

believed, would lead to higher welfare costs. The comment was made by one with little confidence in the Indians or in the CAP.

(9) *CAP as Seen by VISTA*.—The Volunteers In Service To America (VISTA) program was inaugurated in White Earth village a few months before CAP became operational. Two VISTA girls were stationed at White Earth, and later one each was located at Naytahwaush and Rice Lake. The VISTAs at White Earth promptly combined forces with the CAP, publishing a weekly newsletter pertaining to CAP and reservation affairs, assisting in surveys, maintaining communication with the population, etc. With the continuing development of the CAP, they saw their functions largely taken over by regular staff members and, unable to develop adequate roles in the new situation, resigned. It is the researchers' opinion that they performed a valuable function through their independence from any organization and the flexibility in relationships with many elements of the population. A major problem facing this, and other, CAPs is the responsibility for routine operations and emergencies, leaving the administrative staff too little time to associate meaningfully with the "ordinary people," who are always those most easily forgotten. The VISTAs, with no defined roles or organizational associations, were in an excellent position to know the community and the individuals, to hear reactions, expressions of dissatisfaction, and words of approval. In this sense they could have been of great value to the CAP.

The VISTAs at Naytahwaush and Rice Lake were nominally under the control of the RBC and under supervision by the CAP. The Naytahwaush VISTA worked primarily as counsellor to Indian students in the Mahnomen high school, and engaged in a variety of activities with the local children and youth. The VISTA in the more isolated and far flung Rice Lake Community occupied herself with local people, greatly restricted by the weather, the distances between homes, and the lack of a car. Both VISTAs were extremely negative to the VISTA program: training had been inadequate and concerned with survival in hot desert weather, Indians of the Southwest, etc. While VISTA girls were always to be in teams of two or more, the policy was ignored with them. Agreements to provide funds for housing were not forthcoming, causing very considerable embarrassment. Cars for transportation in an area where everything is at least twenty-five miles away were promised, but were never received. Advice for problems arising in the field were requested on numerous occasions, but no acknowledgement, other than an impersonal printed postcard, was forthcoming. Both resigned during the summer, in complete disgust with the VISTA program. The dissatisfaction with VISTA field support was shared by the VISTAs who had been at White Earth village.

Several of the VISTAs were interviewed in the course of research, and their evaluations of the CAP obtained. In general, they were favorable to the program, though occasionally critical of certain administrative staff members and the RBC.

The educational programs of the CAP were regarded as useful, although the Study Hall was a conspicuous failure. The Remedial Reading program was regarded as excellent. The Recreational program was in extensive need of a greater range of activities, and closer supervision of personnel. The Social Work program relied too heavily on untrained aides, and was primarily a referral service of limited value.

Considering the program as a whole, the CAP has not yet come to grips with the major problems of the reservation, and cannot do so. The major problems have to do with employment opportunities that will give meaningful lives to the people, and provide stable families with self-respecting adults as models for the young. The development of a sense of community is also highly desirable or necessary for the future, to override the kin groups and factions that are major divisive forces. Housing is at various levels inadequacy, and some of it is unbelievably bad.

There was general agreement that the CAP had failed to reach large numbers of the White Earth Ojibwa, especially those who were poor and on the outskirts of the villages. Among those in these areas who knew of the program, the CAP was not regarded as their program, but as controlled by the RBC. More attention to communication with the population at large was strongly recommended.

One former VISTA, returning after an absence of six months, said that little had changed—a few people were better dressed, but the community had not changed.