

the last, traditionally 30 years, fewer and fewer students of the right kind, and bit by bit they became a dumping ground.

These are not being retooled as are the vocational programs in the comprehensive schools to any of the great degree that other programs are, and part of the reason is a strong argument on the part of educators as to whether or not there should be separate facilities. The claim is that they are separate but not equal. Many of the spokesmen for Negro groups say they are dumping grounds for the Negroes, and say they are deliberately maintained for this purpose. This is an argument of the NAACP in wanting to close New York City's separate school facilities, separate—strictly vocational.

Another argument is that a school must have a strong academic program to have a good school, and by that time you have gone back to making it a comprehensive school.

There is the old blue collar-white collar argument that holds up the funding of these facilities within the confines of the city.

But there is a great interest in an entirely new type of facility, and that is called the Area Vocational School, and Somerset, Ky., is an area vocational school.

It serves counties—I think it is three—and sometimes like 11 school districts. The longest distance any student comes is something like 60 miles, and the director of the school has found approved lodging in town so in a sense it is almost residential for some of the students who come a long distance.

Pinta County, Ohio, has gone into vocational education—Pinta County High School; there is no county named Pinta—Pinta means 5—it serves five counties south of Toledo. It serves many high schools. The students in those high schools continue to have their identity in that school. There is a Fulton County High School student who rides the bus every day over to the Pinta County Vocational School, and returns in the afternoon to Fulton County High School where he joins in the athletic program, extra curricular, or whatever, and when he gets his high school degree, he gets it from his own school, not from the area vocational school.

The Somerset area vocational school is one of a different variety, slightly different in that it does grant a degree. It is a high school; it has a high school program of its own.

Both kinds of these vocational schools operate on a 6 or 7 days a week, 17 to 21 hours a day basis every day out of the year.

The Pinta County School and the Somerset School have closed school for high school at about 3:30, and sometimes the technical college is maybe 3:30 to maybe 8:00 in the evening, and leads to a 2-year associate technical degree, and then at 7:30 or 8:30 in the evening it turns into an adult school for dropout returns, further specialized skill training, basic education and veterans and so on.

Another variety of this kind of area vocational school is the one in Las Vegas, Nev.

I hardly believed that Las Vegas, Nev., could provide a good vocational high school, and the young man who fixes my automobile at the Sunoco station where I live asked me where I had been a short time ago. And I said I had been in Las Vegas looking at the vocational school.