

The work program ran for 60 days from September 3 through November 2, 1963. The enrollees recruited for the program were quartered at the Harrison State Forest at Corydon, Ind. The weekly work assignments consisted of 40 hours in the field plus a minimum of 8 hours of education and vocational training. The recruits were under the direct supervision of two officers of the Indiana National Guard. Also, 1 conservation officer trainee was assigned to each 10 boys. This was an accelerated program; therefore, except for emergencies, no home leave was allowed.

All enrollees were offered guidance and counseling by the employment service covering a number of areas designed to help them to qualify for suitable employment. Three permanent counselors and three supplementary counselors were assigned to the camp and worked with the boys 1 full day each week. The general aptitude test battery and the Kuder interest inventory were given to 86 enrollees in order to determine aptitudes, achievements and interests.

Employment service counselors conducted individually counseling interviews with the enrollees for the purpose of giving test interpretations and developing of vocational plans. Group counseling sessions were held to instruct enrollees on "how to apply for a job." In addition to the instructions given on the "art" of filling out job applications, advice was given on answering advertisements, being interviewed for employment, and in the manner of grooming and attitudes expected by prospective employers.

Reading, basic arithmetic and other courses were given to the enrollees by high school teachers who donated their services. Skill Center, Inc., of Chicago provided a special reading program, since the reading handicap was the campers' largest problem.

Conservationwise the accomplishments were almost unbelievable. Enrollees, in their 2 months at camp, increased 2 picnic areas, cut 5,000 posts and poles, thinned 15 acres and clear-cut 20 acres of the forest, improved 8 miles of fire lanes, and completed improvement work on 20 acres of timber stand. They also painted the exteriors of all buildings in the forest and the interiors of all buildings used by campers.

The program was very ambitious. Due to the vigorous physical and mental pace along with the strict camp discipline many of the recruits dropped out. On November 3, 70 of the recruits were graduated and returned to their homes.

It was now the responsibility of the 33 local offices of the employment service to assist the 70 graduates to find suitable employment. By mid-December the employment service found jobs for 54 of the 70 graduates. Employment was obtained in the following major occupational groups: 30 as laborers; 3 as tree trimmers; 5 as clerical workers; 8 as restaurant workers; 3 as construction workers learning a trade; 2 as bakery helpers in training for bakers; 3 as domestic workers in private homes, and the largest group of 30 as laborers in various industries.

Of the 16 graduates who indicated that they were not available for placement, 5 found jobs on their own, 2 were in military service, 1 was enrolled in college, 1 moved out of State, and 7 were not interested due to personal reasons.

A post camp questionnaire sent to over 100 of the boys who attend camp for all or part of the 60-day period indicated that 67 enjoyed the work at camp; 65 said they did not consider the work too hard; 52 felt they had learned some things to help them get jobs; 26 said the classes were dull, and 29 said they were too tired to study after working out of doors.

The youth conservation work camp, the first of its kind in the Nation, was a successful experiment. Governor Welsh now hopes to have two such camps operating this spring, one of which would be located at Camp Atterbury and would offer vocational training.

Statistical documentation and detailed followup information is available from the Indiana Youth Council, 706 State Office Building, Indianapolis.

Governor WELSH. I became quite interested in the problem of young people in Indiana after I became Governor, when I found the problems in our penal institutions, where we had more than 100 percent overcrowding, and in the institutions particularly designed for the 16 to 25 age group, the juvenile delinquents, so-called. This, of course, made rehabilitation impossible.