

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I think timing is the key there. I don't think that it is at this point ready to be absorbed. I think it could be in some years, after this demonstration program has proved something. I would be against that now.

Chairman PERKINS. Now concerning the Community Action program, Opportunity Crusade proposes to transfer that from the Office of Economic Opportunity to HEW. Do you envision that much delay and hamstringing of Community Action programs would take place if that occurred?

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I am hesitant to range beyond my experience, sir, in talking in a general way like that. I do know that a community action program has its force and its appeal to the sort of people it attracts on the basis of the focus that it has. I think you can make this argument—I worked for 2 years for the Peace Corps. I would wonder very definitely whether I had been attracted to the Peace Corps or whether there would have been a Peace Corps, for example, if it had been up to AID or the State Department to suggest it.

Chairman PERKINS. I wonder very much if there would have been a community action program if it had been left up to various traditional departments.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I cannot answer that, but I can say the way it did evolve attracted me.

Chairman PERKINS. You are quite aware of the fact that we are zeroing in on the areas that have never received consideration before?

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I must say, Mr. Chairman, that I feel very strongly about the value of an entity, whether it is Community Action program, or whether it is in OEO. I am just 30, and I know that the way you attract young people who are idealistic and who want to be in public service and who are also realistic, is to set a focus, is to make the war on poverty, or whatever it should be called, something which stands out very clearly.

It is to this, for example, that the Vista volunteers want to go. They see it as a specific organization trying to do something specifically about a problem. They can identify with that problem and with that organization. I myself, for example, could never have wanted to join HEW because, you know, it does not work that way. The war on poverty has a specific focus, it is something which attracts the sort of people that I think will be necessary to solve this type of problem, in the numbers that are necessary to solve the problem.

Chairman PERKINS. Have you observed the Job Corps in that area?

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Yes, sir. Not closely, but I have observed it.

Chairman PERKINS. What is your observation about the women's Job Corps in the area?

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I am impressed. The newspapers really are—some girl will throw a small pill bottle out of the window, and suddenly it becomes a whiskey bottle and then there is a tremendous scare. What I liked in the Job Corps that I saw, there is something I wish would take place all over West Virginia. We are taking young people with minimum education, high school dropouts, with problems, rural background, urban background. They are giving these people computer training. They are taking, for example, a 17- or 18-year-old girl with these problems and they give her 6, 7, 8 months of training.