

# Thousands Of Able Older Persons Denied Jobs

By CHARLES KIRALT  
Charlotte News Staff Writer  
(Fourth In A Series)

"When you retire, you die."  
The employment needs of people over 65 were bluntly summed up that way by a former American Medical Association president, Dr. Roger L. Lee.  
He is emphatically seconded by Dr. Marshall L. Fisher of Charlotte's Mental Health Clinic.  
"People get sick, mentally and physically, when they start vegetating. The group over 65 can be considerably more productive than younger groups. Most old people shouldn't retire."  
"And most old people don't want to," says Lone T. Proctor, local Social Security director. "They don't quit work just for fun. They quit because they have to."



The health problem is just one in a tangle of knotty dilemmas in the area of employment for the aged.  
The 65th year of life is a bogey-man prepared to pounce on even the most capable workers and send them into the limbo of retirement, whether they want to go or not.  
Older persons are increasing in numbers, proportion and length of working life at an almost fantastic rate—while industry cuts down on older workers at an equally dizzying speed.  
Our goal, as a nation, is maximum production—but statistics show we are arbitrarily eliminating some of our most competent producers, at an average loss of five billion dollars a year.

In Mecklenburg County, capable old job seekers in large numbers are begging for work—while many employers, in need of help, reject them as "too old."  
"Too old" is a familiar refrain to Charlotte's unemployed older workers, even though all available research in the embryo science of gerontology points unmistakably to the conclusion that the compulsory retirement age of 65, applicable in 1900, is a mere irrelevancy in 1955 when a man 65 years old can look forward to 13 more years of life.  
Such statistics add a note of urgency to the dilemma of the worker retiring in his 65th year. He is one of the 21 million in the United States passes 21 million, industry won't be able to do without that huge segment of the population. Neither will society.

And what chance does a man of 65 stand of getting a job in Charlotte?  
"None."  
The answer comes from Mrs. Eva Young, a local interviewer for the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina.  
"The real problem age is not 65, but 45," Mrs. Young says. "The employment service has trouble placing skilled workers after that age."  
"Plenty of people 65 and over come in looking for jobs, but there's not much we can do for them."  
Mrs. Young has a forthright opinion:  
"To deny a person the right to work, simply because he has accumulated years, is as unjust as to throw him into jail for the same reason."  
Only about 3,000 of Mecklenburg's 11,000 senior citizens are gainfully employed, almost all on jobs they have held since before they turned 65. About 2,500 of the remainder are classified by the Census Bureau as "unable to work."  
That leaves about 9,500, or half of Mecklenburg County's over-65 population, able to work and jobless.

There is no way to count the numbers of those looking for a job today. But they are numerous. Their plight is reflected in the Monday morning lines at the employment bureau, in the "under 40" help wanted ads.  
A man or woman over 65 who rebels against idleness and goes looking for a job runs into a maze of economic taboos.

His road is hard, frustrating and almost hopeless.  
Once, he might have fitted in. On the farm, because of his vast experience, the patriarch might have been the most valuable and respected member of the community.  
But factorization and urbanization have pushed him out of the labor market. Age, he begins to realize, has no value. And his forced retirement becomes almost as much a threat to him as cancer.

The widely-held opinion seems to be that older workers are not readily adaptable, that they often have trouble getting along with younger workers, that they lack physical stamina, or that they do not respond to training.

Contradiction comes from the National Association of Manufacturers. A NAM study of 3,000 companies employing 2 1/2 million workers of all ages showed these statistics:  
Older workers were reported as equal to or superior to younger employees in work performance in 92.7 per cent of the companies; 96.1 per cent reported them as equal or superior in attendance; 97.4 per cent reported they had better safety records; 90.2 per cent scored older workers higher in work attitudes.

Are old workers willing workers?  
"Yes," answered the United States government.  
A Dept. of Labor research project declared strongly that "aging" is not synonymous with "disability." Most older

See MANY on page 18-A

## THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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FINAL

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### TAR HEEL NEED CITED BY HODGES

Governor Says N. C. Agencies, Departments Duplicating Work

RALEIGH (AP)—Gov. Hodges said today more coordination is needed among state departments and agencies.

He told his news conference that "things are being done in duplication" by some departments. The duplication, he emphasized, is not intentional.

Hodges said he has come to realize that more of his limited time should be given to problems of state.  
He cited coordination as one of the problems that needed ironing out. In this connection, he hoped to announce within the next day or so the Committee on Reorganization of State Government.

Hodges added that he had been able to persuade three people who served on the old committee to accept appointments on the new committee created by the recent Legislature. They are Rep. Dave Clark of Lincolnton, former House Speaker; Frank Taylor of Goldsboro and Miss Harriet Herring of Chapel Hill.

SCHOOL QUESTION  
A newsman asked the governor to elaborate on his statement Monday at Black Mountain in which he was quoted as saying that North Carolina would "seriously consider" abolishing public schools in the state rather than face mass integration.  
Hodges brushed this aside by saying the situation in which he was quoted "was very informal. I would rather not say any more about it." He said he thought he had summarized his expressions in a Lincolnton speech Tuesday. In that speech, the governor said he does not believe "we are yet at a point where we must seriously consider" proposals to meet the segregation issue involving abandonment of public schools.

FISHING LUCK BAD  
Hodges told the newsmen he had little fishing luck on his vacation Monday of his time spent in speechmaking. He said he went to two fishing spots Saturday and at each place a cameraman was waiting to snap the fish as he caught it. His catch, he added, consisted of a small fish.  
Turning to agriculture, the governor said crops in North Carolina look better than he has ever seen. This is especially true of tobacco and corn, he added.  
"It looks like a good year for the people and a good year for state revenues," he said, smiling.

### Further Thunderstorms Likely For This Area

By EMERY WISTER  
Charlotte News Staff Writer  
Highly charged, speeding storm clouds hung over Charlotte today, ready to pop the whip of a crackling thunderstorm at any moment.  
And the Weather Bureau hinted that a repeat performance of yesterday's electrical display was possible, though a less-violent storm was probable.  
Yesterday's storm, a real hoot.

### Our Weather

Partly cloudy and a little warmer today with widely scattered afternoon showers and thundershowers. Generally fair and warm tonight. Partly cloudy tomorrow with a possibility of widely scattered afternoon thundershowers.  
High yesterday—83.  
High today—82.  
High tomorrow—83.  
Low tonight—70.  
Low tomorrow—68.  
Sunrise 5:41 a. m.; sunset 7:35 p. m.  
More Weather Data on Page 18-B



ARMS SHIELDING HIS FACE, Patrick McDermott, 56-year-old slayer of Ohio publisher Don Melett 29 years ago, is led from a New York police station by a detective. McDermott, captured Tuesday night, escaped from an Ohio prison last November while serving a life term for the Melett slaying. (AP)

### Near Mountain Cabin Missing Girl's Body Found Buried

WEAVERVILLE, Calif. (AP)—Bloodhounds led sheriff's deputies to the shallow grave of a 14-year-old girl near Dead Man's Cabin in the wilds of Trinity County.  
Sheriff Harold Wilson tentatively identified it as that of Stephanie Bryan, missing since April 29 in Berkeley, where police held a University of California accounting student for investigation into a slaying.  
He is Burton Abbott, a frail 29-year-old still under treatment for tuberculosis. He uses the cabin for weekends and has maintained consistently that he was there on a fishing trip the day the girl disappeared.  
Last week, in his basement in Alameda, his wife found a trail

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nano, blew in on a 20-mile wind about 3:20 p.m. Before it was through it had dimmed a half inch of rain on the city, knocked the temperature down from 81 to 71 degrees, put four of Duke Power's company electric lines out of action and interrupted WBTV's program.  
FIREMEN BUSY  
It also gave city firemen a bad time. The fire department answered seven calls in a half hour of the storm. Wiring was damaged in six homes. The seventh call came in after a tree had fallen across some power lines causing a fire hazard.  
Several traffic lights were knocked out, but only a few minor accidents were charged to the storm.  
The thunderstorm was just one of 44,000 which strike the earth each day.  
One of nature's most destructive forces, they pack so tremendous power of the first atomic bomb.  
Still something of a mystery to scientists, these black knights

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### New Atomic Sub Slides Down Ways

By ELTON C. FAY

GROTON, Conn. (AP)—The Navy's second atomic submarine—the long, lean, deadly killer named Seawolf—went down the ways to the sea today.  
Mrs. Sterling Cole, wife of a New York businessman, christened the ship but missed hitting the bow with the bottle of champagne sauce.  
Mrs. Cole turned for an instant to speak to John Jay Hopkins, chairman of General Dynamics Co., as he presided a Hudson releasing the great steel hull.

In that instant, the Seawolf slipped swiftly out of reach of Mrs. Cole's arm. She hurled the bottle and it struck the hull, missed and broke in foam on the launching machinery.  
But the Navy always is ready for untoward happenings like this. It had a second bottle of champagne, attached to a line, on the deck.  
The Seawolf raced down the ways, a most abject cracked this bottle on the bow. So the Seawolf did get her official christening, after all, says the Navy.  
Three hours earlier, the keel of a third atomic submarine, as yet unnamed, was laid in a ceremony attended by relatively few.

The fact was unknown to most of the audience of 2,500 attending the launching. Their first word came when Navy Secretary Frank Miller, dressed in military uniform, in his prepared speech the brief remark that "the keel of a third submarine was laid at an adjourned meeting on an adjacent way, without pomp or ceremony."  
The Seawolf is a trimmer, sleeker ship than the Nautilus. Unlike the hulking snout of the Nautilus, the Seawolf has a sharp bow.  
In his speech Thomas said the Navy, with eight atomic submarines already authorized, hopes to build many others "in rapid succession thereafter."

### Mill President Dies in S. C.

GREENWOOD, S. C. (AP)—James C. Self, 79, president of Greenwood Mill, died today of a heart ailment. He was a "blood defority."  
He headed one of the largest privately-owned textile companies in the world.  
Self Memorial Hospital was his gift to the Greenwood community in 1961, honoring his father and brother, both doctors. It cost \$1 million.  
Self had been in ill health for several months. Earlier this year he was a patient at Duke Hospital in Durham, N. C., but he responded well to treatment and returned here.  
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### Evening Prayer

Our Father God, make us mindful of the responsibilities we have in our practice of our Christian faith. Enlighten us with the desire to stamp out corruption and evil. Help us use religion to establish justice and righteousness, and world order based on Thy love and righteousness. In Thy name, Amen.

### 4 To Extend Talks In 2 Top Questions

Parleys Set After Summit

By MAX HARBELSON  
GENEVA (AP)—Russia and the Western powers reached substantial agreement today on a summit conference to discuss German unification and European security after the summit conference.  
The foreign ministers met for nearly two hours and reported that the program in ahead to study all the proposals made at the summit meeting. There was no immediate intention to discuss all the proposals made at the summit meeting. There was no immediate intention to discuss all the proposals made at the summit meeting.



LIKE MAKES HIS POINT during conversation with Russia's Premier, Nikoli Bulganin as they pose for photographs at a session in Geneva. (AP Wirephoto)

### Railroad Crossline Work Scheduled To Open Sept. 6

By HARRY SHEPARD  
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Work on Charlotte's long-awaited railroad crossline project will begin Sept. 6, it was announced today.  
Frank Miller, consulting engineer for the project, said advertisement bids will be placed Monday, Aug. 1 and the contract awarded Aug. 2.  
The project, to cost an estimated \$1,600,000, is the first part of an over-all \$5,000,000 grade separation and improvement program.

### CITY NOT TO REROUTE CARS IN PROVIDENCE WIDENING

There will be no rerouting of traffic when work begins on Providence Rd. Monday, according to City Engineer Louis Ribey.

Mr. Ribey said Crowder Construction Co., contractor for the widening and resurfacing job, has estimated work will begin the first day of next week.  
He said that Providence Rd. will remain open to traffic during the entire job, with only a few temporary "road blocks" from wayside trees that will have to be removed. The project will extend from Queens Rd. to Hanson Dr.

### Yankee Businesswoman Wins Miss U.S.A. Title

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP)—Miss said, "because I am designer, Vermont, the prettiest Republican creator, distributor and saleswoman you ever saw, today is Miss U.S.A."

Two years ago she was Miss Vermont in the Miss America Pageant at Atlantic City but only placed 23th. Tonight she enters the Miss Universe semifinals.  
Asked if she were a traditional Vermont Republican, she replied: "Is there any other kind?"  
Doll-like, she stands 5 feet 8 in. tall, has high heels with the perfect Miss Universe measurements.

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"It will take away from the east side of Charlotte all the through movement of traffic."  
The crossline will eliminate 21 grade crossings, 12 of which are in the city.

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