

level, and a group at the fourth and sixth grade levels, and a group within 10 months we can qualify them for an eighth grade diploma, and we give them that.

Then we can train them for entry jobs in certain skills and in some cases, you never succeed. This isn't magic. This is work. We have a high degree of success. We feel we accomplish our objective with about 70 to 75 percent of the people that come to us.

Chairman PERKINS. I believe you must have an excellent placement rate in your technical schools. I am talking about the youngsters with the high school education, or those who started to college and dropped out and are maybe furthering their education. What is that placement rate? It is very high?

Dr. PARKINSON. Well, a year ago last June we graduated about 750 students, and every student except one had a job before he walked across the stage and got his diploma. This year we were about 98 percent of placement.

Chairman PERKINS. You are talking about the ones with a high school education?

Dr. PARKINSON. Yes, sir. These are the ones in an accredited 2-year junior college operation.

Our functional literacy courses, and our manpower training courses, our placement runs about 70 to 85 percent, and of those about 75 to 85 percent will be working at that type of job 2 years later. They won't be working necessarily at the same job, but at that same operational level, so we claim success.

I think that is what we are talking about. Can they get a job and hold a job? Can they keep making money?

We can claim success in about 65 to 75 percent of the people who finish the program.

Chairman PERKINS. As an educator and from your training and experience, I take it that, as you stated, this was not a simple problem, to put it in your own language, when you undertake to deal with a disadvantaged youngster because of this lack of basic education.

He does not understand simple arithmetic, and the chances are he may have an emotional problem, and this type of youngster does not know how to get along with people, and he has not had the family guidance that he should have received.

This type of youngster, to get him up to functional literacy, how long on the average does it take you?

Dr. PARKINSON. We can do an awful lot with the majority of them in about a year.

Chairman PERKINS. In about a year?

Dr. PARKINSON. Yes.

Chairman PERKINS. Then after about a year, you will commence to give that youngster vocational training?

Dr. PARKINSON. That is correct.

Chairman PERKINS. Then it would take another year or 2 years?

Dr. PARKINSON. If you can get him that far, you can train him for an entry job in approximately 12 months.

Chairman PERKINS. Twelve months.

Dr. PARKINSON. And when I say an "entry job," I mean a job where he will be employable and employed, and he will be doing the job properly when he goes on the job.