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The social impact of automation to be discussed at Community Service Laboratory conference

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Social Impact of Automation will be discussed at a conference May 13 and 14 being sponsored by the Community Services Laboratory of the social welfare department at Montana State University.

Four general sessions are planned for the conference. These will deal with automation and the individual, automation and its effect on the world of business, automation's societal and philosophical implications, and automation and needed social services.

A panel comprised of MSU faculty members, businessmen, specialists in social problems and others will be in charge of each session and lead the discussions.

The conference which is open to the public, will be in the Yellowstone Room of the Lodge. Registration will be from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. each day. There will be a \$1 registration fee.

The conference is the climax of year-long research and study by a field practice class in social welfare. The class is organized to operate as an agency which will benefit the state through an educational program while providing research and practical learning for the class. Dr. Harold Tascher, professor of social welfare is in charge of the class.

The Thursday morning session on automation and the individual will be led by James J. Leary, regional director for the AFL-CIO, Portland; Lewis Hill, Hall area rancher; Gary Lord, Granite County High School student, Philipsburg, and Mrs. Jean Hiett, Missoula County home demonstration agent. The panel will consider automation as it affects the home, the farm, labor, the small businessmen and youth.

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Automation and its effect on the world of business will be discussed at the Thursday afternoon session. Panelists will be Dale Moore, owner and general manager of KGVO and KGVO-TV, Missoula; William Hodge of Waldorf-Hoerner Paper Products Co., Missoula; Dr. Richard E. Shannon, MSU associate professor of economics, and Leary.

Friday morning's session will be automation and its societal and philosophical implications. Dr. Allan Kittell, associate professor of history; Dr. Robert Dwyer, associate professor of sociology; Gerald J. Coutant, landscape architect for the U. S. Forest Service, Missoula, and the Rev. William Kliber, Methodist minister to students at MSU, will serve on the panel.

The final session Friday afternoon will be on automation and needed social services. Maurice Driscoll, coordinator of vocational training in Butte Public Schools; Joe Roe, director of the Division of Child Welfare Services of the Montana Department of Public Welfare, Helena; Sam Lang, MSU graduate student in anthropology, and Dr. Richard Boehmler, associate professor of speech pathology and audiology, will serve on the panel.

A no-host luncheon is planned at noon Thursday and Friday in the Lodge Territorial Rooms. Eugene Weigel, professor of music, will be the featured speaker at the Thursday luncheon and Dr. Cynthia Schuster, associate professor of philosophy, will speak Friday. Both speakers will relate the effects of automation on their professions.

Walter Featherly, a senior in speech at MSU, will be the general moderator of the two-day conference.

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