

Government To Launch Nationwide Vocational Training Plan

Editor's note: What is a worker to do when his job is replaced by a machine? Too often in the past, he has found himself on the relief rolls. Now a new federal program is being launched to retrain workers and eliminate some of the nation's "hard core" unemployed. The following dispatch tells how this will operate.

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press International
Washington (UPI) - The nation's first large scale effort to solve the problem of hard core unemployment will get under way July 1.

During the next three years, the federal government will spend \$435 million on a nationwide program of vocational training.

Its purpose is to provide marketable job skills for about 500,000 technological misfits of modern society.

They include industrial workers whose skills have been rendered obsolete by automation, farm hands no longer needed in mechanized agriculture, and youths who dropped out of school without learning a trade.

The labor department estimates there are between 500,000 and 1 million of these people in America today. They are the "hard core" of the nation's 4.5 million unemployed. Many of them have been out of work for periods ranging from six months to three or four years.

Jobs Going Begging

Meanwhile, good jobs are going begging because employers cannot find people who are trained to fill them. In many communities, for example, there are chronic shortages of welders, machine tool operators, stenographers, nurse's aides, skilled seamstresses, clerk-typists, and auto mechanics.

The idea behind the training program is that the na-

tion can kill two birds with one stone—increasing its reservoir of skilled manpower and reducing the number of people dependent on unemployment compensation or public welfare.

The law authorizing the three-year program was enacted by Congress with strong bipartisan support. Signed by President Kennedy last March 15, it is to take effect with

the beginning of the new fiscal year on July 1.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), which will administer the vocational training program, and the labor department, which will select the people to be trained, have spent recent weeks gearing up for a fast start. They hope to have training projects underway in thousands of

American communities by the end of the year.

James Clarke, director of the manpower training office of the HEW department, said the program will be similar to one which the government is already conducting, on a relatively small scale, under the area redevelopment program. About 10,000 people are being re-trained under this program, which is re-

stricted to "depressed areas" with high chronic unemployment rates.

The new program will be nationwide in scope. The training courses offered in any particular community will be determined by surveys of the job openings in that community. The objective is to be sure that each trainee will be readily absorbed into the community's labor force when his course is completed.

Government Fools Bill

Applicants for training will be screened by the U.S. Employment service. Priority will go to unemployed persons and to members of farm families with annual net family income of less than \$1,200 a year. If they don't fill all the vacancies, training may also be provided to "under-employed" workers—that is, those who are working only part-time or at unskilled jobs.

The government will pay for the training courses, which will be given at public

high schools, vocational training centers, junior colleges and similar existing facilities.

It also will pay subsistence allowances to some of the trainees. Heads of families who have spent at least three years in gainful employment but are now out of work may receive training allowances which will be approximately equal to the average weekly unemployment compensation in that state. Youths between the ages of 19 and 22 may receive training allowances of up to \$20 a week.

If it is necessary for a person to attend a training school which is beyond a reasonable commuting distance from his home, the government will provide extra allowances for transportation and subsistence.

Special programs of vocational training will be provided for boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 19 who are not enrolled in a regular school.

The federal government will underwrite the entire

cost of the program for the first two years of operation. Beginning in mid-1964, however, states will have to pick up half of the tab.

Ward P. Beard, assistant director of vocational education for the HEW Department, said the main emphasis will be on preparing people for the simpler types of skilled jobs which can be mastered in a few weeks or months.

Training Periods Vary

Experience gained under the area redevelopment program, he said, indicates that a nurse's aide can be trained in four weeks, an auto mechanic or a key punch operator in 16 weeks, a stenographer in 20 weeks, and an electronic mechanic in 26 weeks. Where highly specialized skills are needed to meet the employment demand of a particular community, longer courses, ranging up to a full year of training, may be offered.

Training funds will be allocated among all states on

the basis of a complex formula which takes into account the state's population and unemployment rate.

"Local initiative will be welcome," Clarke said. He said communities desiring to get in on the program should

not wait for the government to come to them, but should organize their own representative local planning committees and get in touch with local or state offices of vocational education or employment security.



RECEIVES AWARD - Lyle C. Wilson, right, June 13. The honor was voted Wilson by vice president of United Press International, receives a Sigma Delta Chi "Fellow Award" recognition of his achievements in the profession of journalism." At left is Lee Hills, president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. (UPI)

GET AIR ROUTES

London - (UPI) - The Soviet Union has completed negotiations to set up five new air routes connecting Moscow with the capitals of Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Morocco and the Sudan, according to a dispatch by the Soviet news agency Tass received here Wednesday.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of a family disagreement presented to the Council. The Council deals with problems, major and minor, encountered by guidance counselors and social workers. Edited by Mrs. Alma Denny. (Copyright by General Features Corp.)

Marsha N. - She spoils her daughter and lets her bulldoze her into impossible situations. Norine T. - Marsha has always envied my daughter and never misses a chance to criticize her.

Marsha N. - I hate to see my sister fall for all the soft soap and baloney her daughter hands her. The latest instance is Norine's news that she can't attend my fiftieth birthday party because her young darling wants her to baby-sit in Virginia.

Norine is ten years older than I, but she jumps and runs when this girl goes into her act. I know Norine isn't in top health and should take it easy. I know, too, there are trips her husband and she are waiting to take, and personal things like reading and sewing she wants to get to. But no matter what she plans, she lets Patty break it up for any flimsy reason.

This time she should say no and show a little loyalty to me by coming to my party.

Norine T. - I may be a softy when it comes to Patty, but I'm so proud of the way she manages all by herself on that small farm that I'm glad to come down and give her a break, whenever she has plans for a little diversion for her husband and herself. After all, I'd hurry to her side if there were trouble. So, just because she keeps everything smooth, should I turn her down for a happy reason? She wants to fly up for the concert in Tanglewood, Mass. Why not? What bothers Marsha is that

she had very little mothering herself and I used to take care of her when we were children. Our mother was sickly and died young. When I had my own daughter, naturally I had to stop coddling Marsha. So she can't help resenting Patty.

The Council: Everybody here has a solid case - even the absent Patty. Aunt Marsha considers her over-mothered and spoiled. Mother Norine interprets this criticism as a manifestation of Marsha's envy, and of the latter's wish that Norine mother her along with Patty. And this young housewife feels nothing can be more natural than to summon one's own mother when a mother-substitute is called for.

Of course everybody is "doin' what comes naturally" and when it's a three-way intersection, somebody must pull in her reins. We can indicate where each may improve her ability to straddle several relationships.

True, Norine, as a mother Patty comes first to you. (We assume your husband concurs and agrees to your frequent flights to Virginia.) But you have a half-dozen other roles in life which ought not be neglected, squeezed out, banished. Being a mother is a big one, but so is being a wife, sister, daughter, friend, relative and citizen. And what about being you, getting at those personal things Marsha mentions? Lest your life become so one-sided that these other facets shrivel, making you but a satellite around Patty while she needs you, you'd do well to learn to say no to her occasionally.

Each request can be weighed, with no automatic yes guaranteed. Tanglewood is nice for Patty, but so is Marsha's party for you. We approve your empathy for your efficient daughter who is certainly entitled to respites. But we suggest you get her to devise other means of securing her breaks, to alternate with your appearances, permitting you to partake of other joys flowing your (and your husband's) way.

To Marsha we must counsel restraint. Her envy of Patty shows through. Norine may siphon off some of her vast love to share with her little sister, but she can't fill the void left by their deceased mother. As for Patty, knowing the emotional demands her mother is subjected to, she might start scanning the local ads under Professional Baby-sitting Services.

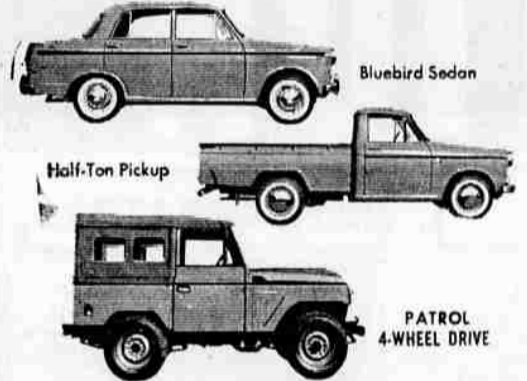
Committee Votes Out Federal Travel Tax

Washington - (UPI) - The Senate Finance committee voted Thursday to eliminate the 10 per cent federal excise tax on train and bus travel, effective July 1.

The action came when the committee approved a House-passed bill extending for another year other excise taxes and the existing 52 per cent tax on corporate earnings.

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