

Tongue Point Sees Many Changes . . .

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recommended by Fred Subert, a management analyst from the University. McAbee and Business Manager Kelso Clow replaced Shellenbarger as assistant directors. McAbee runs programming, including curriculum and the living units.

The staff at Tongue Point seems conscious of the criticism that's already been leveled at the Job Corps and of the even greater amount of criticism that will probably come from Republicans in the election-year Congress that convened Monday.

How does Tongue Point stack up against the criticism leveled nationally at the Job Corps program?

Realistic Philosophy

On a recent trip to Washington McAbee talked to some of the people who've organized programs at other centers. "There's no question in my mind that we have the most realistic philosophy," he says.

What is that philosophy?

"We believe that you build people by working with them, not doing things for them," says McAbee.

Most criticism has centered on high expenditures and high staff totals. It was originally estimated it would cost \$4,500 to send a boy through the training program for a year. That cost was revised upward to \$7,000 but at Tongue Point it's costing \$13,000 now.

There are 412 trainees at Tongue Point and 460 staff members. That staff has already been cut and will be cut again by probably close to 100 people on orders from President Johnson. He's ordered cuts at all Job Corps camps in anticipation of Republican criticism.

Figures Inaccurate

These figures are partly misleading because the Tongue Point center is at less than half capacity. The trainee total will increase by about 100 per month until it hits 1,000. The trainee-staff ratio will be about 3-1 after those personnel cuts.

Most of those cuts will come in non-teaching staff. There are 153 teachers—vocational and aca-

demic—at Tongue Point now. There are 10 counselors, 56 in the dormitory system, and 16 administrators. The rest are security guards, maintenance people, secretaries, cooks, and so on.

There have been other criticisms of the Job Corps camps.

At some the class attendance is poor. But at Tongue Point it's about 93 per cent, or the equal of most high schools.

"Of course," McAbee admits, "it can be argued that we should have better attendance since we have the trainees living right here."

Tardiness

Vocational Training Director Ernie Lareau says the big problem is not class-skipping but tardiness.

The Tongue Point trainees themselves all seem happy with the vocational training program. Last summer their complaints centered around lack of recrea-

tion and unhappy living conditions. Today they all say they like the training program.

Other critics point to the high dropout rates at most Job Corps camps. Tongue Point's was very high this summer; over 300 trainees quit and went home during June and July.

Some just didn't like it, some gave family or personal problems as reasons, some went back to work, others back to school.

Almost Nothing

But by December the drop-out rate had dwindled away to almost nothing. One trainee quit Tongue Point during December.

Others, such as a Rutgers University group that studied the Job Corps "showcase" camp at Kilmer, N.J., make even more basic criticisms of the Job Corps.

Some of their recommendations about Kilmer—such as providing

more recreation, on-the-job training, and tailoring programs to individual trainees—apparently don't apply to Tongue Point any more, though they did before the changes made here after the summer disturbances.

One Rutgers professor, Francis Purcell, objects in U.S. News and World Report that the Job Corps trains Corpemen for dead-ended jobs—jobs they either won't be able to hold for very long or which won't give them much room for advancement.

But Tongue Point's Lareau says that if a boy will stay with the Job Corps long enough—at least six months—enough can learn enough skills to be employable for life.

Criticisms Difficult

Other criticisms—such as objections to the idea of camps set apart from society—are hard to

defend because the Job Corps idea is still young. Answers to these questions—at least at Tongue Point—will come in the months ahead.

Because of the crash program almost all of 1965 was lost to the Tongue Point center. It had to spend the whole year weeding out the boys who didn't belong and making extensive revisions in administration, recreation, and the group living program.

Now Tongue Point is in a position to answer those unanswered questions about the Job Corps. With only 46 graduates results so far are inconclusive.

But with the trainee and graduate total growing, and the new trainees coming in at a slower rate and better oriented, the next few months will answer the question of whether the Job Corps at Tongue Point can work.

Smith, O'Neal Due At Briefing Center

"Grassroots: Latin America," the development of Latin American countries at the village level, is the subject of the discussion to be held at 4 p.m. today in the World Affairs Briefing Center in the basement of the SU.

Tim Smith, graduate student in geography, and Gary O'Neal, who has just returned to the University and is doing graduate work, will be the speakers.

Smith studied regional development in Paraguay utilizing geographic technique under a Fulbright-Hays research grant. He was in Paraguay for a year working in a community development center in southern Paraguay near Encarnacion, and was headquartered at Asencion, the capital.

O'Neal worked for two years in Guatemala with the Peace Corps' rural community development program. His work in Guatemala was centered around Rabinal, in central Guatemala.

The talk will be accompanied with slides, and a question and answer period will follow. The public is invited to attend.

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Situation Reassuring . . .

(Continued from page 6)

members and 412 trainees, and has orders to cut 100 more off the rolls because of political pressure from the White House.

But it must be remembered that the center is not at the full strength of 1,000 expected for this summer.

The staff ratio will be considerably reduced then, of course. And a center to train disadvantaged youths is not a place where staff levels can be kept minuscule—the special situation of the Job Corps requires a special kind of staff, and plenty of them.

The charges of high expenditures are not completely justified at this early stage in the program.

As Tongue Point's Program Director, Harold McAbee, points out, if only 80 boys are given skills which will give them lifetime employment, the government's original investment will have been repaid in welfare savings. Indications are that far more than 80 boys will get jobs, and keep them.

Oregon's Rep. Edith Green has rebutted this criticism effectively several times by pointing out that many people who rebel at the thought of spending money to help poor people have no qualms about the billions spent each year to get to the moon.

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 6)

grams. We have advocated rock and roll concerts to be presented in addition to the others. Students have overwhelmingly voiced approval for such a step. (A poll taken last spring showed 81% out of over 700 students supporting such a resolution and the poll included students of all classes and majors.) It is time for the University entertainment policy to take on an expanded look and consider the attitudes of the majority of the students in programming some of their concerts.

It is, and has been, my contention that University students will pay money to see outstanding rock entertainment. This theory will be tested this term and it may be a turning point in the policies of this school in regards to rock and roll entertainers. It may also spur the dance committee to provide better bands from the area for aftergame dances instead of the

low-quality groups that are picked up for a small fee. You usually get what you pay for and we haven't been paying much.

Students seldom take time to write letters favorable to a policy, usually writing when aggravated by something. Although I have voiced some complaints, I should like to conclude by voicing strong support for the SU Board in their programming of the Beach Boys. It takes an initial brick to build on, and, even though faculty members and Eugene citizens may be missing from the Beach Boy concert, congratulations to those responsible for laying that brick down. (Let's hope that tickets are distributed at the University before they are issued to downtown stores. It would be too bad to see Oregon students shut out while local high schoolers watch the show.)

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