

Public Welfare

By BERNADETTE W. HOYLE
N. C. State Board of Public Welfare

During the past several weeks we have discussed in this column the aid to dependent children program of public welfare in North Carolina. Aid to dependent children is a money payment for needy dependent children who have been deprived of parental care and support because of the death, physical or mental incapacity or continued absence from the home of one or both parents, whether natural, step or adoptive.

We have pointed out, by brief resumes of actual case histories from the public welfare files, that such assistance has strengthened family life and has helped to make individuals self-sufficient. Such assistance is terminated when a child reaches the age of eighteen. What happens then? Are these children really benefited by the assistance they have received?

Let's examine the records of a small county in the western part of the State. Out of 23 boys and girls who received such financial assistance and who were graduated from high school recently, two won prizes in a dramatics festival and both entered the Playmakers Theater in Chapel Hill; two boys participated in the county basketball tournament; one was a member of the student council; a girl was one of the State's champion spellers; one boy received honors in athletics, dramatics, debating and glee club activities; a girl participated in these same activities as well as 4-H club work and literary clubs; one girl participated in glee club, business club, home economics and dramatics activities; one girl was a senior superlative and also was active in school extra-curricular programs; one boy held offices in his class and was active in 4-H club work, the Bible club, and commercial club; another boy was voted the best sport and most dependable member of his class, and two girls took leadership roles in the science club, library club, school newspaper, 4-H club and dramatics activities.

Four of these young people felt that they were ready to "try their wings" and obtained jobs upon graduation. They are now self-supporting and are also contributing to the maintenance of their families. Four others felt the need of higher education and showed ambition and initiative in making their plans for college. They are now in institutions of higher learning in North Carolina. Two of the boys obtained athletic scholarships, and the other obtained a work scholarship.

The county department of public welfare in each case set specific objectives to be worked toward in these families. While it is impossible to estimate what really would have happened in each of these families without aid to dependent children assistance, we do know that many children would have been undernourished, ill, and possibly physically handicapped. There would undoubtedly have been an increase in truancy and related problems. There is factual evidence that the aid to dependent children grants, even though they are seldom adequate, have provided means for most of these children to assume a normal place in a family unit, to have status and protection in the community, and to remain interested in school, scouting, and other activities equipping them for either college or self-supporting work in the future.

BOTH MOTHER AND FATHER

Warroad, Minn. — Since September, 20-year-old Rita Foster has been both mother and father to eight younger brothers and sisters.

The children's father died of cancer in September, and their mother died a year ago of the same disease.

While nea.by relatives would have taken the children, Rita prefers to take on the responsibility and try to keep the family together. An aunt looks in on them occasionally to see that they are getting along all right.

TRADE AT HOME

Left-Over Seed May Be Menace

Mixing left-over seed with grain moving into other channels can be a costly mistake, says Extension Grain Marketing Specialist Everett Nichols.

Most grain intended for planting has been treated with mercury or a mercuric compound, which are poisonous, Nichols explained.

"Therefore," he added, "it is unlawful to market grain containing treated seed at any outlet where grain will eventually be used for food or feed purposes."

"In addition," Nichols continued, "if such grain is fed on the farm it could cause death or injury to poultry or livestock."

Specialists in the grading section of the N. C. Department of Agriculture report an increasing number of cases where treated seed have been found mixed with soybeans, wheat, corn, and other grains sold.

One treated seed in a carload is sufficient for the entire car to be rejected. When this occurs, the grain has to be sold as seed or destroyed.

Nichols suggests that farmers who have left-over seed store them until next year or destroy them. "Do not," he emphasized, "let the left-over seed get mixed with other grain."

Nichols says that grain dealers should examine all grain received to see if any of it has been treated with a poisonous compound. "Grain dealers should also advise farmers about the risk in handling or disposing treated grain," he added.

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to express our thanks to our kind friends for the many thoughtful things done for us in the recent illness and death of my wife, Mrs. Annie W. Johnson.

All of you will forever be kept dear to me for your warm and Christian spirit.

I will be away from Boone for a short time but will return to be active in church, social, and business activities.—With warmest regards,—Mr. Latta Johnson.

College Students Begin Teaching At High School

Three Appalachian State Teachers College students began their student teaching at the high school Wednesday, November 29.

Working with Mr. Walter Broyles in science is Mr. Frank Helseth. Mr. Helseth is married and lives at 217 E. Howard Street in Boone. He is a science major. He will graduate in May, after which he plans to attend graduate school and prepare for college teaching. Mr. Francis Montaldi is assisting

Mr. Robert Snead in biology. Mr. Montaldi comes from Bradenton, Florida; he is married and the father of two boys, ages six and seven. He is a science major. He too plans to attend graduate school after graduation next May.

Mr. J. H. Harvey has as student teacher in boys' physical education Mr. Donald Wright, originally of 7400 Tuckaseegee Road, Charlotte. Mr. Wright, who is single,

lives at 229 Justice. He will graduate in May, 1962, after which he plans to teach and coach. While at AHS he will assist with boys' JV basketball.

DID NOT REGISTER
The Communist party has failed to meet the deadline for registering under the Internal Security Act, but the Justice Department

withheld action, waiting to see if the party's officers would sign up within their later time limit.

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