

U.S. Leading Soviets in Computer Uses

New York (AP)—When Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev was here last year, he boasted that Russia turns out more than 100,000 technical and engineering graduates a year compared to some 30,000 in the United States.

But the Soviet is acknowledged to be several years behind the U.S. in electronic computer development and use.

To the extent that American education can be held to exploit this gap, U.S. engineering and business graduates will be able to multiply the results from their talents far more effectively than those trained in Soviet schools.

This is the consensus of educators polled recently by the Royal McBee Corp., a firm that has delivered more than 50 electronic computers to institutions ranging from large state universities with 48,000 students to little schools with just 800 students.

The trend toward electronic computer study as a part of the undergraduate curriculum in the nation's colleges and universities is fairly widespread.

Many of the more than 100 current university computer centers offer computer classes as well as use of the machines for faculty and student research and other projects.

Limited Use

Until recently, computers were limited largely to a few major universities such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Chicago and Harvard. They were employed mainly for industry and government—plus some post-graduate specialization.

In all, the computers in education are viewed as bright signs for business and industries plagued by a growing shortage of able manpower in their engineering and administrative ranks.

As Dr. Harvey A. Neville, director of the Institute of Research at Lehigh, points out, the wider use of electronic "brains" in engineering classrooms can "drastically reduce the time gap for the full development of skilled engineers in industry."

"We can shorten the industry apprentice program and free them to do a much larger volume of creative work," he said.

"This, in turn, can produce millions of additional hours of engineering know-how for industrial, business and government developments of every kind."

Many educators see the computers becoming as essential as the slide rule.

"Computers will become more a way of engineering life in the future than the slide rule has been in the past," said Dr. Thomas F. Jones Jr., head of the electrical engineering department at Purdue University.

"The slide rule was a short-hand—a substitute for hand computation. The computer will presently affect the way in which engineering is done."

"Techniques not yet considered will become practical with the computer as a tool. These things already have come to pass to some extent."

York's Tax Fund Goes Over \$9,000

Washington (AP)—Two \$1,000 contributions have swelled a fund to pay off Sgt. Alvin C. York's tax debt to slightly over \$9,000, more than a third of the amount needed.

The contributions were made by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Philip Graham, president of the Washington Post.

The Internal Revenue Service announced last week it would settle its \$172,000 claim for \$25,000. The fund drive was kicked off Saturday.

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