

Mr. POMEROY. Yes, this is the point that I am trying to make.

I talked with the enrollees. A few had been in camp almost two years. Others only a few weeks. All of them took pride in their work and looked forward to the day when they would be self-sufficient. They seemed to be especially proud of their achievements as fire-fighters. It gave them a sense of being needed.

I would like to stress that again. The people in the community had asked for them to help fight their fires, and this made a big impression on the boys. They felt that they were doing something. Their attitude of alert confidence impressed me most.

I left the camp with a firm conviction that the Nation is doing something very worthwhile. In fact several important goals are being achieved. Young men, future heads of families, are acquiring skills that will enable them to make their own way in the world. More importantly these young men are being imbued with a desire to be self-sufficient. And in this process of "learning by doing" the forest resources of the Nation are being improved significantly.

Mentally I compared the Job Corps conservation camp with the Civilian Conservation Corps that I knew 30 years ago, and I spent some 7 years in close contact with the CCC program.

It was a favorable comparison. In the tests of time the CCC program has been rated a success. I think history will accord a similar rating to the Job Corps conservation camps.

I recommend that the Job Corps program in conservation work be continued.

Thank you.

Mr. DELLENBACK. Thank you.

Congressman PERKINS, do you have any questions?

Chairman PERKINS. I will ask a few questions.

I want to join with my colleague here in welcoming you as a representative from our forestry association.

Mr. POMEROY. Thank you, sir.

Chairman PERKINS. I was interested in your statement that you were acquainted with the old Civilian Conservation Corps and spent 7 years with it.

Mr. POMEROY. Yes, sir.

Chairman PERKINS. Were you involved as instructor in the camp?

Mr. POMEROY. I was a foreman in several camps, a camp superintendent, a district ranger—

Chairman PERKINS. Working for the Department of Agriculture?

Mr. POMEROY. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

Chairman PERKINS. How do you contrast the present operation with the old operation?

Mr. POMEROY. The basic objectives were slightly different.

Chairman PERKINS. You emphasized the Corps—

Mr. POMEROY. In the beginning part of the CCC program, it was all work. As the program went forward, there became more instruction available, and of course as the program went on, the enrollees were at a younger level, too. In the first days we had boys who were 19, 20, and 21, farm boys, boys from the mining areas, boys who knew how to work and to enjoy their work.

Chairman PERKINS. Just to get a little money in those times?

Mr. POMEROY. That is right. We have a little different group this time that we worked with. But what I was interested in was going to