

Mr. DANIELS. If Headstart were to be run exclusively by public schools do you anticipate any problems finding staffs for the year-round program that you referred to?

Mr. SUGARMAN. I think that if the public schools were to take over the program at this point in time and to use the public school personnel systems, that there would be some very substantial difficulties. This is one of the things that Dr. Lumley of the National Education Association testified about before this committee, in opposition to the transfer of Headstart to the Office of Education. What he said in testifying before this committee was that the public schools were more concerned about things like personnel systems than they were about some of the program elements of Headstart. And he thought, in his judgment and in NEA's judgment, that there would be a tremendous loss of program effectiveness if the schools were to move into this at this time.

Mr. QUIE. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. DANIELS. I would be glad to yield.

Mr. QUIE. I was wondering who is recommending that Headstart be administered only by the public schools, or that contracts only be through them. Is anybody recommending that?

Mr. DANIELS. No one that I know of. I am anticipating that this might be the thought of some people, perhaps some members of this committee.

Mr. QUIE. It might be. I haven't heard of that.

Mr. DANIELS. Are there any parts of the country where public schools have shown no interest in the program of Headstart?

Mr. SUGARMAN. I think there are, sir. Unfortunately, in some of the Southeastern States, there is practically no participation on the part of the public schools. I suppose the most outstanding example of this is the State of Mississippi where we have some 30,000 children participating in Headstart, and less than 500 of those are in public school programs.

Mr. DANIELS. Has there been any criticism of the program concerning the incorporation of poor people in the proposal so far as you are concerned?

Mr. SUGARMAN. Yes, there have been a number of communities, and particularly school systems which have raised very serious questions and have been quite resistant to using poor people as either volunteers or staff members in the program. I think that picture has improved considerably in the last year, and in even the most recalcitrant school systems there is now a greater willingness to try to work with non-professionals. But it has taken a constant effort on our part and on the part of State and local assistance agencies and our regional offices to open the door to the employment of nonprofessionals.

Mr. SHRIVER. May I comment on that just briefly?

Mr. DANIELS. Surely, Mr. Shriver.

Mr. SHRIVER. I was on the Chicago Board of Education for about 5 years, and I know everybody on the board, I think, and a number of the administrators. I suppose I had a year's worth of correspondence with some of the officials there and some board members about the use of volunteers in the public schools, particularly with respect to Headstart. This came to a climax about 3 weeks ago when, in fact, it was decided at the very highest levels in the Chicago board that they would