

We expect to open the Indiana Youth Training Center through the cooperative labors and finances of several departments of State government and in cooperation with the Federal agencies involved.

However, our proposal was drawn before the Economic Opportunity Act was introduced and was tailored to the requirements of the Manpower Development Act of 1962.

We expect our original group of trainees to number near 60. Ultimately, we expect a mean population of 600 trainees.

In summary, I reaffirm my wholehearted support for the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

Our experience in Indiana has convinced us of the necessity and practical value of such programs as those projected in H.R. 10440.

I commend this legislation to the committee and to the Congress as an enlightened step forward in this Nation's never-ending quest for a better life and brighter opportunities for all her citizens.

Thank you.

SUMMARY OF A FOLLOWUP REPORT ON THE INDIANA YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS,
HARRISON STATE FOREST, CORYDON, IND.

On July 11, 1963, Gov. Matthew E. Welsh unveiled plans for the establishment of a youth conservation work camp patterned after the proposed Youth Conservation Corps provided for by the Youth Employment Act of 1963. This camp was to be located at Harrison State Forest, Corydon, Ind. The announcement was made at a conference attended by representatives of the sponsoring agencies; namely, the Indiana Youth Council, Indiana Employment Security Division, department of conservation, division of labor, Indiana National Guard, and the department of public instruction.

The youth conservation work camp had a dual purpose: First, to give the young men of Indiana an opportunity to work and to learn in the great outdoors; secondly the camp provided needed employment, job training, and a chance to learn good work habits and skills.

The role of the Indiana State Employment Service was to recruit and select 100 young men for the camp from among an estimated 16,000 jobless between the ages of 17 years and 9 months and 22 years and 6 months. Enrollment was set upon the basis of the number of unemployed in each congressional district as determined by the employment security. Factors such as race, creed, religion, or political affiliation were not considered. In order to be eligible applicants had to fall within the age range, be single, men of good character, residents of Indiana, must have been unemployed for at least 90 days or more, and have adequate physical stamina to do strenuous labor and mental abilities to benefit from instruction and guidance. Enrollees were paid \$75 per month. In addition, quarters, subsistence, and clothing valued at \$150 per month were provided.

The youth camp was given a great deal of free publicity by all media of communication—radio, newspapers, and television. Applications and brochures were available to interested young men at the 33 offices of the Indiana State Employment Service, Indiana Youth Council, department of conservation, and the division of labor. It was soon evident from the lack of response that the young men of Indiana were not too interested in this type of program. Approximately 600 inquiries were received but only 240 boys submitted applications.

Selection of 100 applicants was based on the special application form, health questionnaire, interviewer observation sheet, Otis quick-scoring mental ability test, references and State police check. No physical examinations were required for two reasons: The State board of health reported that there would be only a 2-percent loss due to physical disabilities and the cost of examinations on a statewide basis would be prohibitive. All of the applicants and recommendations from local offices and other sources were directed to the employment service section of the administrative office for screening. Final selection was the responsibility of the overall directing committee representing the sponsoring agencies.

The steering committee established a goal of 100 workers; however, with last-minute dropouts only 95 reported for transportation to the camp. Transportation for the original group was furnished by the Indiana National Guard. Trucks were used to bring the boys from the northern part of the State to Indianapolis where they boarded a bus for camp. Representatives of the Indiana Youth Council transported 21 replacements to the camp by automobile.