

# Nixon Administration Orders Agencies Not to Discriminate on Jobs

The Nixon administration has ordered federal agencies not to discriminate against minorities but will not pressure them to hire members of minorities, according to the chairman of the Civil Service Commission, Robert E. Hampton.

As reported by the Associated Press, Hampton said the administration feels such pressure amounts to discrimination in reverse.

He said that the pressure of previous administrations to hire minorities often resulted in filling lower ranks with people who had no place to go.

Recruiting, he said, is being expanded into areas where minorities live or attend school.

He added that about one-fifth of 2.6 million federal workers are of minority heritage, the bulk in low-paying jobs.

For those already hired, there is upward mobility training espe-

cially designed for people who are willing to try after hours to improve their verbal or typing or other skills.

"This is the only way you're going to solve the problem in the long run," he said. He added that increasing the civil service pool of unskilled workers is a favor to no one although he said some people like those kinds of jobs.

The Civil Service chairman under the Johnson administration, John W. Macy, Jr., said Oct. 21, 1968 that his agency had been accused of favoring unqualified people who are poor, or black, or disadvantaged in some other way, over qualified people who are not."

But he said, this was not lowering standards but "trying to bring standards closer to job requirements to give the disadvantaged an even break."