

lege pioneered the training of technologists in such fields as engineering, chemistry, etc. Students, after two years of basic, general, and technical education, assumed responsible jobs and became self supporting members of society and contributors to their respective disciplines. But with the passing of the Act, Merritt College also was enabled to offer heretofore unreached segments of the community by offering to its students, self-support via the Work-Study Program, so they could continue in school and to the employees of anti-poverty centers and other anti-poverty groups the educational and counseling services of our college.

I have seen under-employed, unemployed, and low-income men and women respond with new dignity and creativeness to this first chance to become independent and active co-partners in shaping a better life for people in our society. I have seen what they can contribute as workers to the lives of desperate clients and equally desperate neighborhoods. I have seen them eager to improve their skills and to add to their education through attendance at evening classes. I have seen costly professional services backed up and extended through the supplementation of their man-woman hours of work. But I have also noted the anxiety with which they regard these temporary non-career jobs, leading nowhere except back to the status of unemployment and relief rolls, or as workers dropped from self-respecting employment, their talents, newly developed skills, and vitality rendered useless for lack of an agency through which they might be integrated into our working classes.

With the Scheuer amendment we see, for the first time, the term *new careerist* made visible. Services and functions performed by sub-professionals may now be defined in terms of ascending complexity and skills, as well as salary. By the establishing of career lines within sub-professional classifications, workers are inspired to increase productivity and investment in their work.

The educational and training component is one of the most important aspects of the New Careerist Program. However, it seems essential to me that the educational program be conducted in cooperation with an accredited educational institution so that new careerist will have a record on file (a transcript).

In addition remediation can be offered in order to provide the necessary basic skills so that upward mobility envisioned will be possible.

Our college supports this new move to legitimize what was before hardly more than a dream for human beings who clutched it for lack of anything more substantial. It seems to us the Scheuer amendment enables the country to head more realistically in the direction we must go—both through its responses to the effects of technology and to the need to utilize untapped resources, but also through demonstrating one means by which the social and economic conditions or our beleaguered cities may begin to dissolve.

Yours very truly,

DORIS A. MEEK,
Acting Dean of Instruction.

CHARLESTON, W. VA., July 25, 1967.

HON. CARL D. PERKINS,
Committee on Education and Labor, House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PERKINS: I would like to take this opportunity to add some useful comments to the testimony I made before your committee. Due to the fact that I have never spoken before a distinguished group of people, I don't feel I did as well as I should have. I would appreciate it very much if you would let me know if you use this. I am saving all the letters that I get from you because I feel it is an honor to receive them. Thank you.

I will start by letting you know the experiences I have had with other programs.

I took training for operating heavy equipment and was granted a certificate to operate four different vehicles. This was under M.D.T.A. and for the good it did me I would have been as well off learning to herd dimosaurs. To give you an idea of how valueless that training was for a Negro in Greenbrier County, one contractor would hardly talk to me when I went to him for a job. And I was considered one of the best graduates in the class.

In my opinion, a training program that tries to train more people than is necessary is useless. Once they start training, their only interest is to see how many trainees they can get through the class and turn loose, but this way of