

willingness to participate and the necessary self-confidence in the low-income people, second, it is an opportunity for administrators and other people to listen and begin to understand the real nature of the problems that they are trying to help solve. Third, if we listen carefully to such people, we will avoid the waste of much government money and fruitless efforts.

2. I would recommend that somehow you provide for longer range financing of Community Action Programs. The nature of the problem is such that we will not get the results that we want by short programs. For the most success, we must be assured of a continuity of action and adequate follow through. This is not a short range, hit-or-miss program and it should be financed for what it is, a long range effort to change a situation which has developed over many years.

3. I oppose the suggestion that OEO Authorities be spun off and given to other governmental agencies. We are designed to work with OEO and it is designed to work with us. The willingness of other long established government agencies to work closely with a CAP group is quite uncertain. Some will and some won't. And believe me when some won't, it is close to impossible to make any headway. Our innovations and new approaches many times run counter to the long established concepts of existing agencies. The old established agencies try to work on the problems on a piecemeal basis. One is concerned with health, one is concerned with education, one is concerned with job training, one is concerned with employment. In contrast, we are in a position to, and do, try to work on an individual's entire environment as well as a particular problem.

I recommend that you give Community Action Agencies more power to compel cooperation from other agencies in the development of their program.

4. I would like to see more flexibility in the OEO guidelines. By this I mean priority as to types of programs should not be established for an entire region and programs should be judged on their individual productive merits.

In conclusion, should any of you become discouraged or doubtful about the ultimate value of rural CAP Programs, I invite you to visit us in Southern Oregon and talk to our many people who have been so helped. Please always remember that these people, 20% of our population, who we are trying to help, represent one of the greatest potential resources that our Nation has.

Thank you.

Mr. DAY. Because of what I will say and attitudes which I will express, I think it will be helpful if I first tell you something of myself and my background. I am a Republican, I spent three sessions in the Oregon Legislature and as a representative and a senator, undoubtedly I was on the conservative side of the line.

My background is agriculture which was my full-time occupation for many years. What understanding I had with poverty came from contact with people who worked for me on the ranch and who were a bit poorer than I was, and from the general concepts gained through newspapers and talk around the legislature.

In any event I was quite satisfied with my knowledge and understanding of poverty. My first reaction was a feeling of insult to my community. Because I really did not think that we had a poverty problem. This was followed by curiosity and then the realization of the extent of our poverty problem.

For more than a year now I have been chairman of the Jackson County Community Action Council. For the past 2 years I have worked a great deal on local poverty programs and problems and with local low-income people.

From working with these people and watching the successes or failures of various efforts, I have almost completely revised all of my earlier ideas.

I had to revise them because the true realities were entirely different than I had always thought.

The problem which this committee faces cannot be properly answered without a much better understanding of the problem than that