

per child in the city school system in about 10 years. I do not think anybody would argue that we are really getting a much better product.

It is very easy to pour money in and see it go to the organized professional groups like the teachers, with no increase in output and no improvement in performance standards.

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. Less hours.

Mr. FITCH. Smaller classes, fewer hours, but higher salaries, perhaps. I do not think taking over the financial responsibility is adequate; there must also be incentives for higher standards and better performance.

Also, I think we need to restructure the educational system to enable it better to meet the needs of the changing new clientele. It is almost a cliché now to say, "the educational system was built for a middle-class environment and has never learned to deal with the low-income, low-culture kid." I think this is still true, if I may repeat the cliché.

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. I think one of the problems, and we are going to try to correct it this year in the social security bill, is that the whole thing has been built on a myth. The men who have made the laws have assumed that every child should be taken care of, and that the mother should take care of the child. Now, the fact that the mother is willing to let them starve, too, did not seem to make much difference. We were not going to starve them, but it is all right if she did. So we are going to change that this year. We are going to try to see to it that every mother has a chance to be trained and go to work, which I think would be of some help.

Would the rest of you like to comment on some of these things I have asked Mr. Fitch?

Mr. NATHAN. I would just like to make one comment. As I have sat here these last 3 days listening to the hearings, and as I have listened as we groped to answer your wide-ranging questions, the thing that troubles me is that, with the exception of this kind of hearing, the choice-making machinery that Congress has operates on a committee basis. Each committee knows a lot about the subjects that you are asking questions about. Yet no one committee is in a position, perhaps with the exception of this one, to do what the President is doing now with this interagency, Council of Economic Advisers-led effort to identify and give some priorities to the various options. I felt that this was the right exercise when I saw the way the hearing was set up. But now that we have done it, I have a feeling that we have not really done it. I just leave you with that point that is rather troubling me.

Maybe the answer is to set up something in this committee that looks in the same way with expertise in each of these areas and tries to make some assessment of relative priorities. But until you do that, what worries me is that when the money is available, it is just going to be a big fight over who heads what committee, who is senior, this hopefully rational putting together of priorities and figuring them out is not going to be done. I do not know if we have achieved very much.

I just leave that with you.

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. Thank you.

Mr. SOMERS. Mrs. Griffiths, as I understand your plan for the cities, the central city would no longer be a core, but would be more like