

Mr. GURNEY. If an income tax credit were given for the repayment of the interest on these loans, it would not cost you anything to service it, would it?

Mr. BARR. No, it would not cost anything to service it but, Mr. Gurney, here again I must be very parochial. Forty million Americans pay taxes on an IBM card. We don't have any more room on that card for any more lines for credits or anything else.

Mr. GURNEY. Is that the only reason why you oppose it?

Mr. BARR. I told you we were parochial in this area. When people say, "Why don't you have a bigger card?" Well, it won't fit in the IBM machine, and that is the reason we don't have a bigger card. You would be amazed. I know it sounds amusing but there are a lot of people in this country who have difficulty paying their taxes. We have an extremely effective tax system.

Mr. GURNEY. I agree with you there.

Mr. BARR. It is hard to work through the mathematics. We have a simple little form and we go through the roof every time anybody is going to add a line to the form. That is one major objection we have.

Mr. GURNEY. One last question.

Mr. Muirhead, you mentioned in a colloquy with Mrs. Green, I think it was, about the poor record of some of these colleges under NDEA.

Mr. MUIRHEAD. That is right.

Mr. GURNEY. I think you mentioned a figure of 40 percent as far as one institution is concerned.

Mr. MUIRHEAD. Yes.

Mr. GURNEY. What measures does Uncle Sam take to insure that this experience might be better than 40 percent?

Mr. MUIRHEAD. We take continuing and rather vigorous measures to help colleges of that kind. I did state there was a college with 40 percent. It is completely atypical. But we do send our regional representatives to that institution to work with the financial aid officer and business manager hoping that they will develop a better method of collection. The very poor collection rates are in those colleges where their own resources are quite limited and where they do not have well-trained business management officers.

Mr. GURNEY. Is your assistance productive of results?

Mr. MUIRHEAD. We can point to results since we have been pursuing this for the past 5 years. The program has been in operation for 9 years. The collection problem started to emerge after about the first 4 years of the program. We can point to an improvement in the collection rate in the college and universities.

Mr. HOWE. I will say here we are exactly in the same position as Mr. Barr is on the collection of the income tax. I assume that as he puts on additional personnel to check on individual income taxes that he produces a higher rate of return to some degree.

Mr. BARR. Eight to one.

Mr. HOWE. We are exactly in the same position in checking on colleges. I can't resist the opportunity to mention the fact that our effort to build up the regional organization of the Office of Education is to get people near the colleges so that they can work on a regular basis with people in the colleges who are not handling these kinds of problems as they should and we are having difficulty building that regional