

Control Data to Open New School To Train Computer Technicians



Norris

Classes will begin sometime next September at a new school in the Twin Cities — Control Data Institute.

Need for talented and specially-trained people in the computer industry prompted establishment of

quality. Larsen says the jobs will enable those students to defray some of their expenses and to work in an atmosphere and on the type of equipment which they will encounter after graduation.

Graduates will have complete freedom in seeking employment after their course work is completed; however, Larsen indicates that Control Data would offer employment opportunities for many of them.

the school. William C. Norris, president of Control Data Corp., Minneapolis, says the institute will be an integral part of the corporation and will operate on a tuition basis. Site will be selected in the near future.

Purpose of the school will be to train high school graduates to qualify for positions as electronic technicians in the computer industry.

Elaborating on the need for the institute, Norris said "the computer industry is the greatest growth industry yet, as nowhere in industrial history can one find a comparable one, if a composite of size, rate of growth and ultimate potential is considered.

"At the present time, the needs and projected new applications for computers make it impossible to predict a plateau for it, so employment in the industry will continue to grow for many years."

Using Control Data as an illustration of how the industry needs talent, Norris referred to its intensive recruiting program and cited the hundreds of company-taught courses which attempt to keep employees abreast of new developments.

Sven A. Larsen, formerly president of Institute of Computer Technology, was named director of the new school. He has had long experience in both education and in the industry.

Larsen said the school will maintain a high quality of instruction in computer technology, adding that students will work with the latest instrumentation equipment in their laboratory work. They also will receive instruction writing computer programs. The course will last one year, and new beginning classes will follow at 60- to 90-day intervals. The institute will meet all provisions of Minnesota law with respect to private schools.

Many part-time jobs in Control Data's Twin Cities operations will be made available to students who can

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The Omnibus Farm Bill Strategy

THE ADDITIONAL farm bloc in which would extend and all... long-term soil bank, and permit the sale and transfer of allotments received by farmers dropped 15 per cent since 1947 while retail food costs increased 31 per cent.

Control Data's Computer School

ONE OF THE MOST interesting developments in Upper Midwest education in recent years was the announcement by Control Data Corp. this month that it will establish a computer institute in the Twin Cities. For \$1,750 in tuition and fees, the institute will train electronic technicians in one-year courses. Enrollment of about 700 is expected.

The announcement is timely, for the final report of the Upper Midwest Economic Study said last week that this region has lagged behind in developing technical schools for post-high-school training. Minnesota has developed a system of 17 area vocational schools for such training, and these schools are doing much to provide young Minnesotans with skills useful in an age when the unskilled worker is severely handicapped. But Control Data says it usually finds itself in a position of having to train further the graduates of both public and private

trade schools to adequately equip them with the technical skills needed in the fast-moving computer industry.

In setting up a computer institute, Control Data is moved by its own self-interest, of course, for the institute will utilize Control Data equipment and presumably will function as an employment pipeline for this fast-growing computer company. Less than eight years old, Control Data presently has about 9,000 employees (two-thirds or more of whom are in Minnesota), and is considered a growth company in a growth industry.

A company official believes other types of trade schools may eventually fill some of the gaps it sees in technical training for the computer industry, but adds that the company is not in a position to wait. The company believes its institute will be unique in the industry. The institute could further enhance Minnesota's role in the computer field.