

which is being given to changes in the Higher Education Act which affect cooperative education. This appearance is the first time that representatives of the organizations have appeared before the Special Subcommittee on Education.

The concern of the Congress regarding educational opportunities and the quality of education for our youth is indeed commendable. This concern, we assure you, is shared by the members of the organizations which we represent. Mr. Godfrey and I are very gratified that the Congress is addressing itself to support of cooperative education.

Recent statements and reports have emphasized the need for and importance of more closely relating academic studies to the world of work and the community. The Select Committee on Education of the University of California stated in its report that "It is evident that there are social and economic benefits as well as educational ones to be expected from a program of field studies", and Dr. Harlan Hatcher, former President of the University of Michigan said "The quicker we find ways of interrelating the student with the ways of the working world the better".

Cooperative education is that method of higher education which involves alternation of periods of full-time academic study with full-time educationally-related work-experience assignments of students in industry, business, and government.

Educational values of the work experience are stressed, and responsibility for approval of the assignments of students rests with the educational institution.

Work experience of students must be realistic and purposeful. "It's gotta be for real, Man", is a familiar byline of today's youth, and it is relevant in education and work as well as other life situations. The report of TransCentury Corporation on the study of federally-financed youth programs clearly indicated that what young people want and need are genuine jobs which are meaningful, constructive, and a source of pride. Valid cooperative education programs require that the experience assignments provide genuine learning situations. It is essential that the work be useful and educational as well as related to the student's career preferences.

Experiences of students through participation in cooperative education:

1. Increases awareness of the demands as well as the opportunities which lie ahead and stimulates establishment of higher personal goals for education and career.

2. Enables young people to learn to adapt and apply knowledge to beneficial ends in the solution of practical problems, and provides experience in how to relate and adjust to individuals, groups, and situations in the adult environment of the work-a-day world.

3. Develops more fully personal qualities of self-reliance, judgment, initiative, ambition, and creativity, which lead to the individual's becoming a more productive and responsible citizen.

4. Imparts to young people a better understanding of rights, freedom, privileges, and opportunities, but also the responsibilities which are inherent and essential in an organization and in our society.

5. Enables business, industry, and governmental employers of students to participate directly in the educational endeavor and in the learning and maturation processes of young people.

6. Enables a young person to fulfill his innate urge to build and to do at an earlier age and provides him an opportunity to contribute to and enjoy the excitement of progress.

7. Offers a gateway to educational and career opportunities which otherwise might be financially unattainable to many of our youth and thereby contributes significantly to the development and better utilization of our human resources and manpower.

8. Provides year-round utilization of educational facilities and reduces the problem of the peak of student manpower availability during the summer.

In 1966 a committee of the Cooperative Education Division of the American Society for Engineering Education was appointed to develop goals for cooperative education. At the Cooperative Education Conference in January of this year at Houston the preliminary report of the committee was presented and discussed. This national Conference is sponsored annually by the two organizations which we represent and was attended this year by more than 300 members of the two organizations and others interested in cooperative education.

Since it is timely and significant and represents the opinions of many who are involved in cooperative education, the preliminary report of the committee is attached to this statement as a matter of information. It should be recognized that this preliminary report may be modified, but it is expected that the final re-