

"secrecy" surrounding rules and regulations governing the program; and (2) fear on the part of trainees of "retaliation by the welfare bureaucracy" if they express opposition to the way the program is being operated.

The report refers to an article in the *Mountain Eagle* (November 17, 1966) which quotes attorney Harry M. Caudill of Letcher County (author of *Night Comes to the Cumberlands*) as saying that "neither he nor any other Kentucky attorney that he knows of has been able to obtain a copy of the rules and regulations which govern the everyday lives of the recipients." On the other hand, Mr. C. Leslie Dawson, Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Economic Security, stated in a telephone conversation on July 11, 1967 that any group or individual who is representing a dissatisfied claimant will be provided with a copy of the manual of public assistance policies. He further advises that a copy of the manual is available in every local public welfare office for the inspection of any person who wishes to see it and public welfare staff has been instructed to offer all necessary assistance in finding the information being sought. Following the visit of a member of the staff of the Office of the Commissioner, Welfare Administration, to Whitesburg on March 27, 1967 a copy of the Federal Handbook of Administration of the Work Experience and Training Program was sent to Mr. Tom Gish of the *Mountain Eagle*. The letter of acknowledgment stated that it was found "very useful reading (if a bit dry)."

The Community Associates, Inc. report cites the dissolution of a committee of Work Experience and Training enrollees organized to *Save the Jobless Program* as due to a "combination of the availability of on-the-job training, the Nelson Amendment programs and to fear of retaliation from the welfare bureaucracy." No evidence is presented to support this charge regarding "retaliation from the welfare bureaucracy." It is known that applicants and recipients who are dissatisfied with the Work Experience and Training Program are not afraid to exercise their right to appeal. This is shown by the fact that earlier this year there was a backlog of 20 appeals for hearings. In order to clear them up a full-time hearing officer (or referee) was appointed to act on Title V appeals. This position was reduced to half-time after the backlog was taken care of. The first step in the appeal procedure is a hearing before the referee. If the claimant is not satisfied with the referee's decision, he can appeal to a Commission consisting of the Commissioner (Mr. C. Leslie Dawson) and two other members. Mr. Dawson states that the Commission has overruled the referee's decision in about four out of five cases brought before it. In other words, where the referee ruled that the worker had correctly applied agency policy the Commission overruled the referee and the worker. This indicates that the appeal and hearing procedure is an avenue for clients to express dissatisfaction and that it is being used.

The role of the Federal Government in seeing that the State administers the program in accordance with established policies should also be taken into consideration. The Regional Title V staff member visits the Eastern Kentucky 19-County project every three months. The State agency has encountered difficulty in recruiting staff at the required ratio of one work experience and training position to each 60 trainees. The Bureau of Family Services has notified the States that September 30, 1967 is the deadline when this ratio must be reached in order to assure that individual employability plans are developed and carried out in a manner that enhances the trainee's employability.

In summary, it is the opinion of most observers that the Title V program has a satisfactory record in this area. This is attested to by the alarm and concern that was expressed when it was necessary to curtail the number of Title V trainees this spring to stay within the 12½ percent limitation imposed by Congress on the amount of funds that can be allocated to any one State. A local clergyman, who has taken a very active interest in the welfare of the poor people in Appalachia, summed up his feelings as follows:

"The Jobless Fathers program was probably the most inspired experiment—and the most notable success—of all the social welfare innovations of the poverty war. Are we to stand mutely by—and by our silence, acquiesce—as it is dismembered and gradually destroyed?"

STATEMENT REGARDING THE STAFF PAPER ENTITLED "WORK EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING" PREPARED BY DR. SAR LEVITAN

The overall thrust of the staff paper prepared by Sar Levitan entitled "Work Experience and Training" is that the Title V program has not accomplished much in the way of improving the employability of unemployed parents and other needy persons. In our view, Title V has been (1) successful in reaching and upgrading