

CONGRESSMAN HAWKINS ASKS FOR ADDITIONAL O.E.O. FUNDS

Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins (D.-Cal.) this week introduced a \$200 million supplemental appropriation bill for the Office of Economic Opportunity. "Additional funds are urgently needed to finance special OEO summer activities aimed at poverty area youth and to strengthen year round anti-poverty programs," said Congressman Hawkins.

In 1967 Congress voted \$75 million appropriation for OEO summer programs. "Although planning is now underway to develop projects for the coming summer, supplemental funds are not available at this point to finance the special activities," said Hawkins.

"As a result, cut backs are being imposed in year round OEO Community Action Programs in order to provide sufficient funds for the summer projects.

"In view of the disturbing report of the President's Riot Commission we cannot suspend development of the anti-poverty program during these critical times. Summer programs should not have to operate at the expense of year round OEO activities."

Thirty-one other Congressmen have joined with Hawkins in introducing this legislation.



JOB FAIR AT RAVENSWOOD HI

A job fair, designed to bring together residents in target areas of east of Bayshore with business and industry from the entire Mid-Peninsula, will be held at Ravenswood High School April 18.

Its co-chairmen, Herbert Rhodes of San Mateo County's Human Resources Commission, and Mrs. Katye McCall, community relations director of the Sequoia Union High School District, estimate up to 750 young men and women and 40 businesses will take part.

"The job fair," said Mrs. McCall, "is a planned cooperative effort by communities east of Bayshore Freeway to bring job opportunities and job information to individuals who, for one reason or another, are out of the main stream of life.

"Although people in this area live in the shadow of prosperity, many have been denied an opportunity to earn a living necessary for the maintenance of a good life."

The idea for the fair originated with Rhodes, who presented it to the Mid-Peninsula Business Leadership Council. Working with the Council, said Rhodes, is the "entire East Palo Alto community," the Information and Referral Center (INFO), Opportunities Industrialization Center West (OICW), the Human Resources Commission, and Ravenswood High School. Information may be obtained by phoning the high school, 369-1411, ext. 38 or 25.

The job fair will be held in Ravenswood's all-purpose room, which will be partitioned into booths for the businesses and industries which will be represented.

Students 16 or over will attend the job fair during their social studies classes, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and those not presently in school may attend from 6:30 to 10 p.m., registering on arrival so they may be notified later as job opportunities arise.

"The job fair has a dual purpose," said Rhodes. "Basically, summer jobs are needed.

"But deeper than that is the long-range purpose, that of educating industry to its responsibility to the community, and helping businessmen become aware of the

total problem. At the same time, young people should understand their responsibilities -- what they must do to get and keep a job.

"By helping young people change their own image of themselves and become proud of their heritage, hopefully society will see what they have to contribute. The business community has to help, if this goal is to become within reach."

Mrs. McCall said the job fair should provide at least 200 job openings for school dropouts, unemployed young adults, and high school students who need summer employment and for those who are graduating in June.

"It also will provide," she added, "an opportunity for business and the community to meet together at school to discover solutions to problems confronting both."

NAACP AWARDS

The Hunters Point-Bayview branch of the NAACP held a symposium this weekend at the Milton Meyer Recreation Center, 169 Kiska Rd., titled "Black Issues 1967, Answers 1968." According to Robert Hayes, president of the Hunters Point-Bayview NAACP, the purpose of the symposium was to assemble outstanding Bay Area Black people in an effort to shape common goals for the coming year.

Awards were presented to persons who, in the words of Hayes, "best exhibit the spirit of achievement and leadership in the Black community." The recipients were Bob Jeffries, the Loren P. Miller Award; Calvin Jones, Ernie P. Davis Award; Beatrice Dunbar, the Lorraine Hansberry Award, and Norma Bean, the Yvonne Brathwaite Award. A life membership in the NAACP was presented to Mrs. Jessie A. Battle for her outstanding contributions to the community.

Group Sees Valuable Resource in Ghettos

WASHINGTON -- A rich vein of economic strength -- manpower -- is hiding in the festering Negro ghettos of urban America.

If fully utilized, this resource could add significantly to the size and strength of the entire economy and the prosperity of all Americans.

This is one of the significant conclusions of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders.

While the commission gave the Administration credit for increasing spending on manpower programs from \$60 million in 1963 to a proposed \$2.1 billion next year, its recommendations for lowering unemployment go beyond the President's plans and offer alternatives to them.

SOURCE OF POVERTY

"The single most important source of poverty among Negroes," the commission said in its report released recently, "is the concentration of male Negro employment at the lowest end of the occupational scale."

The phenomenon, usually called underemployment, breeds the so-called "cycle of failure" because men working at less than their capacities lose their incentive to do better and pass on an attitude of despair to their children and friends.

To break Negroes out of this vicious cycle, the commission recommended a massive job program that would be supported by tax credits for private industry and heavier spending by all levels of government.

If Negro men put to work im-

mediately in numbers and occupations comparable to the white male population, earned income for the economy would rise about \$7.5 billion a year.

Such an instant rehabilitation of the Negro work force is impossible, the commission conceded, but its projections show the potential benefit from a national program that would make full use of the ghetto unemployed.

Simply finding some kind of work for the unemployed is far easier "than either to create new jobs with relatively high status and earning power, or to upgrade existing employed or partly employed workers into such better-quality employment," the commission states.

"Yet, only such upgrading will eliminate the fundamental basis of poverty and deprivation among Negro families."

The commission identified the employment target groups -- two million unemployed, white and non-white; 10 million underemployed of whom 6.5 million work full time at incomes below the poverty level, and 500,000 "hard-core" jobless of whom many are Negroes and "initial participants" in the 1967 riots.

RIOTERS UNEMPLOYED

"More than 20% of the rioters were unemployed," the commission said, "and many of those who were employed were in intermittent, low status, unskilled jobs -- jobs which they regarded as below their level of education and ability."

The commission proposed programs in six fields to speed the

process of making better economic use of the unemployed and underemployed. These proposals are:

(1) Consolidation and concentration of the many job programs that have been created in the last few years.

(2) Revision of the present job structure to remove discrimination and to permit persons at the bottom of the employment ladder to move upward more rapidly.

(3) Creation of 1 million jobs in federal, state and local governments in three years.

(4) Creation of 1 million jobs in private employment in the same period.

(5) Programs to spur economic development of poverty districts in both urban and rural regions.

(6) Encourage business ownership by ghetto residents.

To improve the government's employment service, the commission recommended creation of a nationwide center that would use computers to collect information about available jobs and potential workers.

The commission also called for expansion of the government's recently developed concentrated employment program which attempts to coordinate all social services needed by the hard-core unemployed.

"A single cooperative national effort should be undertaken, using the experience and help of business, labor and industrial leaders at national, regional and local levels," the commission said.

To accomplish this, it proposed

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