

Review Board Stand Fully Justified

THE FACTS about the current differences between the Mecklenburg Association for Handicapped Children, a United Appeal agency, and the N. C. Society for Crippled Children & Adults were given in full in yesterday's News. We shall restate them only briefly today.

In 1949, the local chapter of the N. C. Society for Crippled Children & Adults joined the community's United Appeal. This was done with the approval of the state society. Two years later, the state society's policy was changed. The local chapter was instructed to withdraw from United Appeal under threat of revocation of its charter. The local board of directors voted to stay in the United Appeal, and adopted a new name, the Mecklenburg Association for Handicapped Children.

Another local chapter of the N. C. Society for Crippled Children & Adults was formed. It is in the process of launching a \$14,000 to \$18,000 campaign in Charlotte by the sale of Easter seals. (Last year, \$10,236.25 was raised.)

Some time ago, the review board of the Solicitations Information Committee of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County asked the Society for Crippled Children & Adults for the routine information about its budget, its services, and its campaign goals. The local chapter failed to provide the requested information.

Hence Chairman G. Douglas Aitken of the review board was compelled to announce publicly that his board could not give approval to the Easter seal sale campaign. (The board has no authority save the power of public opinion.)

Without getting into the merit of the jobs being done by both organizations and without examining possible duplication and overlapping, The News feels very strongly that Chairman Aitken's group acted in the best interest of the community in revealing that the League had not complied with the Information Committee's request.

The United Appeal grew out of a public demand for a consolidation of the many campaigns for funds in this community. And the Solicitations Information Committee developed from the need for one central, impartial and objective group of responsible citizens to examine and evaluate campaign goals, not only that of the United Appeal but of all other public solicitation drives, for the guidance and protection of donors.

We shall leave it to potential donors to decide whether they want to stick by the United Appeal agency, or whether they want to support a second agency for the crippled and one, incidentally, that has declined to tell the Solicitations Information Committee about its finances.

Sen. Williams Questions Oil Tax Rate

BECAUSE left-of-center legislators like Sen. Humphrey of Minnesota have been his chief critics, the 27 1/2 per cent depletion allowance for the oil industry has been widely regarded as a cause celebre for left-wingers, rather than as an injustice to the average taxpayer. Those who took the objections of Sen. Humphrey, Douglas et al lightly may pause now, for a conservative study of tax policy has joined them. He is Delaware's Republican Sen. Williams, who gained considerable fame for his exposure of irregularities in the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

He and another Republican, Sen. Aiken of Vermont, are in fact taking the lead in a move to have the oilmen's depletion allowance reduced to 15 per cent. Williams reasons this way:

"Suppose a man brought in wells which earned him one million dollars a year. Under the present law there would be no income tax on the first 25 per cent, or \$275,000 of gross income. This goes on indefinitely without regard to the man's original investment. This makes it pos-

sible for an individual or a corporation to recover many times more than the original investment."

There is no denying the need for a depletion allowance. It helps the miner and oilman compensate for depletion of their investment, just like the depletion allowance permits businessmen to compensate for the loss in value of their property. The point at issue is the excessive rate permitted oilmen. Businessmen can depreciate the cost of their investment, no more. Mine-owners, who like oilmen, take a chance that their investment may be unproductive, get a fixed depletion allowance, ranging from 5 to 23 per cent. For most minerals the rate is 15 per cent.

In backing the 15 per cent rate for oil, the two Republican senators are endorsing the stand of former President Truman and his secretary of the treasury. It is a stand for fairness in tax laws. But President Eisenhower and Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey so far have failed to add their endorsement to this just proposal.

For Teen-Agers, A Practical Project

THE summer teen-age employment project launched this week by the United Church Women of Charlotte promises to be a highly useful and constructive enterprise, which should be of great benefit to the young people of this community as well as to the businessmen.

Many high school students obtain employment of sorts during the summer months. Many others would like to do so, but find it difficult to get work because there has been no one central listing of available jobs.

Conversely, many business and industrial firms in this community would doubtless use more high school students during vacations if there were a central pool of information about job-seekers.

The UCW project will fill both needs. By questionnaires distributed through the schools, the voluntary workers in the summer employment bureau will be able to assemble a listing of young people desiring work, with complete background file on each. And through the Chamber of Commerce and by direct solicitation, the bureau will obtain a list of available jobs.

The subsequent matching of youth and job will be a relatively simple matter. But the project proposes more. The services of the bureau will include subsequent checking on the progress of the young workers, including assistance and advice in solving any problems of adjustment that might develop.

The broad objective of the program is to help the young person find a more secure place in the life of the community, to help him feel that he belongs to and is a vital part of the community, and to encourage his confidence that there are friendly, interested grown-ups standing by to lend a helping hand if he needs one.

The program has had excellent results in Iowa City. Given the right cooperation by business organizations, it should be of great profit to Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

From The St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ANGLER'S CONSIDERATIONS

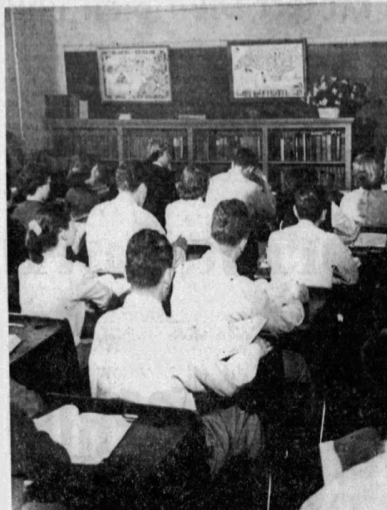
IN THESE early weeks of the trout-fishing season your angler can work himself into a most delightful melancholia. He has all his tackle lovingly assembled. The new tapered line is on the carefully oiled reel. The new flies, mostly duns tied on No. 20 hooks, are ready for the leaders. But where to drop them on the rushing water, and when?

Should he cut his vacation into as many pieces as a shattered brass glass to allow for frequent sallies for rainbows in the Current, the Eleven Point and the Roubidoux? Or should he take it all in a piece for camping beside a cut-throat-crowded Colorado mountain stream with a friend like Addison's Will Wimbles, the one who tied May flies like miracles? Or should he go to the Rogue, in Oregon, where the steelheads come up from the sea? What about the Adirondack and Catskill streams, full of brooks and browns, the Batten-Kill and the branches of the Delaware? What about Michigan's famous Ausable and Wisconsin's wild Flambeau?

Since the angling mild easily outruns the wind, how about Ireland's Blackwater "where the wild ducks squatter up from among the white waterfalls, and the curlews flit to and fro, crying 'Tullioo-ween, mind your sheep,'" and where a Blue Dace is likely to get you a big salmon? What about Charles Kingley's Scottish river, "roaring down in full spate, like coffee covered with scald cream, while the fish are swirling at your fly like silver arrows out of the fiercest foam?" And surely every fisherman must wet a line sooner or later in those English streams which made life so good for Master Walton and his friend Charles Cotton.

Oh, these are mind-finding questions as your angler anoints the wings of still another Royal Coachman with the latest preparation guaranteed to keep them dry and afloat forever. But pure pre-arranged poetry. Master Walton would wait beside the Dove like Mohammed in his heaven. And so it's off to Montauk.

TYPICAL HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM



This picture, posed to illustrate the school series, shows Miss Lillian Parks English 12-A class at Central High School. One of the complaints of University professors is that high school graduates are sadly deficient in such

basic things as reading and mathematics. They cite de-emphasis of fundamentals and the rigid teacher certification requirements as two of the main causes.

The Case Against Certification System

Professor Charges Teachers Kept On A 'Perpetual Pedagogical Rack'

By LUCIEN AGNIEL
Charlotte News Staff Writer
(Fourth of a Series)

"CERTIFICATION," said the Professor (whose statements reflect the composite views of eight Chapel Hill instructors) "is the instrument by which professional educators maintain control over the education and livelihood of North Carolina teachers."

"We have a situation in which those preoccupied with methodological teaching how to teach—dominating the lives of students in the schools of education who first need to learn what to teach."

The Professor ranted through a sheaf of papers on his cluttered desk and came up with a string of papers.

"I copied this right off the bulletin board not so long ago. It's the title of a speech made at the annual meeting of the American Association of Education. Maybe you can tell me what it all about."

The title of the address was "A New Method of Education Criticism for the Creative Mind Based on the New Psychology of the Arts as Vibrational Design," and left this reporter in complete agreement with the Professor, that at all odds, quite an indigestible pedagogical mouth-ful.

"That's a good example of the working of the minds of some of those who run our schools, and it's not limited to my single area. Actually, it's a national cult, as some of the education magazines show," and he submitted in evidence a copy of the December, 1950, National Education Association Journal.

On page 458 was an italicized sentence opposite a picture of a school, which read: "Each child creates his own school out of the meanings and feelings that emerge during his interpretive interacting with events and people in his external environment."

This was designed to illustrate a story entitled "His Own School" which was replete with such assertions as "What the pupil thinks and feels toward the personal behavior of the teacher conditions his own behavior." And (enable him) to recognize meaningful purpose for each learning situation.

If so," said the Professor wryly, "the pupil is way ahead of me, because I don't understand it at all."

"But I do understand that this sort of fuzzy gobbledegook is symptomatic of the serious illness which afflicts our teacher education program today."

"The Professor slumped back in his chair. 'Why,' he asked, 'should a small group of men in North Carolina control not only the education, but the livelihood of teachers, long after they've left school?'"

"They control the distribution of public money to teachers via pay raises which are meted out to those who keep coming back at their own expense to scannals of education for endless courses in methodology."

"How could the Professor say that education of teachers was so controlled by the world-wide popularity of certification developed democratically?"

"Certification developed in a vacuum of public interest," snorted the Professor.

"THE TUNE CALLERS for the control of teacher education, well, technically, that's in the hands of the State Board of Education. In reality, it's the State Office of Public Instruction and the Division of Professional Services, augmented by the education professors, working through their deans, who turn sit in so many of the chairs at the North Carolina College Conference—these are the fellows who call the tunes in education."

"This reporter pointed out that a number of high school and elementary school teachers, when questioned, had voiced no objection to the certification requirements."

"Use up," said the Professor, "what teacher, dependent upon official approval for his continued employment, is going to pick a fight in print with the controlling authorities?"

"I have let ourselves get maneuvered into a pretty dangerous position. We have a teacher shortage. We need more good teachers. But good people are staying out of the field because they won't stomach the courses they must take to be accredited to teach. Those students in schools of education today are low in academic standing. They are the sheep."

"Meanwhile, the quality of instruction is deteriorating because of the large numbers of incompetent people entering college."

"The professional educators won't relax certification requirements because this would mean a consequent relaxing of their control of the patronage machine with which they perpetuate themselves—appointments, salary increases, summer courses—all of which keep North Carolina's teachers under their thumbs."

"What could be done about it?" GRASS ROOTS MOVEMENT

The Professor shrugged. "Get some good people interested in the problem themselves at the local level. Get some grass roots support for the proposition of accrediting institutions instead of individual persons."

"Let the colleges and the prospective teachers work out between themselves the details of education. Cut the distant arbiter out of the picture. These are the things that ought to be done."

"And you've got to start by getting the problem out in the open."

(Tomorrow: The Conflict Summed Up.)

People's Platform Ease Certification Rules

Charlotte Editors, The News: A teacher, I was first interested in Mr. Agniel's first article ("N. C. High School Grads Deficient") from the standpoint of implications for my own classroom. It was a minor suggestion made by the "professor" for removing one phase of the public school situation.

It was suggested that the state's rigid certification system might be relaxed. This might certainly be a way to attract teachers who had their training in other states and who would like a change of scene, or perhaps those who are married and whose husbands' work brings them into this state. I, many teachers in this latter category share my own experience with the certification department in this state, North Carolina will be minus a few qualified teachers from other states, and will have quite a few more not-so-qualified recent recipients, typists, salespeople, etc.

The prospective teacher obviously cannot always have her out-of-state college credits evaluated by North Carolina, without accepting her position here. (That is, not unless she knows about her proposed change of location a year or two in advance. Yes, the evaluation is a slow process!)

In my own case, my credits were approved by persons in position of authority, (but not evaluated officially) a probable starting salary was proffered and offered. Needless to say, this salary figure was a factor in determining in which of several locations we would settle. However, a letter from the State Office of Public Instruction and the Division of Professional Services, augmented by the education professors, working through their deans, who turn sit in so many of the chairs at the North Carolina College Conference—these are the fellows who call the tunes in education."

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(Tomorrow: The Conflict Summed Up.)

Editors, The News: I would like to go on record with the Charlotte News as endorsing the vote of the State Board to maintain Charlotte and Carver Colleges, believing them to be important to the life of this community.

— MRS. M. F. McNEILL
President

Editors, The News: I would like to call your attention to the fact that the Mecklenburg County Republican Convention, meeting at the Court House on Feb. 27, adopted the following resolution about voting machines:

"Resolved, that the Biennial convention of the Republican Party of Mecklenburg County, N. C., do hereby endorse the proposal that voting machines be installed in all voting precincts in Mecklenburg County, and commend immediate installation of such machines by the appropriate governing bodies."

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