

It is in this sense that the Job Corps Conservation Center program is providing an opportunity for these youngsters to strengthen and beautify their country while they are helping themselves to become more productive members of our society.

The Departments of the Interior and Agriculture are assigned certain responsibilities by the Office of Economic Opportunity in administering the Job Corps Conservation Center portion of the antipoverty program, utilizing funds transferred from OEO. Five bureaus of this Department are involved—Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Office of Economic Opportunity has responsibility for program and policy formulation, recruitment of Job Corps enrollees and for their placement on completion of the program. This division of labor has, I would say, worked out quite well.

The Department of the Interior and Agriculture administer the centers which include work with education and other enrollee programs. The Department of the Interior is currently operating 38 Job Corps Conservation Centers involving 6,764 enrollees.

Already the Job Corps has contributed to the improvement of the public domain under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior. The estimated appraised value of the conservation work performed by Job Corps enrollees has already been represented to this committee by the Office of Economic Opportunity, and was summarized as follows:

Total estimated value to May 1, 1967, \$26,067,234.

(Of this total over \$12 million was in the Department of the Interior.)

73 miles of firebreaks and fire suppression facilities built and maintained.

66 miles of fishing streams developed and maintained.

15,000 acres of fish and wildlife habitat improvement.

2,300 miles of roads built and maintained.

7,936 acres of timber stand improved and reforested.

404 acres of watersheds restored.

10,251 units of picnic tables, fireplaces, cabins, built.

13,081 acres of trees and shrubs, planted, areas landscaped in beautification project.

This represents conservation work which the present skill level of the Job Corps enrollees enables them to perform. It is work for which the bureaus have not received funds in their regular programs but it is preserving and protecting our national heritage.

Job Corps enrollees have contributed to the welfare of the communities where they are stationed. When areas of southern Oregon, northern California, and Denver, Colo., were flooded, enrollees performed flood relief work until the residents could return to their homes and businesses. When a crop harvest crisis occurred in Grand Junction, Colo., corpsmen assisted in the orderly salvage of crops essential to the economy of the community. In some centers there are select fire-fighting crews and corpsmen have fought forest and range fires. Disaster and emergency rescue work of Job Corps enrollees is another part of the benefits that the program is bringing to the country.

The conservation and recreation work is being done in a manner somewhat similar to the CCC programs of the 1930's and early 1940's. Corpsmen are dividing their available time between an education pro-