

one-third our own school people who sit down around the table and hammer out the curriculums.

Then we have a placement services which works with the personnel services of business and industry in the placement of these students.

Mr. GOODELL. At what point does the placement process begin in your school?

Dr. PARKINSON. When he comes close enough to the completion of a program of training that we feel he stands a chance of making the grade. Then we start working getting him into a job.

Mr. GOODELL. You don't wait until he is graduated?

Dr. PARKINSON. You can't. Most of them have the job set before they are complete.

Mr. GOODELL. In other words, several months prior to his graduation, you are working on his placement?

Dr. PARKINSON. I think 3 to 4 months would be a maximum—less than a semester.

Mr. GOODELL. This becomes very important, does it not, particularly with your lower level school—

Dr. PARKINSON. Yes. The confidence of the employers is very important. If the employer has a part-time job, this kid will work for him on a part-time basis and he knows he develops a certain amount of dependence and competence, and when the kid graduates, he hires him.

Mr. GOODELL. So you have a program whereby youngsters may be doing part-time work with their ultimate employer?

Dr. PARKINSON. Yes. So far we have not given school credit for this part-time employment, but we are thinking seriously of starting that this fall.

Mr. GOODELL. You are aware, of course, that in the Job Corps there is no placement process except in very exceptional circumstances for nongraduate trainees.

Dr. PARKINSON. I understand.

Mr. GOODELL. This is one of the reasons I feel very strongly about the concept of which you are talking. This dropout is a very serious factor in the Job Corps. In the first place, they usually come from a great distance away, and they go back to their home community, and try to get placement, usually by paperwork, a paper referred to the regional office and a paper referred to the local employment office.

That is the extent of the placement operation for these Job Corps terminations.

At the stage, we are apparently relying on getting volunteer groups working in the community to pick them up and help them get placements.

At the end, only a small portion get it.

Do you believe that this entire process, acceptance, counseling, training and placement, can best be handled by a community training facility comparable to what you have described here?

Dr. PARKINSON. Well, of course, your question is a leading question. On the other hand, I think we have the best way of doing it. Obviously, I think that, or I wouldn't be in this business. But I didn't come here, gentlemen, as an expert on the Job Corps. I am not. I have never run one. I know it from the outside, and from what I read in the papers. So I am not competent to speak regarding the Job Corps.