

Chairman PROXMIRE. All these programs are good, the Teacher Corps and so forth, and my colleague, Gaylord Nelson is one of the principal sponsors on this. It is a fine program, but it runs into this terrific shortage of teachers; and it would seem to me that some kind of priority system—do we have the available data on who are where, or where are the teachers, or who can be brought into the teaching picture, that kind of thing. Do we know that?

Secretary WIRTZ. I don't believe we do. Mr. Ross could respond to this. We can manufacture an answer to that in the affirmative but the real answer is no, there has not been a good job done.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Why would this not be desirable to do?

Secretary WIRTZ. It would. We have tried an approach to that in the establishment of the President's Committee on Manpower. We have that as a committee covering all of the agencies. It is a committee which has worked extraordinarily well together but which has had a good many energies directed toward the immediate problems but the committee hasn't functioned very well on the development of personnel in this field. I say this critically of the President's Committee on Manpower. There is a forum there, a forum for doing this. It also gets into the competition between this area and the whole area of the physical researchers. I suppose one of the things that has put as much push on this area is the development of the Medicare program.

Chairman PROXMIRE. If we cut a billion dollars out of the Space Program, say, let the Apollo program stand but cut a billion out of the non-Apollo space requests of a billion and a half dollars this would ease a lot of pressure on extremely able instructors in universities around the country not engaged in teaching, but engaged in space research. Would this kind of thing be helpful?

Secretary WIRTZ. You will understand my answering only that I would expect it would have some effect in loosening up that kind of personnel. I think that in order to answer your last question, we ought to pursue the preceding question. There ought to be some clearinghouse for information within the country—not just within the Government—and there ought to be some opportunity to analyze ways for making use of limited personnel.

Chairman PROXMIRE. One closing question. Gerhard Colm recommended the establishment of what he calls a high level unit in the Executive Office to assemble and analyze data concerning prices, productivity, inputs, and incomes. This is something that I understand Mr. Ross does now, does a very fine job and makes the information available to the Council of Economic Advisers. The staff of this committee wants it, but does not get it, the public in general does not get this information.

What prospects would there be that this could be opened up to the public?

Secretary WIRTZ. Information which is available to the Council and is within the Department but not available to this committee?

Chairman PROXMIRE. That is my understanding. Maybe I misunderstood my staff.

I am told that we had excellent cooperation from the Council. They give us whatever we ask for. But we think it would be helpful if the whole academic community throughout the country could get this and get it on a regular basis.