

you have approached the problem of poverty, the legislation that is being proposed to give us the tools to bring more and more people out of poverty in the country and also your dedication to the rural part of America.

Thank you very much.

Go ahead and review your testimony and Mr. Goodell will have some questions.

Mr. CARSTENSON. I wanted to show you some pictures of Wabasha but that can wait until another time.

Mr. QUIE. I am going to Wabasha right now.

Mr. GOODELL. You may proceed, Mr. Carstenson.

Mr. CARSTENSON. I would like to comment specifically on the bill starting on page 11. Again I think the point of keeping the war on poverty together but transferring the thing over to HEW would then bring it into proximity with the vocational education. In 1959 I worked on the problem in the Office of Education as a member of the staff of the Office of Education relating to the older worker and trying to get vocational education in gear and I worked on the White Conference on Aging in the same area.

Later I worked in the Office of the Secretary trying to get vocational education geared up for MDTA. I know that it is not perfect, but I think that much can be gained by having these two programs under the same general HEW umbrella and I think having them under the same umbrella would be helpful to both vocational education and the Job Corps program.

I like the idea of the smaller facility and I think this is to be encouraged and commenced; the idea you and Mr. Quie advanced in your bill.

I would like to concentrate a good deal on the work programs because this is where we have had direct work experience. I don't know whether you have received a copy of our report on the Neighborhood Youth Corps.

Mr. GOODELL. Would you like it in the record?

Mr. CARSTENSEN. It is long for the record but I may wish to use it. I think most of the other members of the committee have received it.

We run a series of Neighborhood Youth Corps programs under contract. These are State farmers unions offices and we have had many wonderful compliments from local school officials and from others.

We do feel that it would be a shame to break up the two programs because of the additional cost of administration. Most Neighborhood Youth Corps programs both in school and out of school and dropout programs are run by the same administrative team at the local or State level, wherever the administrative level is. If it were split over into the Office of Education, in our judgment it would pretty well double the administrative costs, and I think this would be a detriment to the program.

Also, these are work-oriented, work-experience kinds of things that will hopefully lead the youngster into a future job. I don't think that pulling back in education is going to help. The thing with the relationships with the schools we have a whole host of testimony, and I have talked to the educators and, being an educator myself, being able to communicate in the language, they indicate it is a very satisfactory way to operate the program.

Frankly, besides being a waste of administrative money, I think it just would not improve the program to any great degree.