Hebert Says Plan Will Be Studied

An Austin, Texas federal official's plan for a possible compromise of differences in Acadiana Nef has not been endorsed or accepted, nor have directives of the board been compromised, Roland Hebert, Acadiana Nef director, said.

Hebert and other officials of the ill-fated Louisiana-AREA poverty agency met Tuesday in Austin with Asst. Kirk, acting regional director of the Office of Economic Opportunity. Hebert said that it was possible in the future that the Kirk plan might be acceptable to the board but nothing definite was agreed to.

Hebert's statement follows:

"Mr. Hebert, in an effort to resolve the differences existing between the board of directors of Acadiana Nef, Inc. as a result of their December 11, 1964 meeting, at that time I proposed a resolution recommending the establishment of parish Community Action Programs. [The] group was asked how we felt the problem could be resolved. However, in the light of present OEO policy, we were told it seemed unlikely. A state the parish councils we were requesting would be established.

"Mr. Asst. Kirk, acting regional director, submitted his report on the parish councils and the differences existing between the board of directors of Acadiana Nef, Inc. It may be conceiv- ede in the future the plan will be acceptable but at no time did we endorse or accept an agency to be the agency of our Board of Directors. At Mr. Kirk's request we did consent to present his plan to the Board of Directors of Acadiana Nef for study. However, we continued to maintain that individual parish councils must indeed be the solution to poverty."

"In his plan, Mr. Kin advocates the establishment of parish councils and it is my understanding that each of these parish councils will have a board of directors which would be the Board of Directors of Acadiana Nef."

"In consideration of the parish councils would have to be presented with the understanding that they be given maximum authority and responsibility for their respective parishes. Our position is that the federal government in the event of Acadiana Nef should continue to administer the Office of Poverty, the board of directors could be made an advisory group limited to budgeting and coordinating programs."

"In our view, the role of parish agencies, we feel the federal government's dollar will reach the recipient for whom it is intended and will not turn up in the hands of unscrupulous private groups seeking their own gain."