

As I recall the situation in Sommerset, Ky., you have an area vocational school there that has several satellite schools but they have been overcrowded to the extent that they can't take care of the high school youngsters that really want to come there for vocational training. With a situation of that kind, where regular vocational schools, comprehensive, area technical and a few residential can't take care of the high school youngsters alone, to my way of thinking we have to do something and give special consideration to a youngster that has reached the doorway to adulthood without a basic academic education. We have no assurance that he is going to go back to school when he has dropped out. There is no conflict here at all. It is just a question of being able or not being able to salvage thousands of the hard core youngsters to whom the Job Corps means a real chance.

As I see it, we need really a great expansion of the Job Corps and we need a great expansion in the vocational education area. We are not spending enough money, we have to do a better job. We are making tremendous progress in the area of vocational education but that should be multiplied many times. I certainly would like to see the Federal Government add on to the \$225 million that we are presently spending. I think the figure is grossly inadequate.

But at the same time, I think it would be grave mistake for us to cut back one penny on the Job Corps or undertake to phase out within the next few years or undertake to let the Office of Education at this time operate it.

I think we have some of the best talent, personally, in the world involved. I think the experience we are going to gain is going to be of a tremendous value to the education system.

Do you agree with that?

Miss PARSONS. Have I just lost my bus ticket? No.

Chairman PERKINS. Go ahead.

Miss PARSONS. No, I don't; and I could leave it there and you don't know which part of that I don't agree with.

Chairman PERKINS. I will confess that I gave my own views. There are so many of those views that you may disagree with but you do not disagree with all of them?

Miss PARSONS. No. It turns out, sir, that I have been in the newspaper business too long and I saw the gardenpath early.

Chairman PERKINS. I will ask you whether or not you are in favor of the Job Corps being transferred as proposed in the so-called Opportunity Crusade to the Office of Education. Do you feel that it would be helpful to do that, since you have not made a study in this area?

Miss PARSONS. You took the words right out of my mouth. I certainly have never felt that I have never studied one area more than I have not studied the Job Corps. It is possible when I get back to Boston and need a job that I can study the Job Corps for this committee.

Chairman PERKINS. You are just giving us your findings on vocational education.

Miss PARSONS. Yes, sir. Whenever I do study the Job Corps and you would like to know what I have found out, I will be glad to come back.

Chairman PERKINS. Then we will invite you back.

Mrs. GREEN. Will the Chairman yield?

I can't understand why the Opportunity Crusaders have not asked you if you have ever studied the Job Corps under any circumstances.