

Chairman PERKINS. You and I both know that there has been much progress and the cost of the Job Corps has come down tremendously in the last year, and the Office of Economic Opportunity has benefitted from the brief experience of two years operation. Do you see tremendous improvement in the operation of the Job Corps in the past years?

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Sir, I cannot say that I know the history of the development of the Job Corps well enough to talk about its cost, its relative cost.

Chairman PERKINS. If I understood you correctly, you believe that the Office of Economic Opportunity should remain as presently constituted, that it will be more effective in reaching the poor that we are trying to reach and should not be transferred.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. From the view of one Community Action worker in a rural community in West Virginia, yes, sir.

Chairman PERKINS. Do you have any other suggestions that you would care to give the committee?

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Yes, I certainly do.

Chairman PERKINS. Go ahead.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. I want to make this point very strongly. First of all, that the rural poor of Appalachia will not, and cannot, be reached through programs which do not send workers out into those communities. My salary for 2 years was \$6,400. There was not another nickel of Federal, State money or county money spent in that community in 2 years. Not one nickel except \$6,450. But that \$6,450 which paid my salary was essential for any sort of change to take place in that community. Had there not been that change, we would be paying an economic price I think.

Chairman PERKINS. How are we going to reach the rural poor that we are not now reaching?

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Sir, this is a problem that I leave to wiser heads. All I know is that it takes a worker to reach people. That means a lot of people who are prepared to spend a lot of time. Rural change is enormously slow. It is at times enormously discouraging. At times you are convinced it can never happen, and yet it continues to happen. These people can be reached, they are being reached, and they can learn to solve their problems. I am convinced of that after my own experience.

Mrs. GREEN (presiding). Have you completed your statement?

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Yes. Actually, I don't think I have made a statement. I was just responding to questions.

Mrs. GREEN. Congressman Goodell, do you have any questions?

Mr. GOODELL. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

Thank you for your statement, Mr. Rockefeller. I welcome you to our committee. Let me say at the outset that the questions Mr. Perkins asked you about the Job Corps were in the hands of a master in terms of questioning. "Do you want to weaken the Job Corps?" "Would you want to dismantle the Job Corps?" "Would you want to cut it back at this point?"

Those are all very loaded questions. Nobody proposes that we weaken the concept of residential training of a specialized nature for those who cannot respond to education and training in their environment. There are many of us, however, who are just a little disappointed with some of the aspects of the Job Corps and would like to improve it. When only one out of ten of the youngsters gets a job which the Job Corps helped him get, when one third drop out in the first 3