primary mission?