Riviera School Hosts PV State Junior Class

Eleven students from Palos Verdes State College visited three classrooms at Riviera Elementary School last week in the first field trip to a Torrance school conducted by the new college.

Purpose of the visit by the psychology class was to survey group differences in motivation and learning.

The visitors, accompanied by Dr. Ruth Martinson, comprise the entire junior class, majoring in psychology and American studies.

While the college students observed them in action, students in classes conducted by Leslie Burger, Leonard Duncan, and Mrs. Sammie Logan, carried on their regular classroom lessons.

The observation session served to "give the college students a framework for understanding the complexity of learning problems," according to Dr. Martinson. Included in the visiting group were several future teachers and two would-be clinical psychologists.

LEAD ROLE

Dennis Robinson, son of Mrs. Howard Robinson of 5623 Via Del Collado, is cast in the lead role of poet Robert Browning in Rudolph Beiser's "The Barretts of Wimpole Street," which was presented last weekend at the University of Redlands.

Training for Nation's Jobless Joint Venture

By ALPHONZO BELL
Congressman, 28th District

Wasteful disparity between job openings and the number of unemployed who cannot benefit from our dynamic economy has caused anxiety within the labor force of our nation. Apprehensions of the employed and unemployed are justified, for automation and rapidly changing demands of markets the world-over have rendered an increasing number of job skills obsolete.

Today, about 2,875,000 people are unable to compete in the job market. The problem with most of them is they are not skilled or cannot offer proficiency in skills relevant to current needs.

Included among the unemployed are youths who lack incentive or opportunity to develop marketable skills, young adults whose high school training was not geared to their aptitudes and today's demands, and middle-aged men and women who, having grown up during a time when education was not deemed crucial, have not kept themselves posted on basic knowledge and technology developed since they left the classroom. Compounding the current problem of unemployment is the expectation that approximately 27 million new workers and four million women returning to work will move into the labor market in the next decade.

* * *

JOB TRAINING and retraining on a massive scale requires cooperation between business and government. When private efforts to prepare the unemployed for today's labor market are inadequate, government must not stand idly by.

Realizing that private industry cannot alone finance employe training and retraining, Congress enacted the Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962. With amendments passed in 1963 and 1965, this Act provides a realistic answer to many challenges by automation and technological developments. It marks recognition of new industries, products and demands and the potential they hold for the unemployed and unskilled.

Designed primarily for adults already in the labor force, the MDTA attacks the problem that has been most persistent in our employment situation during recent years, namely, that traditional skills are becoming outdated. The Act calls for assessment of manpower requirements and resources throughout the nation, and it assures that information developed through this research will be utilized.

SINCE THE MDTA went into effect in 1962, approximately 109,000 men and women have finished classroom and on-the-job training. As a result of their newly acquired skills, 73 per cent of those who received classroom instruction and eighty-four per cent of those who had actual work experience training have found employment.

The backgrounds of those who have received training under MDTA have been as varied as the new skills they have learned. Some had just left high school. Schooling ranged from none or little to some college. Duration of unemployment had been anywhere from a few weeks to more than a year. But all received training which prepared them for available jobs.

Stepped-up automation resulting from a tremendous knowledge explosion and rapid technological change has caused considerable displacement. But business and government are progressing in their efforts to alleviate this situation.

STAR CLUB

Thomas Meehan, Torrance life underwriter, has qualified for the 1965 Star Club of New York Life Insurance Co. Membership in the Star Club is based upon outstanding 1964-65 sales records.

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