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**ACTIVE news****The Advisory Council For Technical-Vocational Education In Texas**

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**JOB HUNTING GOOD FOR VOC GRADS**

A study completed for the U. S. Office of Education by Dr. Leonard Lecht and the New York based Conference Board predicts good job-hunting for vocational graduates in technical and health occupations, a dismal future for agricultural workers, and a decline in the value of a college degree.

However, in his study of manpower needs through 1985 in occupations not requiring a four-year degree, Lecht found strong indications that a high school or college diploma still boosts potential lifetime earnings considerably.

Lecht said he consistently found school drop-outs clustered in low income jobs and college grads doing better "across the board."

More than two-thirds of the estimated job

openings for non-college graduates through 1985 will arise from the need to replace older (and more experienced) workers rather than from economic growth.

"The importance of the replacement demand suggests a greater role in the future for adult and post-secondary vocational education in high schools, community colleges and technical institutes to provide a basis for upgrading experienced but less skilled workers who seek to improve their occupational status," Lecht said.

"The need to train large numbers of skilled workers coupled with the end of the baby boom indicates that "the potential growth for vocational education in the next 10 years will be more as a part of 'lifetime learning' for adults than as a part of the regular school program for a diminishing number of young persons who have not yet entered the labor force," Lecht added.

Lecht said his figures show continued growth in the professional, technical, and managerial occupations, fewer blue collar jobs and an "absolute decline" among farm occupations. Lecht, in his study, found too many vocational enrollees in agricultural programs in relation to expected job openings and too few students in health and distributive education courses.

Many vocational programs continue to prepare students for careers that pay less than average wages, Lecht added, yet worker education levels have continued to rise, pointing to a probable decline in the "economic premium" attached to a college degree.

**EDUCATION LOSES FRIEND**

Education lost a dear friend December 17 with the death of Ben Howell of El Paso, a former chairman and long-time member of the State Board of Education.

Howell began his years on the SBOE in 1957 and served as chairman from 1968 until his retirement in 1974.

He also chaired the Texas Advisory Committee on Vocational Education, which was a predecessor of the present ACTVE.

While on the State Board, Howell was a member of the "Joint Committee." This committee, comprised of representatives of the SBOE, Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System and ACTVE, was created under state law in 1969 to coordinate the approval/funding of vocational programs offered or proposed to be offered in Texas' colleges and universities.

**CONFERENCE DATES SET**

Dates for a series of "Impact Conferences" to be sponsored by the ACTVE during February/March have been finalized.

(See CONFERENCES, page 2)

(CONFERENCES, continued from page 1)

Twenty communities, through 19 conferences, will "assess the impact that vocational, technical, manpower, and adult education programs and services are having in meeting individual and community needs for living and making a living."

Concerns and recommendations voiced in these conferences will provide the foundations for the ACTIVE's 1976 reports to the Governor, State Board of Education, and Legislature. The findings will also be transmitted to the U. S. Commissioner of Education.

The dates and communities are:

February 3	Lamesa
February 3	Baytown
February 5	Tulia
February 10	Paris
February 10	Bryan-College Station
February 11	Garland
February 12	Lufkin
February 12	Mineral Wells
February 12	Longview
February 16-17	El Paso
February 18	Beeville
February 18-19	Amarillo
February 19	Kerrville
February 23	Sweetwater
February 24	La Grange
February 24	Waco
February 25-26	Fort Worth
February 26-27	Port Arthur
March 4	McAllen

For specific information regarding conferences to be held in your part of the state, contact the "ACTIVE NEWS."

**TWO TEXANS IN NATIONAL LIMELIGHT**

Frederick McClure of San Augustine and Bobby Tucker of Mineola are two Texans in the national limelight.

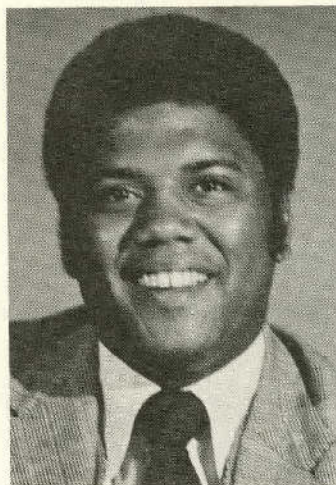
McClure has been appointed by President Ford to chair the President's Youth Commission on the Third Century. Tucker has been elected Texas' first National FFA President in the 48-year history of the organization.

An ACTIVE member and junior at Texas A&M University majoring in Agriculture Economics, McClure says the Commission is in the process of planning a conference for late March whereby youth leaders from across the

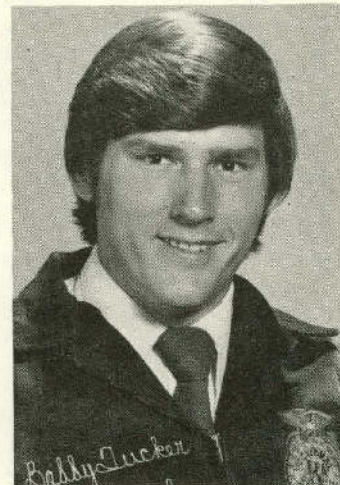
country will meet to discuss how our country should approach the next century of its existence in terms of meeting the needs of its youth.

McClure is a former national secretary and state president of the FFA. He was a White House Summer Intern in 1975.

Tucker is a sophomore at TAMU majoring in Agriculture Education. He is also a former state president of the FFA.



Frederick McClure



Bobby Tucker

**KEY TO VOC ED SURVIVAL CITED**

Charles C. Drawbaugh of Rutgers University notes that there must be increased linkages between vocational education programs and employers and employee groups if vocational education is to survive.

Speaking at the recent National Vocational Education Personnel Development Seminar in Omaha, Nebraska, Drawbaugh reported that 85 percent of the country's industries are currently training their own employees--some 58 million a year--and are spending an estimated \$20-30 billion annually.

He projects that industry will soon be spending as much on human resource development as the country will be spending on educating its youth.

**BELL ADDRESSES AVA**

New discoveries about the human brain may mean that educators should begin to look at ways to combine academic and vocational-type training, U. S. Commissioner of Education Terrel Bell told the American Vocational (See BELL, page 3)

(BELL, continued from page 2)

Association Convention December 6th at Anaheim, California.

"The most exciting frontier in education today is not the traditional academic sector or in the area we call career education or in any other of the specialized fields," said Bell. "It is in the work being done by researchers from many disciplines on the human brain."

Bell said that if it is true that learning functions are scattered throughout the brain and that memory is a complex cross-indexing system also found in all parts of the brain, as research indicates, "then the new task for educators would seem to be one of coordinating the traditional literacy-based pedagogy with tube-teaching (television) and hands-on learning."

Brain research has also found that while motivation to learn differs somewhat from person to person, "I think there is a motivational factor common to all of us in most learning situations that can be summed up in the word relevance," Bell said.

"The challenge to vocational education is to make each of its students aware of his individual contribution to the common good in an age of complexity of cynicism. What is the relevance of each student's specialized learning activity to the larger goal of meaningful life?"

Bell said the task of the vocational educator is to teach specific skills while keeping in mind that "the learner must be treated as a whole individual whose needs and motivation transcend the specific skills to do a tangible job."

**BUMPING PHENOMENON**

A surplus of college graduates over the next few years most likely will lead to worker frustration as most find they are overqualified for their jobs, a Ford Foundation official told Congress recently.

In testimony before a Senate Government Operations Committee hearing on worker productivity, grant officer Basil Whiting predicted, "We will have a couple of million 'excess' college graduates who will start a 'bumping' phenomenon."

"College graduates will probably find work at the top of the scale of 'non-college level' employment; thereby displacing a like number of non-college graduates who would otherwise have held those jobs," said Whiting.

"Thus we may have millions of workers throughout the job and age spectrum displaced downwards into jobs that had previously been held by people with lower educational levels."

**MCC SURVEY PUBLISHED**

McLennan Community College in Waco has published the results of a survey aimed at determining the needs of employers and adults with respect to manpower and manpower training.

Entitled the Multi-County Assessment of Adult Needs Project, the survey also sought to develop a picture of the area's adult education programs. The survey was conducted in four counties--Bosque, Falls, Hill, and McLennan.

Among the findings, it was noted that although the majority of responding adults were aware that adult education programs existed in their area, about one-third did not know that such programs were available to them.

About 19 percent of the responding adults had attended adult education courses. Of this number, just under 71 percent felt that the local institutions were meeting the needs of the programs.

One-half of the responding employers indicated no problems in finding qualified employees. Thirty-eight percent found jobs in technical/mechanical areas hard to fill.

Eighty percent of the employers felt that specific training courses taught by a vocational school would benefit their firms, especially in the technical/mechanical, office skill and business management areas.

**3,688 LVN'S IN 1975**

The Texas State Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners issued 3,688 vocational nurse licenses during 1975.

Licenses were issued to 3,074 persons who passed exams administered by the Board in (See LVN's, page 4)

(LVN's, continued from page 3)

April and October. Another 614 licenses were issued by "reciprocity" to persons coming to Texas with licenses obtained in other states.

Since the inception of the Vocational Nurse Law in 1951, 66,656 licenses have been issued in Texas. Of these, 48,529 graduated from a year's vocational nurse training or have had two years professional nurse schooling; 13,239 qualified through waiver provisions of the law; and 4,888 are reciprocity license holders from other states.

Presently, there are 151 vocational nurse programs operational in Texas with post-graduate courses being offered at the Baylor University Medical Center.

Persons desiring to be a Licensed Vocational Nurse in Texas must establish adequate training and pass an examination in this or another state.

#### **TMA NOW TAB**

The Texas Manufacturers Association changed its name January 1 to Texas Association of

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Business.

Since its inception in 1922, TMA had been the voice of business and industry in Texas. The new name will reflect the many businesses represented by the Association, which include manufacturing, chemicals, producers of natural resources, retailing, insurance, transportation, financial institutions, utilities, agriculture, construction, sales and service organizations and other businesses vital to the state's economy.

A new address accompanied the name change. Correspondence should be directed to: Texas Association of Business (TAB), 11th Floor, The Main Building, 1212 Main Street, Houston, Texas, 77002.

#### **FEBRUARY 8-14 VEW**

February 8-14 will be National Vocational Education Week and the theme will be "Reaching Out Through Vocational Education."

Will Reece, *editor*.