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50. Planning Research Corporation.—"Evaluation of the Full Year Program 1966," to be completed 7/31/67.
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THE CITY OF BATON ROUGE
AND PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE,
Baton Rouge, La., August 22, 1967.

HON. CARL D. PERKINS,
*Committee on Education and Labor,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN PERKINS: This is a rather late answer to your letter requesting my appraisal of the anti-poverty program here in Baton Rouge. I had to investigate before I could accurately reply.

The local program known as Community Advancement Incorporated is doing a good job by conducting various local projects of a civic nature. Classes in home-making—sewing, home nursing, cooking, efficient grocery buying, hygiene, etc., have been conducted and are very good. Additional projects such as citizenship drives to get people out to register to vote are also worthwhile as are classes in civics, government, and others which acquaint these uneducated people with the workings of the law, legislative and judiciary processes. These people are totally unaware of the least basic principles involving these fields. Community Advancement, Inc. organizes neighborhood cleanup and beautification projects which help to build civic pride in that area. Classes explaining sidewalk, street paving and street lighting requests and financing are also good.

The Head Start schools seem to be doing very well in assisting families by both providing an early educational opportunity for the child and assisting the parent by relieving them of child care thus enabling the parent to obtain employment or train to upgrade their present line of work. Classes are held for adults at the same time the child is in school. If classes are at a time other than this, nurseries are provided.

Up to now, I have expressed only sincere enthusiasm for the poverty program and I am sure that there are areas where more credit is needed but which I am not familiar with. Here are some of the criticisms. The Neighborhood Centers seem to be expensive in comparison to the benefits gained from their operation.