

disseminate it through business channels; appraise social work programs and techniques within the context of management principles bearing upon allocation of scarce resources and make reports to interested agencies; design research as indicated above to be "farmed" out with grants to well qualified organizations; and issue policy statements based on gained knowledge concerning programs deemed least or most promising for alleviating the conditions of the poor.

In *The Future Course of Public Welfare*, Eveline M. Burns, Ph.D., momentarily turned to the past by outlining programs developed by the Social Security Act passed in 1935 which brought the Federal Government into the welfare picture and developed public welfare agencies throughout the nation whose functions then and now cover a wide gamut of services.

In her paper, Dr. Burns indicated that despite increasing affluence, reduced unemployment and more programs designed to provide jobs for the needy, costs have risen and so have criticisms of public welfare programs. Such criticisms include the following:

- Questions whether social welfare programs designed for the needy really benefit them.
- The fact that current programs serve too few genuinely needy people (only about one-fourth of the present poverty group).
- The fact that too much is spent on direct payments to the needy, too little on constructive social services.

Dr. Burns felt that the obstacles to be overcome in formulating new policies were formidable and the directions these take difficult to forecast. Possible new policies included:

- A further expansion of the Social Security system which still does not support all the people it could or should, including increased payments to assure adequate income.
- The guaranteed annual income or the negative income tax, both of which would be more costly than present welfare payments since either would be available to people who presently seek to avoid the stigma of welfare, and because nationally established minimum payments would be higher than payments now made in many states.
- The demogrant or status payment, such as a children's allowance.

But despite such income maintenance systems, the public welfare system would still have to perform a residual relief function for a variety of emergencies.

Regardless of whether any of these were to be adopted, Dr. Burns believed that policy decisions still remained relating to the point at which society accepts responsibility for supporting the needy. These included:

- A definition of the minimum acceptable standard of living below which no one should be allowed to fall.
- The private resources which the individual is expected to exhaust before claiming aid from the community.
- The behavioral standards to which the public aid recipient is expected to conform.