

'students' were channeled towards an acceptance, or at least a certain digestion of precise information. The animation sociale structure was not geared to 'radicalize' the population in their opinions, but rather to encourage them to take into hand their own education through the many feedback channels offered in the project. In this sense, the animation sociale work which was done, was fairly successfully; more people than was anticipated participated in the project directly by registering for the project, or indirectly by viewing the programmes and commenting on them. There also remains in the region, now that the project has terminated, a desire for a more permanent project in adult education. The local citizens committees, now organized, are applying pressure on local school boards to provide more pertinent educational programmes for them, and are also pressuring any other organizations which they feel might help. Tevequois are running for the mayoralty and other important local positions, challenging older, established organizations. The region as a whole has become more responsive and more 'wide awake' and, in a certain measure, more critical of proposed plans for the region, government decisions in general, and their own economic state. Using the participatory structures set up by Tevec, they are trying to make a start in organizing themselves to get what they want.

The essential dilemma that Tevec faced was to try to reconcile a 'non-directive' formation, both personally and scholastically, which made use of the socio-economic realities faced by the adults of the region, with an ostensibly non-political, Government-financed education project.

multimedia

After the Tevec experiment, a committee was formed to plan a project called Multi-Media

Since 96.4% of Quebec families own a T.V., Multi-Media will broadcast through open-circuit T.V. twice a day for thirty minutes, Monday through Friday. Negotiations with the C.B.C. and the privately owned stations in the designated areas (island of Montreal, North West Quebec) are being carried out.

Much of the Multi-Media structure resembles that of Tevec:

The students receive a newspaper every two weeks, copiously illustrated, which incorporates the additional information on the programmes, and the questionnaires for students to answer, etc.

Documents on specialized subjects will be sent out as well as backup documents for the slower learners.

Permanent Adult Education Centres with qualified personnel are to be set up by the regional school boards, one in each Board. Local groups (who will choose

their own group leader) will be formed by the animation sociale team.

Each geographical sector will have a permanent pedagogical animator, who will look after the local groups, and who will work with them on their specific problems.

Systems will be instituted to channel, receive and evaluate spontaneous feedback (letters, telephone calls, etc.) and systematic feedback (interviews, questionnaires, etc.)

Regional radio broadcasts (educational Hot Lines) of 15 minutes each will be aired Monday through Friday.

A permanent evaluation and research group will be formed to co-ordinate all aspects of data gathering in the project and to evaluate it, as well as to initiate particular research programmes within the project.

The notion of exams, and specific content for exams has been judged not useful by the community in this case, and they recommend instead that a general evaluation system and a certification of knowledge system be established, and be independent of the specific programmes shown in the project. They recommend that the knowledge that the adult has acquired by other means be taken into account.

The Canadian Institute for Continuing Adult Education was responsible for selecting the four people (of 19) on the administrative commission who were to represent the population at large. Accordingly, early in May, the Institute called for a general meeting of citizens committees and other community organizations, in order to discuss and study the multi-media project. The Institute also pledges to send to Quebec any decisions taken by this meeting. The vote was as follows: no participation in Multi-Media was to be accepted unless there was parity in representation on both the regional and provincial administrative committees. Other important educational organizations backed up the Institute's position. While there has not yet been official reply from Quebec, it is possible that the representation may be slightly increased from 4 to 6. It is doubtful whether parity will be given in the provincial committee, although the possibility for parity does exist at the regional level.

To what extent can the mass media transmit educational information to an adult population? Tevec broadcast to a tight community with a gossip-line 40 miles thick. The Saguenay-Lac St. Jean had a coherence before Tevec.

Multi-Media is a Quebec-wide project. It will broadcast to a diffuse community and may not reach a large portion of it. There are fairly large numbers of poor with no motivation to integrate into the existent system. The government has a vision of post-industrial society. The reality is a marginal population, down \$5000, on welfare or unemployed, or not even registered. There is also the problem of an immigrant population many of whom speak no French and very little English.

So far the reaction of citizens groups to Multi-Media has been somewhat negative. The accepted opinion leaders have not been given parity on regional and provincial committees. This does not augur well for the participation of local groups encouraged in the Multi-Media brief. Feedback is difficult enough because of the size of the project and the multiplicity of groups. But the basic question is where and how the direction will originate—from the grassroots or educational authorities. How much will the people who see the programmes have to do with the realization of the final product?

Multi-Media is scheduled to start January. A group of University of Quebec students are spending the summer studying and critiquing the project. For more discussion contact:

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Photo: Gabor Szilasi

