

Dr. ABERCROMBIE. Very little, except where we use nurses that are on relief.

The CHAIRMAN. It relieves people, it takes care of their necessities of life. The relief work, as I understand it, is to feed and clothe people. If it is not helping as far as health is concerned, it looks as if there is something wrong somewhere, if health conditions are getting more serious all the time.

Dr. ABERCROMBIE. We need to get this public-health service to the whole State.

Mr. DINGELL. As I understand it, the doctor stated that through the efforts of the F. E. R. A. in corrective work so far as tuberculosis was concerned, the death rate has been reduced 21 percent in the last 3 years.

Dr. ABERCROMBIE. That is right; 21 percent in the last 3 years.

Mr. DINGELL. That is through the corrective work of the F. E. R. A.

Dr. ABERCROMBIE. That is just one item where we have been able to intensify on that program.

The CHAIRMAN. Oh, I thought you stated the death rate had increased in the last year.

Dr. ABERCROMBIE. No; decreased. But the infant-mortality rate is going up. That shows where we have not had it long enough to affect it.

Mr. VINSON. Might I ask, Doctor, that in extending your testimony you set forth the practical operation of a county health unit?

Dr. ABERCROMBIE. You want me to set forth the practical operations of a county or district health unit?

Mr. VINSON. Yes.

Dr. ABERCROMBIE. Yes; I will be glad to do that.

The CHAIRMAN. We thank you, Dr. Abercrombie, for your appearance and the information you have given the committee.

STATEMENT OF DR. GEORGE E. BENNETT, REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND LEAGUE FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

Dr. BENNETT. My name is Dr. George E. Bennett, professor of orthopedic surgery, Johns Hopkins Medical School, president of the Maryland League for Crippled Children.

I had hoped to be able to give my time to Mr. Knoeppel. He is so familiar with the entire picture so far as the treatment of crippled children and education of crippled children in America is concerned, that what I might have to say would be simply a repetition of the things he has said. I simply want to voice my approval of the statements that he made, particularly those statements pertaining to the State organizations which are functioning so satisfactorily at this time. I think it would be a very bad procedure to break down any present State organizations which are doing such exceptionally good work as we see in the State of North Carolina and other States which are carrying on such beautiful work on such an economical basis.

In Maryland we have what we feel is a very fine set-up in regard to the cooperation of the various hospitals. We have two very well equipped hospitals for the care of crippled children. We have a State organization. Our State appropriates very little money, and we need more money in order to extend our work.

With those remarks, I will not bore you longer.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Dr. Bennett, for your appearance and the testimony you have given.

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH SWEENEY, REPRESENTING THE CHILD WELFARE BOARD OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

Mr. SWEENEY. I am Joseph P. Sweeney, president of the County Child Welfare Board of Cuyahoga County, Ohio. I am here today in the particular interest of the dependent and neglected child. In Cuyahoga County we maintain a county welfare board giving foster-home care to approximately 2,800 children.

Under section 703 of this proposed act we believe that there are provisions that will make for a future program in the care of the dependent and neglected child such as has never heretofore been proposed. It contemplates Federal cooperation which may well be considered as Federal leadership, backed up with Federal money. It is bound to arouse our States to a particular interest in the dependent and neglected child, and will surely stimulate local interest throughout the States in carrying on this very important work.

We appreciate that in our locality we are in an urban community. We understand that in the rural communities in the State of Ohio this type of work is in a practical state of collapse. We can appreciate its value. I firmly believe that each and every agency interested in the welfare of children or mothers may well support this act in its existing form, because it is going to make for a new day in the care of our dependent and neglected youngsters.

That is all I have to say.

The CHAIRMAN. We thank you, Mr. Sweeney, for your appearance and the information you have given the committee.

Miss LENROOT. This completes the testimony unless Miss Church wishes to be heard in the same way as Dr. Bennett. Miss Church, I think, has something she would like to have Dr. Bennett deal with in his extension of remarks, unless you would prefer to have Miss Church speak. She is here. She could file something with Dr. Bennett in his extension of remarks, since it will be on the same subject.

Mr. VINSON. I suggest that Miss Church be permitted to file it as her own statement.

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection it may be filed.

Miss LENROOT. That completes the testimony.

The CHAIRMAN. At this time the committee will go into executive session.

(Whereupon, at 12:20 p. m., the committee went into executive session.)