

for further study in the State are not too extensive, and this has enabled us to allow some of our staff to go for further education at Harvard, Maryland, Columbia University, and some other places. The only problem is losing their services during the period of time but we believe we will profit by having an upgraded staff.

Other projects are language-arts supervisor, coordinator of teacher education programs, evaluator of teacher credentials, a supervisor of music, and another for fine arts. I put in here the adult education supervisor that was mentioned under the other title but has not been approved as yet.

We have not had those positions in our department.

We are having a visit from the staff of the U.S. Office Thursday of next week to talk to us about our title V programs. The Vocational Education Acts, in particular the one in 1963, have greatly increased the funds for vocational education from the days of the Smith-Hughes and the George-Barden Acts, so that approximately a million dollars is available to the State for this fiscal year.

We have been pleased to see that with these increased funds has come a higher degree of flexibility in their use. It is not tied quite as closely to the subject areas, they have been broadened, also the time allotments. These funds have been used to encourage and expand the meager vocational offering now existing in secondary schools, and possible secondary vocational and technical institutes.

I have one or two comments I would make later regarding this program that might be an improvement in its operation.

Mr. QUIE. Do you have the area vocational school system or do you have a technical school system?

Mr. NICKERSON. Do you mean, may I ask, secondary or postsecondary?

Mr. QUIE. Like in some States they have the area vocational school which is primarily a postsecondary but there is some secondary school teaching.

Mr. NICKERSON. So far as the secondary situation is concerned, we are a State that is not large enough to have a separate technical high school, a technical secondary school in general. It has been the policy to operate the comprehensive type of school with vocational programs as a part of the school system.

Unfortunately, we have not had very many of those programs. They are very few, but they are growing and they are expanding.

On the secondary level, the State department of education has the responsibility for the operation now of four postsecondary vocational-technical institutes. One has been in operation for about 15 or 20 years, and the others are relatively new. There is a real interest in increasing the opportunity for vocational education here in the State.

Mr. QUIE. Are all four of them residential?

Mr. NICKERSON. No, only two of them at the present time are residential. One in northern Maine at Presque Isle, a deactivated air-base, and the one at south Portland. Those have dormitory facilities and eating facilities. The one in central Maine has a fine site but it is in its infancy and it has one building at the present time. We have requests in our capital budget for some residences there. The new one being developed down the road between here and Bangor is getting one classroom building in operation.