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The Federal Diary

26 U. S. Executives Wind Up Course In Business Training

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SARANAC LAKE, N. Y., Aug. 9 — Twenty-six Federal career executives had the opportunity during the past



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weeks here to do what President Eisenhower believes they should do more of—think about their jobs and how to improve them.

Their minds were stimulated by a management course given at the academy here of the non-profit American Management Association, world's largest organization of its kind. They were constantly challenged to solve management problems of both industry and Government.

The students liked best the last week here, which was called an "assimilation exercise." In that period, the students were broken up in teams to operate for five years a \$20 million industrial concern whose owner had died suddenly and whose widow exasperated the executives with irritating orders and comments.

The make-believe corporation and its problems were made as realistic as possible. Profit and loss statements, based on actions taken by the executives, were run off at the end of each three-month period by an IBM electronic machine.

The career people found the pressures, fears and frustrations similar to those they encounter in Government work.