

What will our evaluations determine? We still have deprived people in our communities; we still have inadequate housing; we have not eliminated the educational and medical deficiencies which have been discovered. But our efforts have been fruitful, and we can see definite progress in many areas.

In West Virginia the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, as amended, has given hope and initiative to those who have never really experienced the knowledge that someone cares enough to *help* them in their betterment. The deprived citizens of our state have learned that they can join together in a united effort to better themselves. The deprived have begun to work for their own betterment and to gain for themselves not only economic strength, but also strength of character and realization of self-worth.

Through Job Corps, Head Start, our community action programs throughout the state and the many programs which they administer, new inroads have been made into the causes and alleviation of poverty. The community action concept has become operative in areas of community and individual betterment through adult basic education programs, home improvement components and many others. The VISTA program is meeting its challenges with an increased awareness of its mission, and a higher level of success.

The "War on Poverty" efforts have been beneficial in West Virginia. Many of these programs are necessary for the betterment of our state and these United States.

It is with this thought that I ask that you do all that you can in continuing this endeavor to the maximum extent. Through the agency of the Office of Economic Opportunity, if I, or anyone in West Virginia, can be of help in emphasizing the necessity for the continuation of these programs, please feel free to call on us.

Let me again emphasize our pleasure in working with the Office of Economic Opportunity in its conduct of this Act and assure you that we will continue our efforts on behalf of this vital program and the deprived citizens in our state.

Sincerely,

HULETT C. SMITH,
Governor.

Chairman PERKINS. Go ahead and complete that answer, Dr. Perlmutter, as to why the Job Corps is not popular like the Headstart and Peace Corps.

Mr. HAWKINS. Mr. Chairman, may I ask special permission? Dr. George does have a prior engagement. If you don't have any further questions of her I would ask that she be excused at this point.

Chairman PERKINS. Do you want to be excused?

Dr. GEORGE. They have been having a reception for me with some Congressmen for an hour and a half. They have been waiting for me since 6 o'clock.

Chairman PERKINS. Thank you very much.

Dr. GEORGE. This is what I came here for.

Chairman PERKINS. You have made a good witness today.

Dr. GEORGE. If you have no other questions I would appreciate it.

Chairman PERKINS. You have made us a great witness and we appreciate it. Do you have any other comments you would want to make before you leave?

Dr. GEORGE. Just don't kill the Job Corps, please. Let us really have time enough to prove that we can or can't. I don't think we have had sufficient time. I think there is a lot of evidence that we are succeeding and that we are not really misusing the money too often. I think Congress understands also the difficulty of implementing recommendations. They have had a few for a few years, the Hoover study, and I think they ought to understand the difficulty of implementing even good recommendations they approve and endorse. I think there ought to be some impetus there for you. We are trying to accomplish this. I hope we can continue.