

of Labor under the Economic Opportunity Act, provided employment and work experience for 6,544 Indian youth last year. Some 2,980 Indian adults participated in work experience programs administered by the Department of Health Education and Welfare under Title V of the Economic Opportunity Act.

Secretary UDALL. Well, of course, if I may comment generally, because I think I see and agree with the main point that you are making here and it has seemed to me that when I look at the past history of our Indian people, that one of the main reasons for failure is that everybody in the Federal Government, as well as the people in the States and all of us said, "Well, the Indian people are the problem of the Bureau of Indian Affairs," and you could never get everyone involved; and that is the reason, over a year ago, with the Economic Opportunity Council, which works under the Vice President, and Sargent Shriver, I tabled this as a major item of business, making the point that what we really need to do is to marshal the resources of the Federal Government to help the Indian people. They are not a problem of the Indian Bureau, and the Office of Education, for example—I am still not convinced they are doing nearly enough. Here is a group of people that are entirely a responsibility, many of them, of the Federal Government. Many of their schools are the only Federal schools, so why shouldn't we use them and get a lot of our money for experimental programs, because they not only are ideally situated, but certainly we should begin by helping them.

The same way with the manpower training programs, the Department of Labor, with the economic development loans. If we can reach out and bring all of the resources of the Federal Government to bear on the problem, as we are increasingly doing, then we should make some headway; but as long as we sat back and treated the Indian people as a problem that the Indian Bureau was dealing with, you are just going to hobble along at not really making the big strides that you can make if you get a big input from everyone concerned.

Mr. REID. Well, I think that makes much sense, and my final question, Mr. Chairman, would merely be; Do you have the mechanics through the Vice President's Council of Coordination so that you can marshal the full resources of the Federal Government, or do you need some additional help to strengthen your pace, to act effectively and to encourage coordinated action across the board, including the Office of Education, OEO, the Department of the Interior, and wherever else it may be indicated and useful?

Mr. BENNETT. Well, out of this one meeting of the Council where we discussed Indians came a committee that has been set up, and which is functioning, and I can say to you that I know from several instances that they are getting results. I think there has been significant improvement.

Mr. REID. Thank you.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Thompson.

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Secretary, it is wonderful to see you here as an old friend and seatmate for a number of years. I would like to commend you on your statement.

I gather from your response to the questions by the chairman, that you are, notwithstanding that there have been wrinkles to be ironed out, satisfied with the relationship between your Department and OEO. Is that a correct interpretation?