

what had taken place in the 1930's, in the days of the old Civilian Conservation Corps. They were doing work of that type in the national forest down there in the Pine Ridge area.

Mr. POMEROY. Yes.

Chairman PERKINS. Did you feel that the training and the experience that these youngsters are getting from a conservation corps setup is satisfactory at the present time, or do you feel it just presages a way for a youngster to go on to some Job Corps residential center when they have better equipment?

Mr. POMEROY. Well, I don't know that I am qualified to answer the question for you, because I don't know anything about the urban part of it. The only part of the Job Corps I have seen has been the conservation camp, and I am favorably impressed with that part.

Chairman PERKINS. Do you feel that the training and experience they obtain in the conservation camp is adequate to prepare that youngster from the standpoint of job orientation, for employment?

Mr. POMEROY. I think one of the most important parts of it is teaching the boy how to work and giving him confidence that he can do something on his own, and once he has achieved this confidence and a will to go ahead, then other things become easy for him.

Chairman PERKINS. You are a conservation expert, to my mind. Do you know whether the Job Corps located in the National Forest Service and the national parks, whether any part of the training and education is being contracted to either agencies, or subcontracted to some private concern, or do the departments perform those services themselves?

Mr. POMEROY. I am not aware of that.

Chairman PERKINS. You are not aware of any contracts?

Mr. POMEROY. I haven't heard of any.

Chairman PERKINS. Did you observe the education and training aspects of the programs in the conservation camps?

Mr. POMEROY. I visited each one of the classes in session.

Chairman PERKINS. Would you describe each one of those classes, and whether that was the uniform pattern in the conservation camps you visited?

Go ahead and tell us something about the education and training that the youngsters received, and the type of education and training.

Mr. POMEROY. Well, in one of the classes I visited, the young man, who I presumed to be probably about 17 or 18, was learning how to read at a very elementary level.

Chairman PERKINS. 17 or 18 years of age?

Mr. POMEROY. Yes. And I don't think he had any previous knowledge whatever of reading and in other classes in the same building, I saw boys starting in with 1 and 1 make 2, and 2 and 2 make 4—I mean right at the very beginning of learning their RRR's, and in one class the instructor had a large chart on which he showed by colors the progress of each boy, so that each boy could see where he stood in the class with respect to all of his friends, and there was a testing technique so that the boy could test himself, and if he failed some particular question, this automatically routed him around through another training session until he became proficient and came up to the level of the other boy.