

and labor groups in planning and developing programs to meet local manpower problems.

The Farm Labor Service also provides help to workers through counseling, training, and relocation opportunities. Updating of skills of agricultural workers is becoming increasingly important with the spread of industrial farming and mechanization. The farmworker has evolved from an apprentice farmer to a day laborer to a skilled wageworker as the family farmer has evolved into a business farmer. Chemical, biological, financial, and management innovations are as important as increased dependence on machinery in determining the number and types of workers needed in agriculture. By 1970, the principal role of the Farm Labor Service is expected to be that of training, recruitment, and placement of greatly increased numbers of skilled agricultural workers on the one hand, and developing a dependable, stable, seasonal work force with positive attachments to responsible employers on the other hand. At the same time, the program will be concerned with renewing and making salable for agricultural or other work the skills of displaced rural dayworkers and small marginal farmers.

In all these Employment Service and Farm Labor Service activities training and counseling services are of fundamental importance.

The foregoing comments on the economic significance of manpower training relates to only one facet of the many education and training programs listed at the beginning of this subsection and described in part III of this report.

Almost all the listed programs have significant economic impact, actual or potential. Each represents an avenue for investment in human capital. Some of them (for example, military, Coast Guard, police, or health services training) are for comparatively specialized purposes contributing to particular kinds of productivity. Other programs constitute general-purpose investments, adaptable to a wide variety of purposes or covering the broadest range of economic and social interests.

The wide range of Office of Education programs includes a few similar special-purpose programs (for example, educational improvement for the handicapped). Most of the special-purpose programs of this Office however, are oriented quite differently from those of other Federal agencies. Office of Education programs concerned with libraries and library resources, educational television, adult basic education, or instruction in critical subjects are not directed to the enhancement of particular skills of selected groups of individuals. They are "special purpose" in the sense that their focus and objectives are specialized or they are concerned with particular types of educational problems; the aim of each activity is, however, the general enrichment, strengthening, and improvement of educational services throughout our society. This makes the assessment of their economic effects more difficult but does not diminish the importance of these effects.

The Office of Education also administers several programs for providing financial assistance to students through scholarships, fellowships, institutes, and low-interest, long-term loans for students. These programs help to lower economic barriers to the pursuit of education, thereby contributing in some measure to the national objective of equalizing educational opportunities.