

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 1954

Job Training Available Queen City

Editors, The News:

I HAVE read with much interest the editorial in The Charlotte News March 8 entitled, "Hiring Is An Important Job Training." In view of your concern about local training facilities and opportunities for skilled craftsmen and mechanics, I believe you will be interested to know that in Charlotte at the present time a total of 430 young people are actively engaged in on-the-job training as apprentices in the skilled trades. These enterprising young men of Mecklenburg are receiving their training as apprentices under the North Carolina State Apprenticeship Training Program. There has been in existence since 1939 and under which, for the last eight years, an average of more than 6,000 young North Carolinians have been in active training each year.

For most of these 430 Charlotte apprentices, technical training is related to the chosen trade or profession provided in the schools in addition to their practical experience on the job.

Approximately 200 Charlotte industrial establishments have registered apprenticeship training programs. However, apprentices are actually in training under these programs in only about half of these programs. The training facilities are, therefore, not being used to their full capacity.

The 430 Charlotte apprentices in training at present are distributed among a total of 60 different trades and occupations. These trades include all of the building and printing trades, the automotive trades, and numerous specialties as well. Coordinating all apprenticeship activities in the Charlotte area is the Apprenticeship Office of the Department of Labor, located at 229 Federal Building, which is staffed by 15 personnel. The Office also coordinates training programs and checks periodically to see how the individual apprentices are progressing under each program.

The State Apprenticeship Training Program is designed to produce highly skilled craftsmen and mechanics. For most trades, the apprenticeship period is one to two years. The apprentices work full-time and receive a salary. The State Apprenticeship Commission has established standards of training for all trades and occupations. At the present time apprentices are in active training in 133 different trades and occupations throughout the state. On a statewide basis, as well as in Charlotte, a majority of those in training are in the building, automotive and printing trades.

Actually, you can learn in a trade school little more than the technical theory of a skilled trade. The only way you can become a craftsman in a trade is by working at it on the job. This is true of any trade which requires the high development of manual skills. It is even true of some professions such as medicine and surgery, for instance, in which the student, after long years of academic and technical training, has to serve an internship which is, in effect, an apprenticeship in which he learns the practical applications of the theoretical knowledge which he has acquired. Going to a trade school is, of course, an excellent way of learning the theory of a skilled trade; but it is no substitute for the years of actual job training.

North Carolina has the needed apprenticeship setup. Charlotte has the best, and as regards the number of apprentices enrolled, the largest, programs now functioning in the state.

The problem is to persuade employers of the desirability of hiring and training apprentices under the guidance of their state or federal government. It is to persuade the employers of the desirability of hiring and training apprentices under the guidance of their state or federal government. It is to persuade the employers of the desirability of hiring and training apprentices under the guidance of their state or federal government.

Forrest H. Suford, N. C. Commissioner of Labor, said that the only part of it.

South Building at UNC



Many of the freshmen at the University of North Carolina are on the steps of South Building in the picture above—find it difficult to make the grade because the N. C. public school system has failed to prepare them adequately.

The University's Experience

N. C. High School Graduates Sadly Deficient In Essentials

By LUCIEN AGNIEL, Charlotte News Staff Writer (First of A Series)

ONE FRESHMAN out of every four fails to pass college mathematics placement examinations and one out of every three can't satisfactorily complete an English test of second year high school level, University of North Carolina instructors told this reporter.

Goodly numbers of the current crop of freshmen cannot read either speed or comprehension, and it has been necessary to establish a reading clinic at UNC. These and other alarming academic defects in students entering college today were cited by eight UNC instructors and deans, whose composite views are presented here as the opinions of "The Professor."

"We actually have to teach them to read," said The Professor, a note of bewilderment in his voice, when asked about the reading clinic.

"It means," snapped The Professor, "that a lot of them can't read at all. We have to teach them to read in a reading clinic. Right here at the University of North Carolina, in Peabody Hall."

"It's time we stopped kidding ourselves," said The Professor. "And the best way to stop kidding ourselves is to take a look at the attainment level of the people entering college today."

"Take the freshman class here in North Carolina. They are given placement tests in the English field, one-third of the freshmen pass a basic English test which, on a national level, is equivalent to high school sophomore level English."

"The report asked what disposition is made of the unqualified students.

"We take a review course," said The Professor, "for which they get no credit. A lot of them need work in the reading clinic. We have to teach them to read at a level that will enable them to do college work."

When McCarthy first resigned from the Marine Corps he tried to re-stalk the Marines out of a couple of medals. These are always awarded as a matter of routine for every 10 air missions. McCarthy claimed 20 missions, but the Marine Corps, checking the records, could find record of only nine. Even

Hoover Jr. Might Get Smith's Job

By THE ALSOPS

WASHINGTON

THERE are three leading possibilities for the important post of under secretary of state. One of these is presently under secretary, Robert Murphy, and another is Foreign Operations Administrator Harold Stassen, both of whom would make the third is none other than Herbert Hoover Jr., who doesn't want the job at all.

The search for his successor is not yet urgent, since Smith is not expected to leave for some little time. But already the assignment for which he was chosen by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, is to achieve an oil settlement with Iran.

These impressed include such important men in the administration as Dulles himself, Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, Attorney General Herbert Brownell, and Roger Kyng and the outgoing deputy secretary of defense, with all of whom Hoover has a worked closely. Another Hoover admirer, British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, is at the Bermuda conference.

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A Look At Our Public Schools

ARE OUR public schools doing the best possible job of educating our young people? That question has long been debated in this country, but currently it seems to be attracting more attention than it has in the past.

It is not the intent of this series to present all the evidence, or give all the answers. The News doesn't have all the evidence, and it certainly would not presume to have all the answers.

Reds Can't Fool The Filipinos

HALF a century ago, few Americans knew anything about the Philippine Islands. President McKinley, gazing at a globe, turned to a Cuban minister and said: "I could not find told where those dark islands were, within 2,000 miles."

For a period thereafter the Communist-dominated Hukos posed a serious threat to the Philippines and the rest of Southeast Asia.

His attitude was not uncommon in those times. For those were the days when the U. S. was at the apex of what Diplomat George Kennan has called the "legalistic-moralistic" approach to foreign affairs.

A few days ago Magaysay, who won his spurs as a guerrilla leader against the Japanese and later as secretary of defense, achieved a typical victory for his country and the free world. Defeating a move to freeze Filipino foreign policy in an "Asia for the Asians" mold, Magaysay neatly turned against the Communists one of their own arguments.

A Suggestion For Gov. Umstead

EVER SO OFTEN the federal government is scrutinized, agency by agency, and revamped. Congress overhauled itself just after World War II.

These reforms are fine. But they aren't carried through to lower levels of government. The Commission on Intergovernmental Relations might help this job.

Economixup

DOGO's friend Albert the Alligator, swamp economist, can define economic situations better than some PhD's can. His law of "profits an economixup" (which comes into play when "DEflation is inflated the dollar so the sovereignty on the fundaments is "ENTIRE in escrow") provides that "even if you screw" a thing away you still gotta git PAID for it."

That appraisal is more comprehensible than those we've read which deal with "rolling readjustments," "pleasans," "recession deluxe" and "correction".

How Joe McCarthy Got His 'Wound'

THESE were flown as an "observer" in other words, as a passenger. So McCarthy was elected to a Marine Corps position first place by wandering up and down Wisconsin, affecting a phony limp and posing as a Marine hero.

McCarthy's Real Record
By the actual record shows that, while Zwicker was winning 13 combat decorations, the Purple Heart, McCarthy didn't earn a single combat medal.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON
AFTER his famous encounter with Senator Brig. Gen. Ralph Zwickler, McCarthy angrily picked up the phone, called his superior, Lt. Gen. Withers Burress, and threatened to resign from the Army.

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