

continental systems nor as thoroughgoing in its delegation of authority by the national government as the American.

Schools are operated by more than 160 local education authorities in England and Wales. Primary and secondary education is financed almost entirely through local taxes. The local education authorities also provide training colleges for teachers, who normally take 3 years to qualify.

National control is exercised through the Department of Education and Science. The department's primary instrument of authority is its power to set national priorities and to control spending by approving or rejecting local proposals for building. It also seeks and administers legislation, such as that which sets the years for compulsory school attendance. These are now between the ages 5 and 15, and the minimum school-leaving age is scheduled to rise to 16 in 1970. Sometimes school laws, in effect, set goals rather than enforceable standards. The statutory maximums on class size are 40 for primary schools and 30 for secondary schools, but these levels are exceeded in many schools.

In the field, the traditional arm of the department has been Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, who have oversight of all schools, public and private. In the past, the best-known function of the inspectors has been the carrying out of "general inspections" of the schools and reporting of results to the department school managers and local education authorities. The HMI's are changing along with the schools. Many are specialists in curriculum, administration, or buildings and act primarily in the role of adviser. One veteran teacher remarked that the HMI's seem "much more human" these days. He recalls that, immediately after World War II and on his second day of teaching, an inspector turned up and "shot me down in front of the class."

The powers of the department are limited, however, by the principle of local autonomy. It is accepted, for example, that the headmaster and his staff shall have control over the curriculum and teaching methods in their school. They usually operate with considerably more freedom from influence from local school authorities and parents than would be the case in the United States.

In practice, this local autonomy means that many schools have yet to unburden themselves of the heavy legacy of the past. Whatever the hopes of

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **NATIONAL PARK BILLS:** The Senate has approved bills calling for the creation of a 61,000-acre Redwood National Park in northern California and a 504,500-acre North Cascades National Park in Washington State. The redwoods measure was approved by a 77- to 6-vote margin after an amendment was defeated that would have deleted a land-exchange provision from the bill. The Cascades bill was passed by a voice vote. In addition to the park, it calls for the creation of a half-million acre wilderness area adjacent to the park and a 105,000-acre national recreation area. Both bills now go to the House where they are expected to encounter stiff opposition. No action is anticipated on either bill in the House this session.

● **CHEMISTS' STARTING SALARIES:** Starting salaries for 1967 graduates in chemistry and chemical engineering averaged 7.4 percent higher than those received by 1966 graduates, according to the American Chemical Society. Beginning monthly pay for chemists with bachelor's degrees was \$650, the society indicated, while chemists with master's degrees started at \$775 and inexperienced chemists with Ph.D.'s received \$1075.

● **HEAD START MEDICAL PROGRAM:** The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) will direct a consultation program in 2000 U.S. communities to supplement local medical programs of the Head Start child development project. A joint announcement by the academy and Sargent Shriver, director of the Office of Economic Opportunity which runs the Head Start program, said the AAP will begin by evaluating "the medical aspects of the Head Start program at the state and local level."

● **GHETTO STUDY:** A study of Negro youths has been given a \$150,000 continuation grant by the U.S. Office of Education. The grant will support the third year of a 5-year study that the Harvard Graduate School of Education is conducting in the Roxbury section of Boston to trace the evolution of values, self-esteem, and career aspiration of Negro boys. A comparative study of white boys living in poverty areas near Boston is planned in an attempt to distinguish between the attitudes that

arise from economic deprivation and those that are due to discrimination. Data will also be gathered about teen-aged boys in Barbados, an underdeveloped, predominantly Negro society in the Caribbean. Robert Alan Rosenthal, lecturer and research associate in education, heads the study.

● **COLUMBIA'S HARLEM PROJECT:** Columbia University has announced a \$2.7-million project as the first phase of a long-term project aimed at alleviating urban and minority group problems. Funds for the project were provided by a \$10-million urban-minority grant from the Ford Foundation and will be used to improve the educational, housing, health, employment, and cultural conditions in Harlem. To coordinate the program, the university has created a Center on Urban-Minority Affairs which will be temporarily headed by Clarence Walton who was chairman of a five-man committee that drew up plans for the program.

● **POLLUTION TRAINING INDUCEMENTS:** The State of New Jersey is recruiting future pollution specialists at the high school level. Under the state's Clean Air and Water Scholarship and Intern Law that became effective 15 June, college students who major in fields related to air or water pollution may receive up to \$3600 a year. The funds, which are available for a 4-year period, provide for room, board, and tuition. In return, the students must agree to work for the state during summer vacations and for 3 years following graduation.

● **ANOTHER BRAIN DRAIN STUDY:** A study of the migration of scientific and medical personnel from underdeveloped countries to the United States has been announced by the Adlai Stevenson Institute of International Affairs, an autonomous educational foundation. A 20-member study group will meet five times during the year in the institute's headquarters on the University of Chicago campus to examine trends and problems in several specialized areas including neurosurgery, nuclear reactor technology, computer sciences, pediatrics, and business administration. Cochairman of the group are Congressman John Brademas (D-Ind.) and Senator Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.).