

NEA Brings 'Disadvantaged American' Out in New Report

By HARRY W. SHARPE
United Press International
Washington—UPI—Who is the "disadvantaged American?" And why? And what must be done about him?

The National Education association (NEA) brought this individual into sharp focus recently in a report which foretold the nation's cities teeming with the maladjusted by 1970 unless giant strides are taken now to educate and assimilate them.

The report was prepared by the Educational Policy commission (EPC), an agency formed jointly by the NEA and the American Association of School Administrators.

It listed the "disadvantaged" as Puerto Ricans, Negroes from the rural south, hill whites from the Appalachian uplands, Mexican-Americans in the southwest and reservation Indians.

These citizens, the report said, are migrating to cities in huge numbers, drawn by what they think are better opportunities, or forced to move by changes at home.

For the most part, it said, they are ignorant, incompetent or maladjusted, most living by old customs and rejecting the modern world as a deadly enemy.

If the trend continues, it prophesied, half the people in the large cities will be disadvantaged Americans eight years hence and become "maladjusted charges on the community." In addition, the cities will decay.

Tragic Inadequacies
"In this migration," the report said, "the tragic inadequacies of old cultures for new needs continues to exact its toll. In the cities, as on the farms, jobs for the unskilled are decreasing. The disadvantaged have little of the understanding required to be wise consumers."

"Often they and their children reject schooling. Inferior and overpriced housing further handicaps them. Racial discrimination compounds the difficulties of many. Poverty and disease continue to plague them. Delinquency and crime rates rise; and society at large appears remote and uninterested."

The commission said the federal, state and city governments must get together at once and find ways through the schools to deal with these people. It doubted the ability of the cities to do it alone.

Appear Undesirable
"Ironically," it said, "the services designed to help them most—education, public health, police and fire protection, sanitation, and public welfare—often appear arbitrary and undesirable."

"Thus, local government seems foreign to the disadvantaged. It is operated by persons with whom they have no sense of identity. Their past experience offers no explanation of its operation. They mistrust its purposes and look on it as essentially hostile or oppressive, and it sometimes is."

The commission cited the higher horizons program in New York City and the Ford-financed "gray areas" programs in 10 of the nation's largest cities as experiments which "offer hope the schools can meet this challenge."

New York School Superintendent John Theobald, testifying before a House subcommittee investigating use of federal funds in segregated schools, said it would cost \$50 million to bring New York's 400,000 Negro and Puerto Rican students up to the achievement level of their fellow pupils.

Involve 200 Schools
He said the higher horizons program was now operating in 63 schools with 50,000 to 60,000 students. A full attack on the problem, it said, would involve 200 schools.

Theobald said that about \$4.5 million was now being spent on special programs for minority and underprivileged children; that the basic aim of higher horizons was to stimulate the interest of the students and their families in getting an education and then to offer some remedial training in such subjects as English and arithmetic.

The commission outlined a program which included:—Ability to read. Basic to the success of all education, and notably a weakness in school dropouts. Reading and visual aids should take into account the backgrounds of the children.

—Respect for Pupil
—Respect for the pupil. This is characteristic of all good teachers but is particularly important for the teachers of the disadvantaged.

—Discrimination. Since the person has a sense of self-respect, society must eliminate practices such as racial discrimination which give to many disadvantaged "ample evidence that they do not enjoy the society's respect."

—Employment. Society must take all necessary steps to employ disadvantaged youths and adults, for many children "cannot be motivated to stay in school when they believe schooling is not relevant to getting jobs."

—Horizons. The mental and physical horizons of these children, many of whom feel insecure outside their immediate neighborhoods, should be expanded by visits to factories, farms, zoos, movies, plays and concerts. Secondary benefits may come from inviting the parents to accompany the class.

—Vocations. Strong programs of vocational education and part-time work-study programs can help children who are likely to benefit little from a strictly classroom-originated education.

In conclusion, the commission said:
Facing the Problem
"The need to face the problem is generally accepted, for the disadvantaged return society's indifference in a form to which society cannot remain indifferent. Their lack of opportunity is expressed in incompetence and in misdeeds for which the rest of society must and does pay."

"American cities today spend more for indigence, delinquency and crime than for education. But society has not yet demonstrated a willingness to deal with the problem thoroughly enough at the roots to avoid a continuing necessity of dealing with its manifestations."

Testing: Rep. Frank Kowalski (D-Conn.), called on President Kennedy to postpone U.S. resumption of nuclear testing in the atmosphere while there was still a chance for a "progress toward a test ban and disarmament."

Savings Associations: A spokesman for savings and loan associations said today that subjecting these institutions to the same taxation as commercial banks would result in "substantial increases in the rates of interest paid by the average American family to acquire a home."

Oscar R. Kreutz of the National League of Insured Savings Associations asked the Senate Finance Committee to reject the "demands" of commercial banks.

Steel Price Hike Cuts Chance of Tax Reform Bill
Washington—UPI—Sen. Paul Douglas (D-Ill.), a member of the committee considering the administration's tax reform bill, said today the steel price increase had reduced the chances of approval for one key feature of the measure.

Douglas referred to a \$1.5 million tax break to spur plant modernization. Businesses would be permitted to deduct up to \$8 of every \$100 invested in new machinery and equipment.

Douglas, a member of the Senate Finance Committee, said that the steel price increase will "certainly reduce the chances that the investment credit will be passed."

Provision Unpopular
The investment provision has been unpopular with the committee because of the revenue losses to the Treasury that would result from it. The steel development may kill its chances when the committee starts voting on the bill after the first week in May.

Another committee member, Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.), said he did not see how a price boost for steel "could generate much support for big business."

Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.), said the investment credit feature might be knocked out of the bill. "Certainly it is a discouragement," he said.

Other congressional news:
Talkathon: A group of Republicans planned today to wind up their marathon oratorical assault on the Kennedy administration program. The GOP congressmen began their effort Wednesday night and ended at 12:07 a.m. (EST) today.

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Modern Man Said To Be Slowly Breaking Long-Standing Sleep Habit

London—UPI—Guess what's going out of style. Sleep.

Dr. Mangalore Pai said today after 37 years of research, that modern man is slowly breaking the habit of sleep imposed on him by his ancient ancestors.

"By the year 2,000 most of us may only need about three hours," said Dr. Pai, who is consulting psychiatrist at Belmont Hospital Neurosis Center.

"As it is we have been cutting down the length of time spent in bed even within this century. Eight hours a night is now just an old wives tale. There are many people around the world who make do with three or four or five hours without any ill effects."

Back in the days of the saber tooth tigers, primitive man slept through the hours of darkness. He had to — it wasn't safe to leave the cave.

"Then came the discovery of fire," said Dr. Pai, "and prehistoric man found he could do some work in the cave at night. Right then we began to cut down on our hours of sleep. The candle, the oil lamp and the electric light accelerated the process. Then came radio and the movie and television."

"There is now so much to do at night that we are not as anxious as we used to be to go to sleep. In fact our brains are more active, our bodies better fed and as we keep pace with modern times we need and want less and less sleep."

Dr. Pai did some of his research in air raid shelters during the war and he found that people who had only four or five hours sleep a night for weeks on end during the German bombings of London were no worse for it.

"Most wartime leaders like Sir Winston Churchill also slept only a few hours a night," he said.

Dr. Pai says that people who "can't get up in the morning" ought to try an after-lunch siesta of half or three quarters of an hour, such as Churchill takes.

Lakeview Man Named Grand High Priest

Portland—UPI—Simeon H. Sawyer of Lakeview was elected grand high priest of the Grand Chapter Oregon Royal Arch Masons here Wednesday.

He was chosen at the chapter's 101st annual session. The four-day session ended today.

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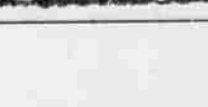


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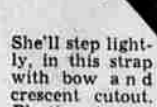


Your first stop Penney's... Easter shoes for the Family

FOR GIRLS

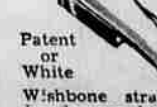
Dress-up strap with cutout caper, taper toe. 8½ to 4 B, C.

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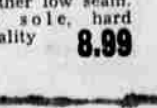
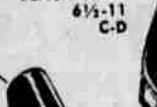


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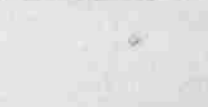
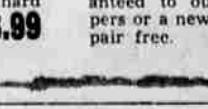
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