

Other educational efforts by the Administration include Title I, the portion of the education act of 1965 that directed funds to children from low-income families. Efforts are being directed at fewer children so that better results are achieved, according to the Administration's logic.

Although the budget is increased \$74 million over that of this year, only 7.9 million children are expected to be reached compared with 9 million children this year.

In line with his campaign promises, Mr. Nixon places top priority in preschool care programs, supporting the contention that a child's potential is determined significantly by his environment during the first 5 years of life. To reach the children before they enter school, a new Office of Child Development has been created in HEW to lead and coordinate other programs for preschool children. Day-care programs to provide custodial care to children

of working mothers have been instituted.

Budgets for both Head Start and Follow Through, programs funded by OEO, have been increased. Head Start provides a variety of services, including educational, medical, and social, to three- to five-year-olds, whereas Follow Through is designed primarily to develop more effective educational techniques for disadvantaged children in elementary years.

Higher education did not fare so well, with most increases going to students rather than institutions. Furthermore, Mr. Nixon has proposed that the Government end a \$22 million annual grant to land grant colleges under the Morrill Act of 1890.

The budget sets aside approximately \$25 million for experimental schools to determine most effective approaches to improve education. But in all, the budget seeks \$186.3 million for research and evaluation of programs.

terest at the relatively low rates currently paid on tax-free municipal bonds.

The authority would obtain the money to buy the bonds by issuing its own securities to the public at existing rates for taxable securities. The net cost to the Federal Government, in addition to administrative expenses, would be the difference between the low interest it receives and the higher interest it pays.

In addition to this effort to stimulate \$10 billion in construction of waste treatment plants, the budget proposes an increase of \$2.5 million in the current authorization of \$10 million in annual grants to state and interstate agency water pollution control programs. FWPCA funds for research, development and demonstration efforts are increased \$6.8 million to \$44 million. The new funds will be aimed at such goals as developing the technology to eliminate wastes from point sources and to reclaim waste waters for reuse. Funds for enforcement of antipollution regulations are increased almost 20 percent, though the promised new approaches to enforcement are still to be outlined in a Presidential message on the environment.

Federal spending for air pollution control will be increased by some 30 percent in 1971, to \$104 million. Efforts will be accelerated to control sulfur and nitrogen oxides. The states are now being asked to set standards for two major air pollutants—sulfur dioxides and smoke particles. Standards for other pollutants are to be set shortly. The budget provides additional Federal resources to help them with the task.

The other major environmental thrust of the budget is toward expanding park and recreational facilities. Outlays for recreational resources in 1971 would total \$546 million, an increase of \$99 million over 1970. The budget includes \$327 million in new budget authority for the Land and Water Conservation Fund to provide more park and recreational facilities.

Of this amount \$189 million is for a new program to be announced later; it likely will concern purchases of land at Point Reyes National Seashores in California and for acquisition of park areas in cities. Of the remaining budget authority, \$63 million is for grants to states for planning, obtaining and developing new park and recreation areas. About \$73 million will be used to acquire Federal park and recreation areas.

All in all, the proposed spending budget for major environmental quality programs is \$1.115 billion, compared with \$785 million in 1970. The figures include recreational resources, water pollution and air pollution control.

ENVIRONMENT

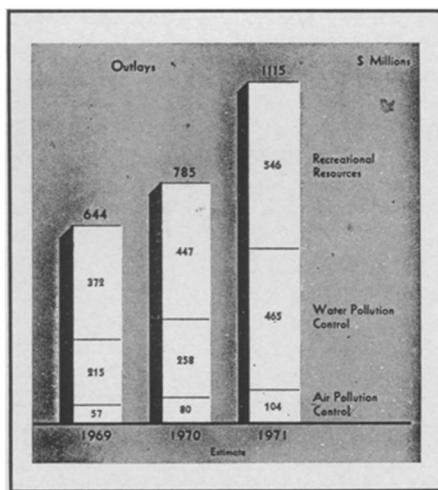
The antipollution program

The much heralded new Federal effort to improve the quality of the environment is centered primarily on water pollution control and expansion of recreational areas, at least where President Nixon's budget proposals are concerned. These are susceptible at least to partial solutions at a price. Other questions require innovation or regulation before they are as ready as recreation and municipal pollution control for Federal funds.

The budget clears up at least some of the confusion about the \$10 billion program for construction of sewage treatment plants announced by President Nixon in his State of the Union address (SN: 1/31, p. 122). Only \$4 billion of that five-year total would be Federal money.

Specifically, legislation will be sought to provide \$4 billion in contract authority to use over the five-year period 1971-1975 for lump-sum grants to states and local communities to construct needed municipal waste treatment works. Of this amount \$800 million would be allocated to the states in fiscal year 1971 and each of the four succeeding years. The \$800 million figure is exactly the amount Congress appropriated under the existing program for this fiscal year, when the President requested only \$214 million. Full use of the \$800 million for fiscal 1970 will be made, according to the Department of the Interior, whose Federal Water Pollution Control Administration oversees the effort.

Although an authorization of \$800 million a year is sought, actual Federal



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Effort to protect the environment.

spending would be far less than that in fiscal 1971. The amount spent would increase in later years as communities complete their plans and begin construction. President Nixon's proposal is smaller than that in existing authorizations, which currently pass \$1 billion a year.

To assist state and local governments in financing their \$6 billion share of the new program, the President proposes creation of an Environmental Financing Authority. Local governments are having serious difficulty securing funds in the municipal bond market. The new Federally established authority would purchase sewage plant bonds that cannot find suitable markets elsewhere. The local units would pay in-