

knowledge and technology have been pressing us, almost without our understanding it, into power and prosperity and communication and interaction, and into increasing tolerance and vision and choice and planning—pressing us, whether we like it or not, into a single coordinated humankind. The scattered and competing parts are being bound together. Everywhere now we begin to see men and nations beginning the deliberate design of development with a growing confidence in the choice and creation of their own future. The exponential changes have burst apart our ancient attitudes and structures, and our failure to adjust to this may yet kill us, but if we are wise and energetic and understand our own nature and purposes well enough to restructure and control these dangers, mankind may emerge very quickly into coordinated forms

such as it has never known before. Our drastic changes will not go on forever. They are converging to a limit. It was implicit in the biological material all along, as surely as the butterfly is implicit in the caterpillar. We have been men. We are emerging into Man.

Yet no analogy, not even that of metamorphosis, quite captures the suddenness and radicalness, the really complete restructuring, of the transformation ahead. If the 2 billion years of life are represented by the 200-foot height of, say, the Rockefeller Chapel at Chicago, the million years of man make a 1-inch block on top of the chapel. The 20,000 years of agriculture make a thick postage stamp on top of that, and the 400 years of science make the ink on top of the postage stamp. Now, suddenly, we see what all this has been building up to; and

it is about to come within a single generation or two—that is, in the thickness of the film of moisture on top of the ink on the postage stamp. In that short time we will move, if we survive the strain, to a wealthy and powerful and coordinated world society reaching across the solar system, a society that might find out how to keep itself alive and evolving for thousands or millions or billions of years, a time as long as all of evolution past. It is a tremendous prospect. Hardly anyone has seen the enormous sweep and restructuring and unity and future of it except perhaps dreamers like H. G. Wells or Teilhard de Chardin. It is a quantum jump. It is a new state of matter. The act of saving ourselves, if it succeeds, will make us participants in the most incredible event in evolution. It is the step to Man.

## News and Comment

### HEW: As Secretary of Department of Health, Education and Welfare Gardner Faces Formidable Tasks

President Johnson's appointment of Carnegie Corporation president John W. Gardner as Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) caused less surprise in Washington than the naming of Arthur Goldberg as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, but the Gardner appointment seems to have drawn similar approbation.

Gardner, whom a *New York Times* profile said "is widely regarded as the most powerful behind-the-scenes figure in American education," is stepping into what, in the next few years, could be one of the more exposed positions in American public life.

As HEW Secretary—Senate confirmation is regarded as a formality—Gardner will preside over a sprawling, expanding federation of agencies in which, until very recently, health and

welfare activities have dominated—rather than the education programs with which Gardner has been chiefly identified.

The major bureaucratic components of the department are, in addition to the Office of Education, the Social Security Administration, the Food and Drug Administration, the Welfare Administration, and the Public Health Service—the parent agency of the National Institutes of Health. The Department has over 80,000 employees.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare was created in 1953 after years of debate and out of administrative desperation. The Eisenhower Administration was able to allay the apprehensions of conservatives in Congress about the potential rise of a powerful "ministry of welfare." For some years, HEW grew slowly and was facetiously known as the Department of not much Health, Education and Welfare.

This has changed and is about to

change even more markedly. Medicare legislation just signed into law will mean heavy and complex new administrative duties for the Social Security Administration. A bill to establish a national network of regional medical centers for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, cancer, and stroke has passed the Senate. If it achieves final passage, the program will fall to the Public Health Service to administer. The Food and Drug Administration is given substantially increased responsibilities in a recently passed set of amendments tightening controls on psychotoxic drugs. And the agency is currently under sharp attack by Representative L. H. Fountain (D-N.C.) who has roundly criticized aspects of FDA operations and some of its personnel. The Office of Education (OED) has been transformed into a major agency in terms of both budget and scope of activities during the past 2 years by a spate of legislation. These bills provide major assistance to schools and institutions of higher education, amendments to the National Defense Education Act, and the vocational-education legislation and poverty-program legislation which deeply involves OED. Particularly in these new education measures, the HEW Secretary is given discretionary powers which are very extensive and are likely to make Congress unusually watchful of the Secretary's actions.

HEW has had five secretaries in its

12 years, and in varying degrees it can be said that all of them reigned but did not rule. The reasons are numerous. The most obvious are that the major agencies for the most part existed long before the department did, have little in common, savor their autonomy, and are organized to preserve it. The PHS with its corps of commissioned officers and FDA with a hierarchy which has been dominated by enforcement officers are leading examples. The HEW agencies are responsible to a number of House and Senate committees and

have developed special relationships with the committees.

One recognized reason for the failure to achieve stronger central management of the department has been the weakness, both in terms of numbers and administrative leverage, of the group of officials and staff directly responsible to the Secretary. Congress has appeared reluctant to provide the office of the Secretary with enough help at the subcabinet and upper managerial levels to exert steady and effective influence on the agencies. Recently, as

new programs have been enacted, however, a number of new upper-echelon posts have been created. Gardner, who has a reputation as a skillful talent hunter, will presumably fill them with people with a departmental view and allegiance. It is felt that the able HEW Under Secretary, Wilbur Cohen, who, as assistant secretary for legislation, carried much of the burden of legislative drafting and strategy, will complement Gardner strongly.

A possible precedent for the future of the department under Gardner may

## Some Quotes from John Gardner

In short, the growing complexity of our social organization presents problems as well as opportunities for the cultivation of human capabilities. It tends to encourage effort—but often only up to a level of average acceptability. It opens avenues of advance, but these avenues converge on the citadels of routine where the individual pace must conform to fixed traffic patterns. It stimulates self-development but threatens to define the goal as mere competence. Meanwhile the very contribution that a highly organized society most requires—original thought and effort—is precisely that which it unconsciously discourages. . . .

The relevant questions then become: What organizational patterns and practices may be devised that are least destructive of individual initiative and autonomy? How is it that with all the intricacy of social mechanism, a good many astonishingly free, flexible, creative and independent individuals exist—some of them in the very heart of the great bureaucracies? How may we best prepare our young people to keep their individuality, initiative, creativity in a highly organized, intricately meshed society? How may we rescue talented individuals from the lowered aspirations, the boredom, and the habits of mediocrity so often induced by life in a large and complex organization? How do we shatter the informal setting in which order, harmony and predictability seem to be given more emphasis than individual achievement?

When we arrive at questions of this import we are no longer simply talking about the cultivation of talent. We are talking about some of the gravest issues in the future of our society. A continuing tension between the needs of the organization and the integrity of the person, between the effectiveness of the group and the creativity of the individual may well be one of the most fateful struggles in our future.

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There is a danger of training scientists so narrowly in their specialties that they are unprepared to shoulder the moral and civic responsibilities which the modern world thrusts upon them. But just as we must insist that every scientist be broadly educated, so we must see to it that every educated person be literate in science. In the short run this may contribute to our survival. In the long run it is essential to our integrity as a society.—*The Pursuit of Excellence, Education and the Future of America* (Double-day, 1958)

Most Americans honor education; few understand its larger purposes. Our thinking about the aims of education has too often been shallow, constricted, and lacking in reach or perspective. Our educational purposes must be seen in the broader framework of our convictions concerning the worth of the individual and the importance of individual fulfillment. It is now time to insist that this larger framework be universally explored and understood.

In a sense this is an obligation we owe to those great shapers of the Western tradition who taught us the importance of individual fulfillment. They gave us the blueprints for a cathedral, but a good deal of the time we insist on referring to it as a toolshed. Now, while the nation is re-examining its aims in education—now is the time to see our purposes in a larger perspective.—Annual Report, Carnegie Corporation of New York, 1958.

The society can do much to encourage . . . self-development. The most important thing it can do is to remove the obstacles to individual fulfillment. This means doing away with the gross inequalities of opportunity imposed on some of our citizens by race prejudice and economic hardship. And it means a continuous and effective operation of "talent salvage" to assist young people to achieve the promise that is in them. The benefits are not only to the individual but to the society. Nothing is more decisive for social renewal than the mobility of talent.

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The most hopeful thing today is that on *some fronts* we seem to be achieving patterns of organization that avoid the stultification, rigidity and threats to freedom inherent in monolithic integrations. If this is true, it may be the most important single fact in our future.

It is possible to continue achieving economies of scale and still give attention to human needs. Too often in the past we have designed systems to meet all kinds of exacting requirements except the requirement that they contribute to the fulfillment and growth of the participants. Organizations need not be designed in such a way that they destroy human initiative. They are designed that way because we have not been willing to be as inventive about organizational matters as we have been about hardware.

It is essential that in the years ahead we undertake intensive analysis of the impact of the organization on the individual. We must examine the conditions under which

be found in the history of the Office of Education under Commissioner of Education Francis Keppel. (Gardner is said to have figured in Keppel's accession to the job under President Kennedy, 2½ years ago. Gardner and Keppel are friends, they share similar views on education, and are expected to work well together.)

During Keppel's tenure, an unparalleled program of education legislation has been passed. However, until recently, except for a few appointive jobs in the control of the Commissioner,

little had been done internally to alter the agency itself, which was regarded in Washington as doing a humdrum job in a humdrum way. With the flexibility afforded him by new jobs carried in new legislation and a fresh reorganization of OED, Keppel is reportedly making changes which will improve both the agency's image and substance.

As for HEW as a whole, there have been perennial suggestions that the department should be broken up into two or three Cabinet-level agencies. There has been speculation that Gardner, who

is a registered Republican, might be politically the right man to calm opposition to such a partition. Such speculation at this point appears to be quite premature and the President reportedly thinks Gardner is, by experience and temperament, the man who can shape up HEW.

The 52-year-old Gardner has been granted a leave of absence (term not disclosed) by the Carnegie trustees. Gardner heads both the Carnegie Corporation and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

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## On Excellence, Self-Renewal and Other Matters

organization is a threat to the individual, the kinds of organizational patterns that are the greatest threat and the safeguards that can be built into organization to minimize the threat. We must discover how to design organizations and technological systems in such a way that individual talents are used to the maximum and human satisfaction and dignity preserved. We must learn to make technology serve man not only in the end product but in the doing.

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In some cases, young people find that the moral precepts their parents have to offer are no longer relevant in a rapidly changing world. And they often find that in moral matters the precepts their parents utter are contradicted by the behavior their parents exhibit. This is confusing, but not catastrophic. Those writers who imagine that it destroys all possibility of youthful moral striving are wrong. The first task of renewal in the moral sphere is *always* the difficult confrontation of ideal and reality, precept and practice; and young people are very well fitted to accomplish that confrontation. Their freshness of vision and rebelliousness of mood make them highly effective in stripping the encrustations of hypocrisy from cherished ideals.—*Self-Renewal, The Individual and The Innovative Society* (Harper & Row, 1963)

It isn't that people have different opinions about excellence. They see it from different vantage points. The elementary school teacher preoccupied with instilling respect for standards in seven-year-olds will think about it in one way. The literary critic concerned with understanding and interpreting the highest reaches of creative expression will think of it in a wholly different way. The statesman, the composer, the intellectual historian—each will raise his own questions and pose the issues which are important for him.

It will help the reader to know what my own vantage point is. I am concerned with the social context in which excellence may survive or be smothered. I am concerned with the fate of excellence in our kind of society. This preoccupation may lead me to neglect some of the interesting and perplexing problems of excellence as these confront the specialist striving for the highest reaches of performance in his particular field. I am sorry that such neglect must occur, but I leave its repair to other writers. This book is concerned with the difficult, puzzling, delicate

and important business of toning up a whole society, of bringing a whole society, of bringing a whole people to that fine edge of morale and conviction and zest that makes for greatness.

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. . . Today we have vastly more reason to respect intellect, vastly more reason to be awed by the achievements of the human mind; but in our total scale of values it must still be a subordinate good. Our admiration for the man who puts extraordinary intellectual gifts at the service of chicanery is wry at best. We cannot admire the intellectual who lends himself to the cause of tyranny and brutality. We admire the scientist because he uses his intellectual gifts in the service of one of the highest values of our civilization—the search for truth. We would not honor him if he used the same gifts for evil purposes.

In short, intellect alone is not sufficient basis for the creation of an aristocracy. There is no certainty that an aristocracy of intellect would be more virtuous, more humane or more devoted to the dignity of the individual than the aristocracy of knaves and fools which repelled Thomas Jefferson.

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What we are suggesting is that every institution in our society should contribute to the fulfillment of the individual. Every institution must, of course, have its own purposes and preoccupations, but over and above everything else that it does, it should be prepared to answer this question posed by society: "What is the institution doing to foster the development of the individuals within it?"

Now what does all of this mean? It means that we should very greatly enlarge our ways of thinking about education. We should be painting a vastly greater mural on a vastly more spacious wall. What we are trying to do is nothing less than to build a greater and more creative civilization. We propose that the American people accept as a universal task the fostering of individual development within a framework of rational and moral values. We propose that they accept as an all-encompassing goal the furtherance of individual growth and learning at every age, in every significant situation, in every conceivable way. By doing so, we shall keep faith with our ideal of individual fulfillment and at the same time insure our continued strength and creativity as a society.—*Excellence: Can We Be Equal and Excellent Too?* (Harper, 1961)

founded early in the century and devoted primarily to the support of pensions for retired college and university teachers.

Gardner has headed the Carnegie Corporation for 10 years, having joined it as an executive assistant in 1946. During World War II, he served first as chief of the Latin American section of the foreign broadcast intelligence section of the Federal Communications Commission. In 1943 he joined the Marine Corps and was assigned to the Office of Strategic Services, serving with the intelligence and espionage organization in Washington, Italy, and Austria.

Gardner is California-born. He earned an A.B. and M.A. from Stanford and a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of California at Berkeley. Before the war, he taught psychology at Connecticut College for Women and at Mount Holyoke.

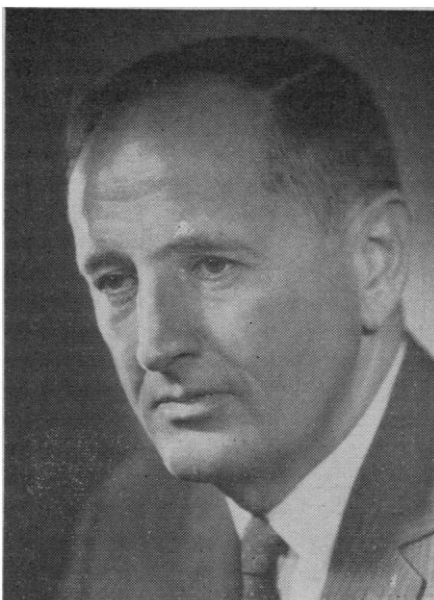
In addition to the special sort of eminence that goes with being the president of a major foundation, Gardner has built a reputation as an author, an authority on education, and a highly knowledgeable and effective committeeman. He writes well and, in an age of literary ghosts and editorial assistants, is that rarity among prominent men who does it himself—frequently, say his associates—in several painstaking drafts. (At President Kennedy's request, Gardner edited a volume of Kennedy speeches and papers.)

Gardner has left his personal stamp, in both prose style and ideas, on a number of reports of committees, particularly those he has chaired. It was one such, the 1958 Rockefeller Brothers Fund report "The Pursuit of Excellence: Education and the Future of America," which became a benchmark in subsequent discussions of American education and established Gardner's broader reputation.

His two books\* have shown him not as a proponent of specific programs for reform, but as a social critic and moralist concerned with the possibilities of American society.

As HEW Secretary, Gardner will be the only holder of a Ph.D. in the Cabinet, but he joins another certified intellectual and former foundation president, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, who headed the Rockefeller Foundation when John F. Kennedy tapped him to be Secretary of State.

\* *Excellence: Can We Be Equal and Excellent Too?* (Harper, New York, 1961), \$3.95; *Self Renewal: The Individual and the Innovative Society* (Harper & Row, New York, 1964), \$3.50.



John W. Gardner

In addition to membership in professional societies, Gardner has been a member of the Board of Directors of the AAAS since 1963. He is also a director of the Shell Oil Company and of the New York Telephone Company.

As a private citizen, Gardner has served in a variety of consulting and advisory capacities to the federal government. He has been a consultant to the U.S. delegation to the United Nations, the Air Force, and the Department of Defense, and has served as chairman of the U.S. Advisory Commission on International Education and Cultural Affairs. He chaired the committee which studied relationships between the universities and the Agency for International Development. The committee produced a report which was pointedly critical in spots and which AID Administrator David Bell described as "forthright, lucid and provocative."

The work which led most directly to his new appointment was his service on the original Kennedy task force on education, his chairmanship of last year's task force on education appointed by President Johnson to come up with new ideas for legislation in the present Congress, and his chairmanship of last month's White House Conference on Education. It is said that, as President, Johnson came to rely on Gardner as his most trusted nongovernmental adviser on education. The departure of former Cleveland mayor Anthony Celebrezze from the post of HEW Secretary has been rumored for months, and when the time came to seek a new secretary, Johnson is said to

have turned his disintegrator-ray persuasive powers on Gardner. It is not inconceivable that the President may have quoted some of Gardner's own views about a citizen's obligation to his society back to him.

In the nature of things, where task forces and committees are concerned, it is difficult to give credit exactly where credit is due. The same is true for foundations, but a foundation president ultimately gets the praise or blame. The Carnegie Corporation is one of the smaller giants among foundations, ranking about halfway on the list of 13 foundations with \$100 million or more in assets. Carnegie appropriated some \$12.4 million in 1963-64 and, among informed observers, gets high marks as a foundation which sets trends and spends money fruitfully. Its underwriting of James Conant's studies of American schools and teacher education and its support of curriculum reform efforts before the National Science Foundation joined the game are often cited as successful examples of Carnegie projects.

Education, broadly defined, has been the corporation's major concern. Last year, Carnegie financed several international programs designed to yield a sounder understanding of political and social development in Asia, Africa, and South America. In national affairs, the corporation is supporting a study, by the American Political Science Association, meant to contribute to current efforts at the reform of Congress. It also is financing 15 "White House Fellowships" for exceptionally able young people who will spend a year working in top-level offices in the Executive branch.

These are merely examples. A large proportion of Carnegie grants went last year, as they have for many years, to support projects aimed at innovation and improvement in American education. The corporation's long-standing interest in higher education is reflected in the grants, but so is a concern for vocational and technical training, and for projects to discover more about the process of learning itself. More than a quarter of Carnegie income last year went for programs to improve the education of the disadvantaged.

Carnegie-backed programs to promote innovation, equal opportunity, and curriculum reform have anticipated and, to a significant degree, provided the groundwork for the programs of the department Gardner will administer.—JOHN WALSH