

Better training for faster growth: the Industrial Training Act, 1964

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Key institutions

BACIE	British Association for Commercial and Industrial Education ('Backy'). The principal organisation concerned with UK training in the 1950s and 1960s.
BEC	British Employers' Confederation. The BEC had its origins in the Employers' Advisory Council established in 1917 to consider questions of labour relations.
CBI	Formed in 1967 as a result of a government sponsored merger of the BEC, FBI and National Association of British Manufacturers.
CTC	Central Training Council. Set up by the 1964 Industrial Training Act to coordinate the new system of ITBs.
FBI	Federation of British Industry. Founded in 1916 as a representative organisation for British industry. The FBI steered clear of the issue of labour relations, except at a general level, leaving its detail to the BEC.
ITBs	Industrial Training Boards. The institutions at the heart of the new arrangements ushered in by the 1964 Industrial Training Act. Each board, which included representatives from both employers and unions, was responsible for overseeing training in its industry, setting standards and providing advice to firms. Each ITB paid allowances to trainees that were financed via a compulsory levy on firms in its industry - a system designed to remedy the failure of the labour market to deliver sufficient skilled workers and end 'poaching'.
NEDC	National Economic Development Council ('Neddy'). Created in 1962 along with the National Economic Development Office and subordinate industry-level Economic Development Councils (EDCs).

Key actors

Richard Clarke	HMT Third Secretary, 1955–62; Second Secretary, 1962–66. Then Permanent Secretary first at Aviation then at the Ministry of Technology
John Hare	Minister of Labour, 1960-63
Lawrence Helsby	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour, 1959-62
Godfrey Ince	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour, 1944-56 President of the BACIE, 1956-60
Norman Kipping	FBI Director General
Maurice Laing	BEC President
Harold Macmillan	Prime Minister, 1957-63

Some reading:

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