

Mr. GIBBONS. I wish it could be closer to home. I regret that we don't have any of these cities in my part of the United States. Perhaps if there had not been as much unfavorable publicity about these centers, maybe we could get some of the Governors down in our part of the country to allow these centers to come in because that is a real problem.

Mr. QUIE. I would like to have you make a comment on the second-to-last paragraph of his book. He said:

But, if the Job Corps is to achieve this potential for developing new, more effective techniques for solving the most complex teenage poverty problems, it must change its administrative priorities.

In simplest terms, it needs to give far more attention to the quality of its effort, and far less to the quantity. There is little to be gained from pushing larger and larger numbers of trainees through programs of doubtful effectiveness which many of them fail to complete.

There is much to be gained from putting far greater effort into finding out what it takes to hold the enrollees in the program and what makes a successful graduate.

You have had a year now, 14 months of operating at Breckinridge.

Have you been able to identify the means of successfully holding them there since you moved from 100 percent dropout to 30 percent dropout? I do not mean necessarily 100 percent under your experience. Also you have had a number of graduates now that have been placed even in your own corporation.

Mr. WHITAKER. Congressman Quie, we have not solved the problem. We think we have made great strides and if I can believe the reports of the last 2 months, we are much improved over the past 10 months.

The key to the dropout problem in my judgment is to make sure that the orientation is so well done that they don't make missteps and choose the wrong vocation when they start and keep them as busy as cats on a tin roof so they don't get homesick and want to go home and make sure that the communications are clear cut.

We have made great success in reducing the number of dropouts by what we call group interaction counseling, by having the boys work on the other boys to not want to give up this wonderful opportunity that they have and I think this is helpful.

I don't want to sound like a psychologist but you can do things that way that you can't get adults to do when working with young men.

Mr. QUIE. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman PERKINS. Mrs. Green?

Mrs. GREEN. You are chairman of the board of Graflex?

Mr. WHITAKER. Yes, Ma'am.

Mrs. GREEN. And you serve on General Precision?

Mr. WHITAKER. I am on their board also.

Mrs. GREEN. How many are on both boards?

Mr. WHITAKER. Three are on the Graflex board and 23 I believe on the General Precision board.

Mrs. GREEN. Do you serve on both of those?

Mr. WHITAKER. Yes.

Mrs. GREEN. Where is your office?

Mr. WHITAKER. In Rochester, N.Y.

Mrs. GREEN. Could you tell me approximately how much of your busy life you spend at Breckinridge?

Mr. WHITAKER. I am there at least once every month and sometimes twice a month. I will be there next on the 25th of this month.