

TODAY'S PROGRAM"Job Corps Centers: Are They Worthwhile In the War on Poverty?"

Presented by: Mr. Charles A. Ward, Education Counselor, Del Mar College. Mr. Ward was a counselor for three years at the Job Corps Center at Camp Gary, San Marcos, Texas. This subject is very timely because of President Nixon's major shift in emphasis from job corps centers to urban area study centers.

Senior College for Corpus Christi

Are you aware that only one of five Nueces County youth are attending college, while almost 40% of Kleberg County youth are attending college? This great disparity between Corpus Christi and Kingsville is in spite of the fact that Del Mar College enabled 54% of the 1968 high school graduates of Nueces County to attend college. The difference? Regrettably, for ever so many poor students, Del Mar was the end of the road! They simply could not afford to go away - even to Kingsville - to continue and complete college.

It is for this reason that the official Texas College Coordinating Board recommended the establishment of an independent senior college in Corpus Christi. The object? Put the college where the students are and they therefore can and will go to college.

At the luncheon on Wednesday, April 16, our club voted to support strongly the creation of an "upper level" state college in Corpus, as was recommended by the College Coordinating Board. Specifically, what this means is there would be established an independent college offering courses only at the upper level, i.e., junior, senior and post-graduate level. It would not be under the control of Texas A & I, and its governing Board would assure that both its general and specific offerings would be geared toward fulfilling the specific needs and interests of our own Coastal Bend area.

It must be stressed that only with an independent governing board oriented toward the specific needs of our area, can there be in Corpus a senior college which will serve the needs and interests of our area. Any other arrangement which would allow the minority interests of Kingsville to control the new college would mean the continued stagnating of the growth of higher education in Corpus. Under A & I control, only the Kingsville campus would be given any priority for really higher education, particularly at post graduate level.

Is the "tail to continue to wag the dog? Corpus would have had a senior college at least 20 years ago had it not been for the ruthlessly selfish opposition of minority interests which are against Corpus having its own state college to serve its own needs. Very shortly Corpus will be the only major population center in the entire state without a state college. Are you going to continue to "sit upon the stool of do-nothing", while selfish minority interests continue to deny the youth of our area an education? -- If not, then you should immediately, in as strong terms as possible, write or telegraph your views to the Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker of the Texas House, or the chairman of the Education Committees of the Texas House and Senate.

George K. Ford, Chairman
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