

I feel that something should be done to correct this from either one of two points of view. Either allow the center director to certify that this young man is capable of taking that profession or that occupation and thus waive the laws that restrict him from taking that occupation now or since there are many more needy cases than there are spaces in these 45,000 allowed, we should change the age from 16 to 21 to 17 to 21 so that we can be working where the odds are best in those with whom we are allowed to work.

Chairman PERKINS. I recall the old CCC days. In fact, many of my neighbors were youngsters back in 1933 and some of them had to drive 153 miles to enroll at Middleboro, Ky.

I have seen much good come from that program. I have always agreed that learning how to work in the forest and so forth and other types of training should not be a lost art and, while conserving our natural resources, does build healthy bodies and more responsible and alert minds.

I feel that this experience of work is most useful in many respects. If a youngster can obtain confidence and hopefulness, I think that is most important for that youngster and it will do more than anything else to instill in a youngster that which is necessary for him to make his own way in society.

Do they receive experience and training of this type that instills this confidence and hope and has it been successful, in your belief, in building these boys to the point where they have confidence that they can make their way in the world?

Mr. WHITAKER. Most decidedly, sir. The thing that I want to qualify before I give this more complete answer is that we still have a problem with respect to dropouts from Job Corps itself.

I cannot speak for them. The Harris report made quite a study of the dropouts and the discharges which needs to be taken into account and much availed of as possible. But as far as the graduates are concerned, everything you have said is true.

You can observe a new boy coming to Breckinridge with long hair and retiring and does not know whether to run or fight and does not know what the situation is and then at the end of 90 days you see that same boy and the change is just unbelievable in terms of his hope and confidence in what he can do for himself.

Chairman PERKINS. I observed youngsters at the graduation function down there.

I knew the grandparents of some of these youngsters.

Mr. WHITAKER. I saw you speak to some of them.

Chairman PERKINS. In speaking to some of those folks, they were real happy on that occasion.

Do you feel that you have been successful, even though some of them are not now employed in instilling in them a desire and greater capacity to learn and go out in the world?

Is that an accomplishment from your viewpoint?

Mr. WHITAKER. Absolutely. If the screening is properly done—and it is now improved—if we have the rate base, we can make good tax-paying material out of that citizen.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Quie.

Mr. QUIE. Mr. Whitaker, you mentioned in your testimony a figure of \$6,700 for Breckinridge. Is that right, the average cost per enrollee for a 12-month period?