income consumer, credit union organization and operation, financial counseling, etc.

The overall purpose is to train local leadership for credit union and consumer activity.

By January 1967, programs will have been completed in Boston, New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles and New Orleans. A total of 150 neighborhood trainees will have been graduated for work in their communities.

Liaison continues with the BFCU and we are now negotiating a new agreement for further indigenous training.

(b) There have been several contacts with the President's Committee on Consumer Interests. The nature of our coordination breaks down into the following:

1. Consultation on the design of OEO comprehensive consumer planning,
2. Arranging coordination through the President's Committee of liaison with all other Federal agencies having consumer programs,
3. Participation in conferences with private groups and associations having consumer concern.

(c) Consultation with the Federal Trade Commission to explore how OEO and the FTC can work together. The FTC is presently considering a training device for use by local antipoverty workers in community action programs.

(d) Discussion between OEO and SBA in an attempt to relate more directly the small business loan program to consumer action.

(e) Interagency agreement between OEO and the Bureau of Labor Statistics to provide information regarding the prices which the poor are forced to pay for groceries and hard goods. The survey covers ten cities at a cost of $30,000. The final reports which do document the fact that the poor pay more have been completed and have just recently been submitted to OEO.

(f) A meeting between the Food and Drug Administration and OEO's Community Representatives Advisory Council (CRAC) is set for November. This will enable the FDA to solicit grass-roots opinions on consumer problems.

OEO is not only coordinating efforts among Federal agencies, but is also working with nonprofit organizations and private companies.

Four nonprofit organizations have been contracted by OEO to provide to the Federal Government and the war on poverty to particular consumer action oriented expertise of that organization.

(a) Contract with CUNA, International, Inc. (Credit Union National Association), ($19,500) to provide assistance to low-income groups which wish to develop credit unions and consumer action programs and to provide assistance to existing credit unions which wish to expand their service to low-income areas. CUNA is also providing OEO with information regarding the particular needs of credit unions serving low-income groups.

(b) Contract with the Cooperative League of the USA ($162,922) to give technical assistance and training to low-income groups interested in establishing co-ops. The Co-op League has prepared a manual giving the details and steps necessary for establishing co-ops. Much of co-op activity is only indirectly related to consumer action. However, much of the Co-op League activity centers on buying clubs, buying fairs, and retail co-ops, all of which are directly concerned with consumer action.

(c) Research grant with Columbia University, under the direction of Dr. David Caplovitz, to study and make recommendations for improving the consumer credit system as it applies to the poor. The entire grant covers a 2½-year period, the first year costing $98,450.

(d) Conferences and consultation meetings have been held with the Community Services staff of AFL-CIO in an attempt to assist in program design. The first such program will be developed in the near future for the Milwaukee area.

In the private sector, John Sutherland & Associates are under contract to OEO to prepare a film designed to advise the poor about their consumer rights and what they can do to secure those rights. The contract is for $60,000 and will be completed in approximately 2 months.

In addition to the Sutherland contract, OEO has held conferences with many leading firms in the business community. The following are representatives:

(a) American Banking Association.
(b) Sears, Roebuck & Co.
(c) Montgomery Ward.