

Chairman PERKINS. Well, now, I agreed wholeheartedly with you on your approach but what do you feel is the answer before we get too far away from this individual that is just completely unsuitable for training in the vocational institutions because of age or because of lack of ability or because of lack of basic education—leave off the age, because of lack of basic education?

Mr. DAWSON. Well, if we eliminate the age factor, then I think that we must continue on with a title V type of project that gives the basic education.

Now, along with the work experience, one of the marvelous parts about the title V is that it has a dual role. Possibly a fellow is not as keen in academic activities as another fellow is but he sometimes is a little more adaptable on a pure work situation to the extent that he maintains his respect and his status among his peers in the educational group simply because of his abilities on the work end of it.

Chairman PERKINS. People are utilizing more or less Nelsen-Scheuer.

Mr. DAWSON. Yes, sir.

Chairman PERKINS. Is it working out well?

Mr. DAWSON. The Nelsen-Scheuer projects are not under our jurisdiction. However, our contract with them which is continuous indicates that they are working very well and that the community action program boards which are supervising these projects are doing a responsible job.

Chairman PERKINS. Well, now, employment offices along with your department do the screening for Nelsen-Scheuer, do they not?

Mr. DAWSON. Yes, sir.

Chairman PERKINS. Just how do you screen one of those individuals when they have to be laid off?

Mr. DAWSON. Well, of course, all of them are registered with the office.

Chairman PERKINS. With the employment office?

Mr. DAWSON. Yes, sir, all of them are.

One of the devices which we try to use is to determine, first of all, whether or not the individual is qualified to go into the highest level of training which would be the MDTA courses or a specific skills course and also whether he is interested in a skills course, as such.

It has probably already been determined before we get to that point in the public assistance area as to whether the man is physically and mentally capable of getting into it. If he is not, then there is some other public assistance program that he would be brought into because we have found in many instances for health reasons and other reasons there were some men who were just not ready to go into a regular work situation.

But, after that, if it is determined that he is not eligible because of education or age to go into an MDTA course, we generally then take this group and make them available for interview with the directors of the Nelsen-Scheuer projects so that they can then explain to the men and determine from the responses of the men whether they would like to be in the Nelsen-Scheuer project, and it is from that group that a selection is made.