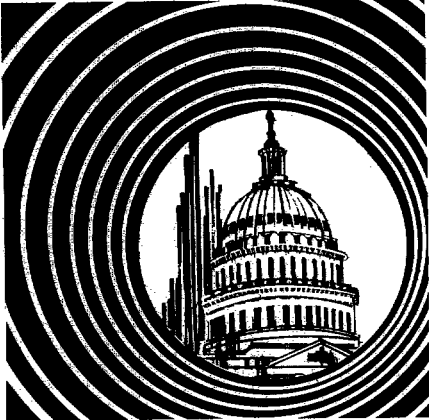


WASHINGTON REPORT

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NEW VOCATIONAL LOOK: Dr. Arthur L. Hardwick, newly-appointed Associate Commissioner of U. S. Office of Education's Bureau of Adult, Vocational and Technical Education (BAVTE), sees expanded role for industry in federally supported occupational education.

Hardwick, formerly with Information Systems Division of RCA Corp., in exclusive interview with ETMR, stressed need to use "expertise industry has developed to improve its own educational programs" in publicly supported vocational education. New Associate Commissioner, charged with administering some \$700 million in federal funds for occupational training reaching nine million youth and adults, saw major need for new training techniques, curriculum materials and modern equipment.

Thirty-five-year-old official is looking toward reorientation of vocational education to modern job market. Citing continued stress upon agricultural job training as example of wrong emphasis because of shrinking farm manpower needs, Hardwick called for shift toward technical training.

New Associate Commissioner pointed to "expanded effort" to train technicians in such areas as environmental control as example of new stress to be expected from OE in occupational training. OE has just announced \$14 million program to train some 6,000 jobless and under-employed young adults for environmental and health occupation training at community colleges under Manpower Development and Training Act.

OE has also granted \$874,000 to 18 education agencies, including private companies, community colleges, regional laboratories, state departments of education and universities, for development of curriculum guides in such areas as air traffic control, air pollution technology, police science and health occupations. Dr. Hardwick said guides will be available to both public and nonpublic schools.

BAVTE research and innovation budget for fiscal 1971 will reach \$18.5 million, compared with no allocation for fiscal 1970. Dr. Hardwick said BAVTE will look to greatly expanded role for private industry in research contracts awarded by Bureau. Similar opportunity, he added, will be available through BAVTE's "exemplary programs," serving as models for occupational training. These programs generally center around experimental and demonstration projects.

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EXEMPLARY PROJECTS FUNDED: First 37 pilot and demonstration projects under exemplary program of Office of Education's Bureau of Adult, Vocational and Technical Education have been funded with total of \$4.2 million. Another 19 projects are due for approval in next few weeks.

Dr. Albert J. Riendeau, who heads program, said 171 proposals were received and that final selections are now being made by Review Board. Because of limited budget, he explained that "many excellent projects" were passed over. However, he said that number of these were turned over to other branches in Office of Education in effort to get funding.

Overall exemplary budget this year, first time program has actually been allocated funds by Congress, amounts to \$13 million, with about half going directly to states. Other half is administered by Pilot and Demonstration Branch.

Exemplary program will receive \$16 million for fiscal 1971, but total of \$13 million will be required to fund ongoing projects, leaving \$3 million for new projects. For new round of projects, priority will be given to those designed to attract funding from variety of sources. Larger projects also will be favored to avoid "fragmenting" --that is, breaking grants down so small that they can accomplish little or nothing.

Grants to approved projects range from about \$100,000 to \$150,000 and run for one year. Each state and Territory is eligible for one project. Southern State College in Springfield, S.D., for example, received \$102,131 to test new work-study program. In Colorado, Aims Junior College will administer anti-dropout project among area's Mexican-Americans with \$106,170 funding. Memphis City schools received \$111,609 for project relating to city's vocational students. Kansas State Department of Education received \$106,744 for occupational training program with youths in both rural and urban settings. State vocational educators in New Jersey received \$118,703 to develop career development model pre-school through adult level.

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