

OPPORTUNITY

A Publication of the New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity

An October 30 article in the Sunday Star-Ledger said that NJOEO Director John C. Bullitt was the, "first cabinet-level state official to advocate that birth control and family planning services be provided to the poor." It quoted Bullitt as saying:

"The problems of the poor are compounded by large families. There is ample evidence that the poor have more children than other people because of the almost total absence of family planning services for them . . . As with other health services, the poor do not know where to obtain advice and can't afford it . . . Surveys show that the family size preference of the poor is for smaller families than the affluent. I feel if services of high quality are made available with dignity and without coercion, the poor will use them. Their problem is the lack of money, knowledge and available services."

Newark's Elderly Citizens 'Getting Young' Through Golden Age Work, Recreation Plan

An elderly woman from Newark slowly shuffled into the rear annex of the South Park Calvary Baptist Church.

"I used to feel sick or dejected and I don't know whether it was because I wasn't doing much or what," she said, joining several other senior citizens in a game of checkers. "But now the feeling of doing something for someone other than ourselves has made me much more interested. And all my friends think I'm getting young instead of older."

She and hundreds of elderly Newarkers are "getting younger" through the Golden Age Plan—a senior citizens program conducted by the Newark Senior Citizens Commission through the United Community Corporation (UCC), the city's antipoverty agency.

Under the plan, disadvantaged older citizens receive health and nutrition services, courses in reading and writing, projects in the arts and a number of recreational activ-

ities at 12 Senior Citizen Centers throughout the city. The South Park Calvary Baptist Church houses one of these centers.

In addition, trained staff members at each center attempt to find jobs for elderly persons who wish to supplement their income. With the help of job counselors, many older people are working as sub-professional aides in neighborhood agencies, as home aides who do household chores for elderly shut-ins, and as visiting aides who go into the homes of the aged to assist them in any way possible.

Some of these older persons assist the sick, for example, or perform routine tasks for lonely, recluses. They may shave a sick man, make coffee for a bed-ridden woman or read books or sing songs to them.

About 27 senior citizens work as hospital aides in Newark City Hospital and one is now employed at the Crippled Children's Hospital. They work four hours a day, 20

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New USOEO Grant Awarded Trenton For City Planning

United Progress Inc., (UPI), the community action agency of Trenton, is one of ten city antipoverty organizations in the nation to be awarded a special human resource planning grant from the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity.

The grant of \$75,000-100,000, announced last month, will be used to apply the art of planning to all the city's human and physical renewal efforts.

To some officials, the grant improves the chances of Trenton being selected as one of the 70 cities throughout the country to receive money under the Demonstration Cities Act. The recently-enacted multi-million dollar bill provides financial assistance for a massive and total rehabilitation of urban slums—of people and buildings alike.

"I think we have a good chance to be chosen as one of America's 70 Demonstration Cities," Mayor Carmen J. Armenti announced recently. "With the OEO funds, UPI, in cooperation with the city government and with other public and private organizations, will put together the local planning machinery required to make coordinated working sense in our efforts . . ."

According to Gregory Farrell, UPI executive director, "most community action agencies have never planned at all . . . most have had no system of priorities and goals." He says this is perfectly understandable because most antipoverty groups have had to chase funds and sample a cafeteria of programs since the passage of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

Now USOEO is striking out in a new direction, hoping to bring to antipoverty operations the system

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Second Phase of Upward Bound Gives 600 New Jersey Students Academic, Cultural Experience

The second phase of Project Upward Bound, the national pre-college program designed to help disadvantaged 10th and 11th graders with poor academic records, is now in full operation in New Jersey.

Upward Bound began last summer when the United States Office of Economic Opportunity allocated \$25½ million dollars to establish some 200 year-long programs which would reach over 20,000 teenagers.

The project aims to change the students' attitude towards learning from one of apathy and hostility to one of acceptance and commitment. In the summer phase of the program, students spent from six to eight weeks in residence on a college or university campus studying with both high school and college faculty members. In the academic year phase, the students were to meet at their own high schools during the week or return to the campuses on weekends for follow-up programs designed to strengthen their academic tools so they might eventually enter college or another post-secondary educational institution.

Last summer, about 600 students were enrolled in nine Upward Bound programs on the following New Jersey college and university campuses: College of St. Elizabeth, Montclair State, (in concert with Jersey City State and St. Peter's), Glassboro State, Princeton, Trenton State, Seton Hall, Fairleigh Dickinson (Teaneck and Rutherford campuses) and Rutgers. In each case, the college or university was responsible for the academic content and administration of the program.

The nine project directors felt their summer programs were successful, particularly in changing the students' motivation towards education. All believed the academic year phase held even greater promise for the Upward Bound students, but also a significantly greater challenge for the project directors.

"In the six weeks this summer, we could only attack the students' attitudes," says the Upward Bound director at Princeton, "in the remaining months, we must give them the tools to make possible the fulfillment of their academic aims."

All nine follow-up programs, therefore, have a strong remedial-tutorial component. As the curricula varied from campus to campus this summer, so does the form and content of the academic portion of the follow-up program.

In some projects, such as the one at the College of St. Elizabeth, the students receive their academic studies in a single day. All 60 students from the summer program return to the campus each Saturday where they study intensively from 8:30 to 2:30 p.m. They take classes in English, Mathematics and one elective such as art, music or typing.

Other programs are more similar to the format worked out at Montclair State. These students attend remedial sessions in their respective high schools one

afternoon a week. Students in the Trenton State, Glassboro State and Princeton programs adhere to this type of procedure.

The Rutgers program is the only one of the nine to offer daily remedial work in the local high school as well as a Saturday program on the campus. The daily remedial work is made possible because of another Rutgers program which trains University students, faculty members and persons recruited by local antipoverty agencies to be tutors.

After training, the tutors go to the 12 high schools which the 137 Upward Bound students attend and work with them on a one-to-one basis. The Saturday enrichment program is not compulsory, but attendance has been high. An average of 90 students a weekend have returned to Rutgers to hear lectures on a variety of academic subjects.

A second aspect of the follow-ups deals with widening the students' cultural horizons. This is done by bringing the students back to the individual campuses to see plays, concerts and other artistic events and by taking students on trips to cultural centers.

Seton Hall is the only participating institution with a film program for its students, the film serving as a focal point for group discussion which follows the presentation. On campus, each Saturday, the students see a top quality film. Among the films shown in the past are *The Bridge*, *High Noon*, and *The Quiet One*.

Students in three of the programs will soon be going to New York City to see either a theatrical performance, an opera or the leading art museums. The Fairleigh Dickinson (Rutherford) program has scheduled a spring trip to Washington, D. C. for its 105 students to see the Capital's monuments.

A third goal of the program attempts to give the students guidance and advice about college admission and financing. Students in every program are encouraged to consult their high school guidance counselors at all times to make sure of their credits and records. Most of the colleges' admissions officers are available to the Upward Bound students.

The program at the College of St. Elizabeth provides particular guidance in this area. The students take a class in College Orientation and study a special handbook which covers a range of topics from college board exams to how to make small talk at a college prom.

The final aim of the follow-ups is less tangible and more difficult to measure in terms of results than the other three. It attempts to give "constant encouragement to the individual," by establishing warm relations between students and high school personnel, between students and Upward Bound directors, between students and collegiate undergraduates and among the students themselves.

When the programs were set up last summer, one teacher was chosen at each high school that had Upward Bound students to serve as a liaison man between the program and the students. These teachers were involved

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School For Dropouts Is Keeping Majority In Earn-Learn Plan

A special year-round school for high school dropouts in downtown Newark is graduating or retaining approximately 70 per cent of its enrollees — a “holding power” equivalent to the national and Newark high school rate.

The school, called the Education Center for Youth, gives out-of-school, out-of-work young men and women a second opportunity to earn high school diplomas while they work at jobs provided by seven cooperating companies in the Northern New Jersey area. The companies are Bambergers, Humble Oil & Refining (ESSO), New Jersey Bell Telephone, Prudential Insurance, Public Service Electric and Gas, Western Electric and Westinghouse.

In cooperation with the Newark and State Boards of Education, this program uses an alternating work and study principle that puts 50 enrollees in jobs and 50 in school for one week and vice versa for the duration of the training period. The enrollees, usually between the ages of 16 and 21, are recruited by the Youth Career Development Center of the New Jersey Employment Service and the Newark School System's Guidance Department. The school has a number of distinctive features.

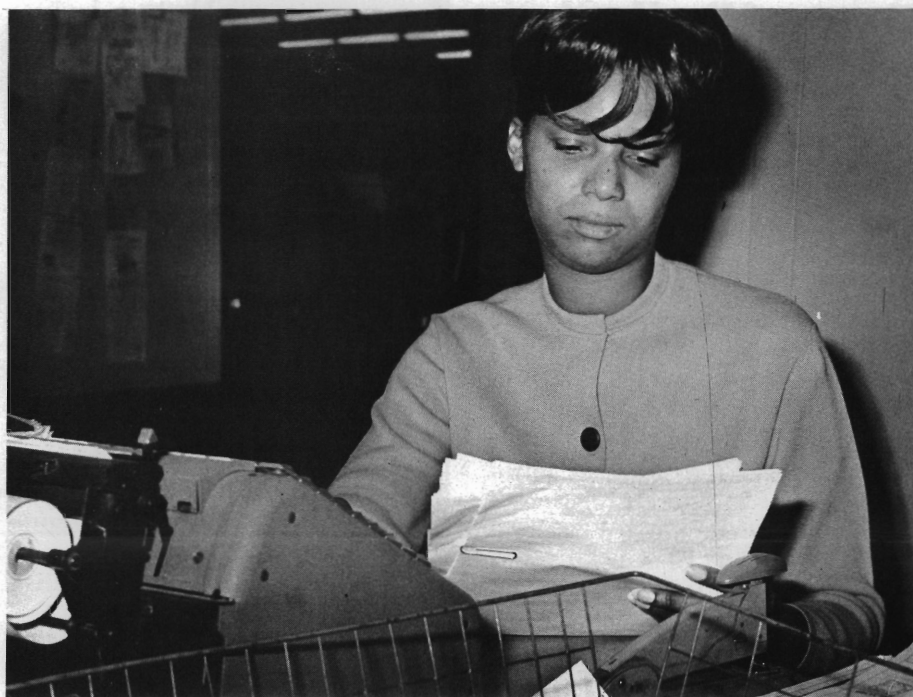
- it is located in an off-school site, in facilities made available by the Second Presbyterian Church, 15 James Street, Newark;

- classes are considerably smaller than the average high school class. A maximum of 10 students comprise a class, allowing for individual attention;

- the staff is composed of five regularly employed Newark high school teachers, two work-study coordinators, two guidance counselors and a social worker;

- the subjects are the same as those offered in regular classes, but adapted to meet the needs of Center students;

- students must maintain normal attendance records, but are allowed



***HARD AT WORK** — Mrs. Sondra Johnson, 22, of 89 Tillinghast St., Newark, now holds a full-time clerk job in the Prudential Insurance Company, where she first went as a trainee of the Education Center for Youth. A dropout, Mrs. Johnson earned a regular high school diploma and found employment through the center's earn-learn program.*

to work at their own rate of speed. There is no time limit for completing the course; and

- the school's calendar year does not parallel the school year, but the industrial year. This means the students study and work through the summer and other ordinary school vacations, including Christmas and Spring holidays.

Work training is conducted at the participating companies in the following job functions: sales clerk, marker, stock checker, gift wrapper, clerk, telephone operator, duplicator machine operator, messenger, stock chaser, detail maker's assistant, and as keypunch, librarian, service station, printing, engineering-drafting, bench machine and photographer trainees.

Since the program began on December 21, 1964, 242 students have been enrolled. Of these, 66 have earned regular high school diplomas, 100 are still participating in good standing, and 76 have dropped out. This 70 per cent “retention rate”, says the school, “compares favorably with the nationwide figures on regular high school holding power and with that of the city of

Newark (69 per cent).”

Of the students who earned diplomas, 38 or nearly 60 per cent are now working with one of the seven cooperating companies and 13 or nearly 20 per cent are employed elsewhere. This means 77 per cent of all the graduates are successfully working in full-time jobs. Of the remaining 15 graduates, four entered the military service, eight are homemakers and three are unemployed.

Of the 38 graduates who are now employed in the companies where they once worked as trainees, 90.3 per cent were rated as “good” or “satisfactory” workers by their employers in a special poll conducted by the school last month. Only 10 per cent were adjudged as “unsatisfactory.”

According to Irving J. Goldberg, center director, the high retention rate is due to the small teacher-pupil relationship, the earn-and-learn principle, the off-school site, and the attempt to treat enrollees as adults.

“These young men and women have previously tasted nothing but

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Camden Priest Is 1st Catholic Cleric In N.J. To Finish Full-time Antipoverty Training

A Roman Catholic priest from Camden has become the first clergyman of his faith in New Jersey to enroll full-time in an antipoverty training program.

The priest, the Rev. Edward Walsh, is one of eight interns of the New Jersey Community Action Training Institute (NJCATI) in Trenton who are studying the approaches and techniques of training the non-professional poor for new jobs. NJCATI is a non-profit corporation administering a statewide program that trains local antipoverty leaders to train the poor.

Upon completion of the eight-week program later this month, Father Walsh plans to return to Camden (city) to launch a non-denominational statewide training program primarily for clergymen of all faiths who are interested in the war on poverty. Although plans are not yet firm, the proposed training program would be the first established by the Catholic Church in New Jersey.

Father Walsh is a trustee of Atlantic Human Resources, Inc., the local antipoverty agency for Atlantic and Cape May Counties, and a former board chairman of a local Cape May antipoverty agency. He and three other priests previously had been assigned by Camden Bishop Celestine J. Damiano to work full time in the anti-poverty effort.

The four are working in the Camden Diocese's Neighborhood Apostolate, a non-profit, non-denominational social action agency serving the disadvantaged of Camden, Gloucester, Salem, Atlantic, Cumberland and Cape May Counties.

To date, the Apostolate has operated largely from the Kaighn Avenue Community Center, a converted parochial grammar school in the heart of a Camden ghetto. With another priest and a skeleton volunteer staff, Father Walsh has directed the Center's program of training courses, food and clothes distribution, and recreational and

cultural activities.

It is in this Center that the proposed training program would probably begin.

"The spirit of Vatican II (ecumenical council) has encouraged the clergy, religious and laity of Camden to join together out of concern for the problems of our community and all of our people," Father Walsh explained. "The challenging task assigned to me involved working many long hours, but my work at the Institute in learning how to develop and train people to help themselves is an expression of that spirit."

Father Walsh's involvement in the antipoverty campaign has been hailed by Federal and State antipoverty leaders as an important new step in the Catholic Church's role in New Jersey's war on poverty. In a letter to CATI, U.S. OEO Director Sargent Shriver said the relationship between CATI and the Catholic Church "is but further evidence of the strong and continuous support which various religious organizations have given to the war against poverty. We are grateful for such support."

The Very Rev. Msgr. Joseph J. Vopelak, coordinator of the New Jersey Catholic Conference in Trenton, said there are presently no Catholic-sponsored antipoverty training programs in the State for interested religious and lay leaders. The Conference is the Catholic Church's statewide office of educational and economic opportunity.

"Our Office has received many requests from Catholic clergymen for some informal means to help them better understand the problems and attitudes of the poor they work with," Msgr. Vopelak said. "Hopefully, the new center will assist the clergy of all faiths, so they might better relate to the problems of these people."

Barry A. Passett, CATI director, said the proposed program, if successful, "will serve as the model for the clergy of all faiths."

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of planning pioneered at the Pentagon by Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara. The approach, known as the Program-Planning-Budgeting System, involves:

- defining needs;
- identifying and gathering data which gives pertinent information about the nature of needs;
- assessing capabilities to fulfill these needs;
- developing options for response; and
- establishing criteria for choosing effective options.

To assist antipoverty agencies in applying this system to their activities, OEO has given "seed money" to ten selected cities to develop planning capabilities. Trenton is one of the ten.

Farrell credits Mayor Armenti as a prime mover in pursuing the grant. Now that UPI has received it, the Mayor has promised to press the City Council to appropriate the city's share promptly.

UPI plans to use its grant in the following ways:

First, it hopes to systematize the collection of all primary sources of information concerned with the poor in the community and to make that knowledge interchangeable among city agencies. Agencies now collect information independently using their own criteria and statistics.

A second goal is to survey the needs of Trenton's poverty population. "We have never tried to assess the total needs of the poor of this city," reports Farrell. "But now, by using non-professionals to gather information, we plan to examine health, housing, education and employment needs."

A corollary to this goal is the program's third aim—to make an inventory of all operating city programs that affect the poor in any way.

The fourth goal is to conduct an extensive administrative review of the regulations and procedures of the major public and private agencies concerned with the poor in the hopes they will "turn up levers for change."

State OEO Earmarks \$142,955 To Help 6 Antipoverty Agencies Finance Local Share of Projects

The New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity has earmarked \$142,955 in Fiscal Year 1967 State funds to help finance the non-federal share of antipoverty projects run by six local community action agencies and the State.

John C. Bullitt, NJOEO director, said the funds are being made available from a \$200,000 appropriation voted for this purpose by the State Legislature as part of Governor Hughes's 1967 fiscal year budget. A similar fund was used to assist 12 community action agencies and state-sponsored programs during the 1966 fiscal year.

Bullitt said \$74,229 will go to the local antipoverty agencies of Newark, and Atlantic-Cape May, Monmouth, Burlington, Ocean and Passaic Counties. He gave the following grant breakdown:

United Community Corporation (UCC), Newark, \$22,500 for its Pre-School Council; Atlantic Human Resources (AHR), \$19,367 for Head Start projects (\$4,367) and for establishing a year-round Child Development Program (\$15,000) in Atlantic and Cape May Counties; Monmouth Community Action Program (MCAP), \$28,236 for refunding the Asbury Park Neighborhood Service Center (\$8,866) and for helping establish four new service centers throughout Monmouth County (\$19,370).

Burlington County Community Action Program, \$3,000 for central administration; Ocean Community for Economic Action Now Inc. (OCEAN, Inc.), \$579 for Ocean County Head Start projects; and the Community Action Council of Passaic County, \$547 for program development.

The State antipoverty chief said \$68,726 would be allocated to State programs in the following way: \$52,700 for technical assistance by NJOEO to local antipoverty agencies; \$6,826 for NJOEO's Migrant Opportunity Program; and \$9,200 for a proposed Foster Grandparents project now pending funding. (The Foster Grandparents project would employ 120 qualified elderly persons in three child-care institutions for mentally-retarded children in Burlington and Passaic Counties.

The remaining \$57,045 in the Governor's legislative fund will be available in the same manner to antipoverty agencies in need of assistance throughout the year, he said.

"By assisting local communities to raise the non-federal share of Economic Opportunity Act programs, Governor Hughes and the Legislature wish to help assure the success of the war against poverty in New Jersey," Bullitt explained,

"With this money, the State of New Jersey and local antipoverty agencies will be able to continue and complete antipoverty programs that other wise might have been curtailed or even eliminated. Without this money,

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in the summer programs so they became familiar with the curricula and the students.

Now, with the students back in their own high schools, the contact teachers have an even more important role. They keep the closest possible watch on the academic progress of the students; they arrange for remedial work when necessary; they help the students make realistic choices about the future; and they try to maintain each student's self-confidence and intellectual interest.

The programs at Princeton and Trenton State count heavily on creating friendships between undergraduates and the Upward Bound students. The Princetonians who served as teaching assistants in the summer are urged to invite the students they met back to the campus for athletic and cultural events.

The Trenton State students also invite the Upward Bound teenagers in their area to visit on campus on weekends. Undergraduates at Rutgers and Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken do tutorial work respectively in local high schools for the Rutgers and Fairleigh Dickinson (Teaneck) programs. The students at Seton Hall attend the film program and participate in the discussions which follow the movies.

Besides hoping to foster ties between high school and college students, the program directors organize reunions of the original Upward Bound units to keep up the spirit and camaraderie of the summer.

All 105 students who spent eight weeks on the Rutherford campus of Fairleigh Dickinson have already held a three-day weekend reunion at the School of Conservation in Stokes State Forest. This same group and the Rutgers unit will hold reunions during the Christmas season. Students will guide the reunion sessions themselves; time will be available for personal counselling as well as group discussions and lectures.

The first year of Upward Bound will end in May. Directors of the nine New Jersey programs are hopeful their individual projects will be refunded by USOEO for a second year. At the end of two years, they are confident that a major portion of the Upward Bound enrollees will be prepared, academically and emotionally, to successfully pursue post secondary education.

as much as \$10 million in federal grants could have been lost to local antipoverty agencies unable to meet the non-federal share of costs in any other way."

On July 1, 1967, the non-federal share of antipoverty projects will be increased from 10 to 20 per cent, Bullitt said, adding: "In view of this, the Governor's fund will take on even greater significance in the future."

Bullitt said \$124,369 from last year's \$200,000 legislative fund was granted to 12 community action agencies and the State during the 1966 fiscal year. The \$75,631 balance was not transferable, however, and is now part of the general State budget surplus.

Tapes of Radio Show Offered By NJOEO

The New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity is now making available to local antipoverty agencies and other community groups free tapes of OPPORTUNITY REPORT, its weekly five-minute radio program.

The program, produced by the public information office of NJOEO is broadcast by some 20 AM and FM radio stations throughout New Jersey.

"Each week, the program introduces an area of interest relating to the war on poverty in New Jersey," Bullitt explained. "These programs tell about New Jersey people involved in the problems of poverty and examine what is being done to help them help themselves."

Community action agencies and civic groups that wish to receive a tape should write: Public Information Office, New Jersey Office of Economic Opportunity, Box 2748, Trenton, New Jersey 08625. Broadcast schedules are also available upon request.

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hours a week, for a net weekly income of about \$30.

"They work in all areas of the hospital and their services are greatly needed," said Mrs. Frederica Ingham, director of the Senior Citizens Project. "In fact, the hospital officials have said they could

use many more elderly aides."

At the senior citizen centers, which are located in all of the city's five wards, elderly citizens participate in a wide range of cultural, recreational and sports activities. Some of the ladies form sewing, knitting and crocheting circles, make plastic objects and jewelry, or enjoy table games, such as checkers, cards, chess and bingo.

There are bowling alleys at some of the centers, and even a physical fitness program conducted by a 69-year-old man. Many of the elderly formed a choral group which performed in Newark's Symphony Hall in a special pre-Thanksgiving musical.

"Some of the elderly are blind, or can't hear very well," Mrs. Ingham added. "But they join in on the games and activities with the help of their new-found friends."

Another significant aspect of the Golden Age Plan is a special better-homemaking program that is training senior citizens to train young housewives and mothers in the techniques of efficient household work, the care of children and similar subjects. The program is under the direction of the Newark Commission for Neighborhood Conservation and Rehabilitation (NCNCR), in cooperation with Rutgers University's Newark division and the Newark Senior Citizens Commission.

About 24 elderly citizens have participated in this training program, which is conducted at one of

the 12 centers. When the course is completed, the graduates will go into the homes of young homemakers to teach them the new techniques.

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failure," he explained recently, "In the Education Center for Youth, they are given an opportunity to succeed—at a time when many of them can appreciate it."

He said the program "tries to give these youngsters a new sense of values and an appreciation of the benefits of completing their high school education. They are adults, they want to be treated as adults, and, in the end, they respond as adults."

One 19-year-old graduate who is now working at the Prudential said the Center "helped me complete my education, which is something I always wanted to do."

"When I dropped out of high school, I tried to get a job but couldn't," she explained. "Later, I decided to go back, but I never did, because once you're out of school, it's hard to go back. Then, when I decided to go to the center, I was all alone, nervous and scared. But then when I went, the people were so friendly and helpful, I decided to stay . . . and now, I'm glad I did."

Another graduate is a 20-year-old man now permanently employed with Public Service. A dropout who left school "because I just got disgusted," the boy said the center "helped me complete my education and get a nice, decent job."

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