

So, roughly, you might say we are reaching somewhere between a half to 70 percent of the total.

Representative SCHEUER. That is certainly a very respectable total if the impact were a real one and a meaningful one and not a trivial one.

On the question of Headstart, we had about 187,000 kids involved in the fiscal 1967 Headstart program. They now have applications, actual registration forms, for 400,000 kids, and we have a constituency there of about 2.5 billion kids. How many kids in the preschool area, where from the evidence that we have adduced we seem to have hit real paydirt in helping those kids begin to make a go of their school situation, how many kids will be impacted by your Headstart proposal this year?

Mr. COHEN. I think, and you correct me if I am wrong, that your committee put \$350 million into the Headstart program last year, and I think the President's recommendations this year involve substantially the same amount, but giving a greater degree of priority to the children in the year-round program, rather than the summer programs.

Representative SCHEUER. That is right; 187,000 in fiscal 1967 were year around.

Mr. COHEN. Yes. So, that while there is no appreciable increase of money, the experience has demonstrated so well that the large number—500,000 who were in the summer program—could benefit from a year-around program.

Representative SCHEUER. Yes; there was a large number.

Mr. COHEN. The administration would like to start the year-round program. The President has included in the OEO budget \$135 million for the followthrough to start in the first three grades. Actually, there isn't going to be any net expansion in the Headstart program, but the real expansion comes in the continuity of Headstart—starting with the first grade and then going on. I think the idea is rather than putting more money into Headstart at the present time, we should see how much we really can justify as a bona fide expenditure by following through and retaining the advantages that occurred between the ages of three and five up through the ages six to nine.

I think the philosophy behind this recommendation is that if we can demonstrate that the idea of Headstart is correct, although we can't yet, but I think it probably was the belief of your committee in the House and the administration that that is correct, then we ought to follow through in successive years with a great deal more money in the whole Headstart program and title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Representative SCHEUER. This really gets to my question. I think you are a thousand percent correct in not only the validity of the Headstart approach, but also of the absolute indispensibility of following through with Headstart kids when they get to the public school system. I am sure you are familiar with the Max Wolfe study.

Mr. COHEN. Yes.

Representative SCHEUER. Where the public school system isn't doing the job, the Headstart kids who are doing very well, not only don't do very well in school but they actually go to the bottom of the class.

Mr. COHEN. Yes.

Representative SCHEUER. It is a very disillusioning experience.