

Mr. WHITAKER. One thing we have done is that we have kept our salaries and wages in line with those in the surrounding community. We have not abused that situation. No. 2, we have tried to sell teachers on the fact that this is a way to get ahead in their profession; to get direct experience in this regard.

Number three, we have complete control through 25 different cost centers of the actual aspects of the operation and have a review of those costs every quarter.

I am going out there on the 25th of this month for the review of the last quarter's operations.

We control through data processing the expenditures that are made. We know how much is being paid for everything. We feel that we have a complete business-like, sound, well-adjusted approach to this just as we would have in our own business.

Chairman PERKINS. As a businessman and as head of one of our leading business corporations, how much do you anticipate that you may be able to bring the costs down by July 1, 1968, from the present cost figure?

Mr. WHITAKER. I would be unreasonable and unfair to the boys themselves if I said at all we could come below the \$2,500 base that we have now achieved. We could limit the program and we could bring costs per head down by increasing the number of enrollees but for the same number of enrollees and the same program I doubt if we could effect substantial savings beyond what we have spent.

Chairman PERKINS. Have you had a chance to look at these Harris Surveys? Can you give us any views or point up any weaknesses insofar as these Harris Surveys convey to the general public on their face?

Mr. WHITAKER. I saw the Lou Harris Reports yesterday for the first time and I read them until late last night and I had figures coming out of my eyes and ears.

First, I think OEO was courageous for asking the report because it pointed out definite things that can be corrected and about which things are being done.

For example, the screening practices are being improved by reason of what that report points out.

No. 2, I feel Mr. Harris and his interrogators learned from the actual making of the report. If you read volume 4 you will find he says the statements contained in volume 3 with respect to employment before and after are exaggerated in some respects to the disadvantage of the corpsmen.

Chairman PERKINS. He says that himself?

Mr. WHITAKER. Yes, he does in volume 4.

Chairman PERKINS. He says that the reports, insofar as the unemployment figures are concerned, the youngsters finding jobs is exaggerated in some respects. Harris says that.

Mr. WHITAKER. Exactly. I feel this was an excellent objective attempt to find out helpful information to do an improved operation. Some of the observations are subpoints made without sufficient knowledge to draw total and general conclusions for the whole Job Corps program.

Chairman PERKINS. Just based on employment and the Job Corps following up for employment?

Mr. WHITAKER. That is right.