

BIA officials at Pine Ridge told HSR researchers that they stand ready to help the OEO in any way, but that will not act unless asked. Privately, some of them express doubts about the beneficial effects of the OEO, rumors of a new source of jobs may rule people back to the reservation who were managing to get along elsewhere. Hopes are more easily aroused than satisfied. If Congress cuts OEO funds, the BIA may be left to pick up the pieces.

(2) *Public Health Service.*—Like the BIA, PHS had a representative at the meetings that planned the initial OED components. Dr. Ogden was especially active in planning and implementing the Health Aide component, earlier discussed. This component was the main sphere of cooperation between the PHS and the OED.

Initial cooperation was impeded by a letter to Dr. Ogden from the PHS Area Director's Office in Aberdeen, urging local PHS units not to cooperate with the OEO. The letter arrived before or during the period the Community Health program was being planned. It was apparently sent to the directors of PHS hospitals on Indian reservations with Aberdeen's jurisdiction. However, the letter was countermanded by higher PHS officials in Washington.

The PHS has been involved with the Nursery School component, since children of nursery school age require special medical attention. Emergency treatment is given to Indian Nursery School children brought to the hospital in Pine Ridge, but because of PHS regulations, no medical attention can be given to white Nursery School children. Also, because of insufficient funds, the PHS was unable to set up special clinics for Nursery School children to deal with ear ailments, which are widespread among Pine Ridge children and often lead to permanent hearing defects. The Nursery School Director therefore requested funds to provide medical insurance for white children, and to set up, in cooperation with the PHS, special prevention clinics for all Nursery School children. A PHS pediatrician wrote a letter explaining that the health services in question were very much needed by the nursery school age-group, and that at present the PHS was unable to provide them, though it stood ready to help if OEO granted the necessary funds.

d. Problems in Implementation of CAP Components

(1) *Paucity of OED Job Opportunities.*—127 men applied for the first ten Ranger jobs available. Over two hundred applied for the second group of ten. One member of the OED staff estimated that for every person they were able to hire, ten had to be turned down. OED staff directors seemed to agree that this was the fundamental cause of criticism of the OED, and they felt that if they could put truly large numbers of adults to work, participation in and enthusiasm for all of their programs would greatly increase.

In addition to generating criticism, this mass discontent has other detrimental effects. When a man who has pinned his hopes on a program from Washington hears that a massively funded program is operating but learns that he himself can get nothing from the program, he tends to lose confidence in himself, feeling that whatever hopes he allowed himself had been betrayed, and resenting the people who were hired. Patently, the harshest critics of the OED program were people who had had the highest hopes of employment through them. Respondents told HSR researchers that the program components were being "hogged" by people who did not need them.

(2) *OED Focus on Youth.*—The Nursery School program care for children from three to five; the NYC hires school drop-outs and in-school students; the Community Health and Nursery School programs hire aides who are usually between twenty-one and twenty-seven. Almost half of the Rangers and Community Worker Aides are men in their twenties, and only the Homemaker component hires women primarily of middle age. The practice of hiring young people for aide jobs seems to be based on the theory that they are less set in their ways and therefore easier to train. The enthusiasm for training shown by the older Rangers, Community Worker Aides, and the Homemaker aides seems to belie the importance of this principle, at least when applied to the Oglala Sioux.

The practice has the further disadvantage that Sioux authority is closely linked to age, and employing the children of parents who are unemployed creates much interpersonal tension. Some parents and grandparents refused to let their children participate in the NYC until they felt driven by economic necessity. NYC supervisors were very concerned about the problem of parents getting drunk on the wages of their NYC-employed children. Drinking occurs, but has seldom been a problem, among adults employed by the OED program.