

# SHRIVER PROPOSES WIDE SCHOOL PLAN

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## Seeks to Help the Poor by Making Permanent the Gains of Head Start

By HAROLD GAL

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 19—Sargent Shriver has proposed a broad program to help underprivileged children retain the gains they make in the Government's Head Start project.

The director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, which administers the program for pre-kindergarten children, warned that the present elementary school system was "critically inadequate to meet the needs of children of poverty." He urged educators across the country to do the following:

¶ Provide one teacher for every 15 children.

¶ Utilize new sources of educational manpower, such as teacher aides, "subprofessionals" and volunteers.

¶ Establish a program of tutorial assistance in which older students from high schools and college would take part.

¶ Establish neighborhood councils and community associations, outside of parent-teacher groups, that would get parents involved in the activities of every public school.

¶ Provide an adequate supply of all necessary supplies, including toys and films, and make broad use of electronic learning aids.

¶ Initiate programs to train "childhood development" specialists who would work exclusively in early primary grades, diagnose obstacles to a child's progress and prescribe help by other professions, such as psychologists, sociologists and reading specialists.

Mr. Shriver put his proposals forward in an address yesterday before the opening session of the annual meeting of the Great Cities Research Council at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee.

The session was attended by top educational officials and other leaders from the 1 largest cities in the United States. Mr. Shriver spoke from notes, and the official text of his remarks was made public in Washington today.

The Shriver program, which he called Project Keep Moving,

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was inspired by a major study made public on Oct. 23. That study found that the educational advantages gained by a preschool child in the head start program tended to disappear six to eight months after the child had started his regular schooling.

The study was directed by Dr. Max Wolff, senior research sociologist at the Center for Urban Education in New York. It was sponsored by the Per-Kauf Graduate School of Education at Yeshiva University and supported by funds from the Office of Economic Opportunity.

### 'One Grade at a Time'

Mr. Shriver conceded that his proposals could not be accomplished all at once. He said, however, that "any urban school system with imagination and a reasonable use of resources could tackle the job one grade at a time."

He called Project Head Start "a short-term experience, and a shot of educational adrenalin whose effects can wear off in the grinding boredom and frustration of slum classrooms."

Acknowledging that it would be difficult to provide one

teacher for every 15 children, Mr. Shriver said that putting teacher's aides and other adults into the classroom could make up for any failure to achieve a 1-to-15 ratio.

He urged that the neighborhood be drawn into the school so that children and parents alike could feel that education was a basic part of their total environment.

Mr. Shriver said that electronic aids had already proved their effectiveness in Head Start classrooms.

He did not say in his address where funds for Project Keep Moving would come from. An aide in the Office of Economic Opportunity said in Washington today that Mr. Shriver believed that funds would be made available through Federal and state agencies if there was enough pressure from communities throughout the country.

Pointing to the Wolff study, Mr. Shriver said that "the readiness and receptivity" that many children "gained in Head Start has been crushed by the broken promises of first grade." Project Keep Moving, he said, could stir "a revolution in education from preschool through college."

"Only if we maintain the pace of Head Start throughout the school system," he said, "can we create an educational process which will give every disadvantaged child in our nation a chance to obtain the highest education level in his power."