

Ambitious training program planned for select cities' poor

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Lowell, Mass., is a fairly typical small New England city, suffering from the decline of textile and leather goods industries and shifting its economy to services and electronics.
Wilson County in eastern North Carolina is rural, tobacco country with heavy seasonal unemployment. Twenty percent of its families live in poverty.

Pittsburgh, Pa., has suffered the loss of manufacturing jobs common to many older industrial cities, and two recent severe winters and fuel shortages caused further layoffs.
In Corpus Christi, Texas, and rural counties surrounding it there are many poor Spanish-speaking families including migrant workers.
In Long Beach, Calif., with a population of 360,000, an estimated 40,000 persons are living in poverty;

6,700 are on welfare.
One thing all these areas have in common is that they are among 15 sites selected to take part in a potentially far-reaching federal government experiment in reducing unemployment.
It is designed to try out a long-discussed concept: that the government might — at least within limits — provide employment training and a "last resort" job to anyone who needs and wants one.

It is the most ambitious test ever conducted of moving people into useful jobs who otherwise would be on welfare.
In each selected area during a two-year period — provided Congress comes up with the money — the labor department plans to offer job training and, if necessary, a job to every eligible applicant.
Those eligible will generally be adult members of low-income families with children, but only one per family.

The government isn't calling it a "guaranteed" job program, because it doesn't want to lay itself open to suits by individuals for employment. Officials speak of "ensuring" job opportunities for those eligible.

The supervisor of the project, Jodie Allen, special assistant to the secretary of labor for welfare reform, said in an interview that computer studies indicate that if such a program were run nationally about a million people would take part during the course of a year.

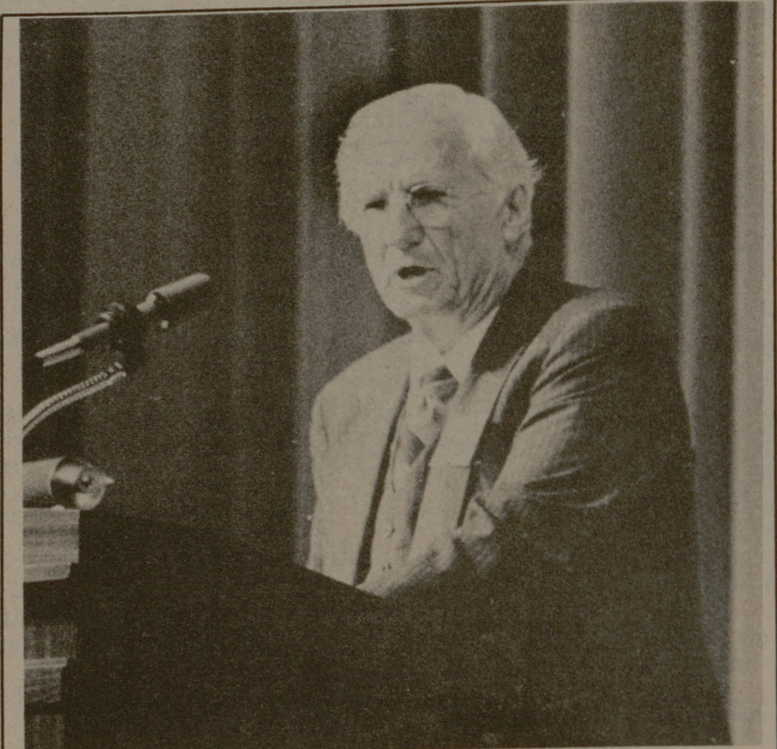
The 15 "demonstration" sites were chosen to represent a cross section of the nation. Allen estimates that in these areas 32,000 to 33,000 persons would participate in a year.

The project is designed to answer many questions: How many people would in fact apply? If the number is more than expected, how could eligibility be restricted? What kinds of people would apply? What administrative problems would there be?

Localities are being encouraged to develop new ways of providing people with jobs, which might be incorporated into the existing programs of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA).

Truck spills fish payload onto highway

United Press International
LOS ANGELES — If you fancy a sea urchin for dinner, this may not be a good week to find the ocean delicacy in some Southern California restaurants.
A truck carrying a load of live sea urchins overturned on the Harbor Freeway early Monday, spilling the cargo and causing what the California Department of Transportation called a "gooey mess" that halted traffic for three hours.
Highway patrol officers said the truck, driven by Ryujio Hasegawa, 25, of Los Angeles, skidded on wet pavement, crashed through the center divider and overturned.
The truck spilled most of its cargo, destined for Japanese markets and restaurants, onto the southbound lanes.
Hasegawa was hospitalized for undetermined injuries.



Dr. Chalmer Kirkbride, an energy consultant in Washington D.C., and formerly a Texas A&M University professor of chemical engineering, said Tuesday it is the U.S. Defense Department's responsibility to activate the mass production of synthetic fuels in the United States.

Energy answer: synthetic fuel?

By CATHRY TERRELL
Battalion Reporter

The United States must build a synthetic fuel industry or perish as a free country, an executive consultant to the U.S. energy program said at Texas A&M University Tuesday.
Dr. Chalmer Kirkbride's speech began the Lindsay Lecture Series, named for Dr. Donald James Lindsay, former head of the Chemical Engineering department.
"We are on the verge of our worst economic depression," Kirkbride stressed. The nation's dependence on foreign oil will mean "far more than long lines at gas stations; it will mean a greater percentage of unemployed than there was in the depression of 1929, and blackouts common in all major cities including Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth and San Antonio."

Kirkbride predicted that Saudi Arabia will be the world's next trouble spot after Iran and that the possibility of Russian intervention in those countries must be overlooked. "Anyone who does not believe that Russia played a role in the civil strike of Iran is not facing the facts," he said.
The Defense Department must make the creation of energy through synthetic fuels, such as the gasified and liquified coal, and the production of methanol and shale oil, as their highest priority, Kirkbride said.

Kirkbride compared the synthetic fuel industry to the synthetic rubber industry during World War II, which met the full needs of the military within three years of the start of the program. He said that a similar scheme is needed today to save the country.

Kirkbride served under "Doc" Lindsay from 1944-1947 as a distinguished professor, and praised him as one of the best teachers and the most unselfish person he has known.

About 30 of Lindsay's former students attended a ceremony to honor him and heard Kirkbride's speech that followed.

Interim Dean of Engineering Richard Thomas said he had met many Aggies all over the country who introduced themselves as "one of Doc's boys."
"Doc" Lindsay, who retired from Texas A&M at age 65 in 1965, walked slowly to the podium to thank his former students for coming and said that he appreciated all the time and money that had been put into establishing the lecture series. "I've enjoyed my life's work here and I've enjoyed working with my boys."

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Snowy session in D.C.

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Having marked the four members of the Senate of the House show up for work on Monday's 2-foot snowfall in the Capitol was a tribute to the Washington.

Washington's Birthday is a day of ceremonial meetings in the House and Senate, and for the first time since the 1960s, the Senate selected in advance to deliver the message to the President.

Warner, husband of Elizabeth Taylor, walked to the Capitol in order to make it to the Senate floor.

After the trouble it took to get there, Warner took 55 minutes to read the speech, the second in a series of readings in the Senate.

In contrast, a three-minute "abbreviated" version was read in the House by freshman Rep. James Boner (D-Tenn.).

It was supposed to be a day of business, but it was a day of chaos. Rep. James Courter (R-Ind.) was the first to be called to the floor. He could not make it to Washington, so he was replaced by Rep. Robert Giannino (D-Conn.), who was asked to preside over the session. This was not so unusual.

The session was marked by tragedy, however. Arthur K. Rosten, assistant secretary of the Senate, collapsed and died within a few hours of the Capitol as he walked to the Senate floor.

The Senate has until Thursday to agree on a rules change to curtail "post-cloture filibuster" method by which a handful of senators can employ delaying tactics even after three-fifths of the leagues vote to shut off debate.

If there is no agreement, the Senate leader Robert Byrd has to press forward with a rules proposal to limit filibusters even more.

Also approaching is the deadline for passing legislation to establish new informal relations with the P.R.C. Taiwan on the date U.S.-Taiwan relations are to begin.

Committee action in both the House and Senate on the debate and action seem unlikely until March 1.

Moscow repeats warning

United Press International
MOSCOW — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko's speech published Tuesday, warned Moscow's stern warning to halt its "aggression against Vietnam" before it is too late.

Gromyko's remarks came in a speech at a luncheon Monday in the Czechoslovakian capital, Prague, during his visit to the Peoples Republic of Vietnam.

The veteran Soviet foreign minister said, "The U.S.S.R. condemns the impudent aggression of the Peoples Republic of Vietnam against Socialist Vietnam."

"It once again shows to the world the true essence of the dangerous hegemonic course of the Peking leadership, a course of expansionism carried out by years by China in Southeast Asia."

"We firmly state that the day leadership of China shows their aggression against Vietnam, it is too late. Our position is clearly defined in the Soviet government statement published today."

Gromyko, turning to the situation in Iran, also reiterated a warning made by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev in November to the Soviet Union, which shares a border with Iran, would not allow any side interference in that country's internal affairs.

He said, "...any interference in Iranian affairs would be considered by the U.S.S.R. as touching the interests of her (Russia's) national security."

The original Brezhnev warning singled out the United States name.

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