

## EDITORIALS & COMMENT

### The Sad Fate That Awaits the Dropout

More than ever, this country needs trained, educated people to continue the progress America has made and to take their rightful places in the society that is developing.

Much of the poverty and unemployment that exists today is directly related to the lack of education and preparation by previous generations.

Right now there are two million youngsters in this country in the 16 to 21 age group who dropped out of school before earning their high school diploma. Nearly a fourth of them are unemployed. Most of the rest are stuck in dead-end jobs, without any real future.

Large gains have been made in the fight against ignorance, unemployment and poverty during the past several years. It is reported that two million more people are working and one million more are in high school and college than the population increase of the last three years accounts for.

The Education Campaign of the past several years has helped in this progress. It has laid by dividends by inspiring dropouts to return to the classrooms and encouraging the undecided to finish their education. In 1960 the dropout rate was 25 per-

cent. Last year it had decreased to 18 percent.

But 18 percent is too high for a Nation to tolerate. The frightening fact remains that at the current dropout rate by 1975 there will be 32 million adults in the labor force without a high school education — 32 million who will be unqualified for most of the jobs available then.

The newspaper supports the efforts being made to keep our youth in school and help them from becoming future victims of deprivation and poverty.

But it takes more than our support. It needs and commands the support and effort of every citizen.

Youngsters who have already dropped out of school need special help. They need to be counseled and guided into training that will help them develop skills for today's jobs. Others on the verge of leaving school before completing their education dropout many times to earn money to support their families or to buy necessities for themselves. Action by the business community in the form of part-time jobs needed to help them stay in school.

You can serve your country best by helping to insure that tomorrow's leaders are educated today.

### A Christmas Prayer for Writers

"O THOU GREAT SOURCE of truth and knowledge, we remember before thee all whose calling it is to gather a window of facts for informing the people. Inspire them with a determined love for honest work and a staunch hatred for the making of lies, lest the judgments of our nation be perverted and we be taught to call light darkness and darkness light. Since the sanity and wisdom of a nation are in their charge, may they count it shame to set the baser passions of men on fire for the sake of gain. May they never suffer themselves to be used in druging the minds of the people with falsehood and prejudice.

Grant them boldness to turn the unwelcome light o' those who love

the darkness because their deeds are evil. Put into their hands the shining sword of truth, and make them worthy successors of the great champions of the people who held truth to be a holy thing by which nations live and for which men should die. Cause them to realize that they have a public function in the Commonwealth, and that their country may be saved by their courage or undone by their cowardice and silence. Grant them the heart of manhood to cast their mighty influence with the forces that make the people strong and free, and if they suffer loss, may they rejoice in that as proof to their souls that they have fought a good fight and have been servants of the higher law."

### Highway Frankensteins

The automobile has become a way of life. It is, in many instances, an extension of the driver's personality. No other single object gets as much attention as the family car, the hot rod, the old buggy or whatever other endearing name has been hung on this motorized replacement for the horse.

The automobile by itself is simply another machine. It can do nothing on its own. The difficulty begins when its lord and master slips behind the wheel and hits the ignition. Man do we have trouble then.

It's amazing the change which takes place in an ordinary hard working, so-called average Joe when he becomes the operator of a motor vehicle. It's the Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde bit. . . . Lovable Larry is somehow transformed into the Frankenstein of the freeway. ZOOM! ZOOM! And he's off in a cloud of rubber.

It's Christmastime. . . . It's the end of an old year and the beginning of a new one.

Let us suggest a planned outing for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Pass up the parties and the merry making and drop around to

the hospital emergency room. Watch as they wheel in the speeder with a face full of glass, drinking drivers with splinters from a telephone pole still protruding from his side, the reckless and the racer who came in second best in an encounter with a bridge.

Look and feel for them. But look again at the people, who through sheer chance were the victims of someone else's mistake. Clobbered as they were minding their own business.

But those who get to the emergency room are lucky, he unlucky are back on the highway with a sheet over their face.

True. . . . The motor vehicle is the weapon. But the man behind the wheel is responsible.

The people who are trying to make the streets and highways a safe place to travel need your support. Public apathy will make it impossible to get the job done. If you withhold your help, one of these days they may be wheeling you into the emergency room. . . . Or even worse, pulling a sheet over your face. . . . Think about it.

THESE MURDERS CONFESS CLEARLY HOW CASUAL IS THE COUNTRY'S SENSE OF JUSTICE FOR BLACK PEOPLE, HOW CARELESS IT IS OF IT'S OWN HUMANITY.



THE BIRMINGHAM MASSACRE OF FOUR LITTLE GIRLS

CHICAGO BLACK PANTHERS

THE JACKSON STUDENTS

AUGUSTA SIX

AND NOW-BATON ROUGE LA.

### SAILORS

(Continued from front page)

R. Jones.

Since the Kitty Hawk incident, Mr. Jones has been heading the team of lawyers defending 21 of the 27 men who were charged. The General Counsel heavily underscored his attacks on the Navy's handling of the case by outlining for newsmen sections of the report of the Department of Defense Task Force on Military Justice.

As co-chairman of the Task Force along with Lt. Gen. C. E. Hutchin, Commander of the First Army, Mr. Jones played a key role in the group's findings.

The basic conclusion of the report was that "Systemic racial discrimination exists throughout the Armed Forces and in the Military Justice System. No command or installation—and more important—no element of the Military System—is entirely free from the effects of systemic discrimination against military servicemen as individuals and as groups.

### CRAFT

(Continued from front page)

Juris Doctor Degree from Rutgers University and is a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi.

He and his wife, Jean, and their 14 month old son are now residing in Willingboro, N. J. and he is currently holding the position of Staff Attorney with the Camden Regional Legal Services of Burlington, New Jersey.

### BENNETT

(Continued from front page)

modern Health Center. At present the facility is located in the oldest building on the campus, Kent Hall.

The Centennial Observance has four major thrusts: cultural emphasis, campus improvement, program evaluation and renewal, and a fund campaign.

In May of 1973, the College will undertake a three-year Capital Fund Campaign for \$3 million. Already several commitments have been made. Dr. Miller announced these at the assembly.

"I have received a commitment for \$100,000 from a major grant of \$50,000 from Burlington Industrial with the provision that an additional \$50,000 be raised from other sources," he explained.

### BREAST

(Continued from front page)

causing 31,000 deaths a year. Most cases occur in women after the age of 45 when many changes are taking place in the body, and hormone imbalances may play an important role in the development of the disease. Hormones are known to affect the growth of the breast, and in some patients it has been possible to cause temporary regressions of their cancers by altering hormone levels in the body.

At the Medical College of Pennsylvania and the University of Southern California Medical School, researchers will grow cancer cells from different patients, closely studying how cells change as they grow in the test tube and attempting to classify them by their behavior. From such observations, they hope

to learn to predict how the disease will progress in individual patients.

Similar research at the University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, will focus on the hormonal requirements of mammary tissue cultures. Since the behavior of human breast cancers varies, this technique might be used to test the hormonal response of cancer cells from an individual patient before treatment is decided upon.

### MITCHELL

(Continued from front page)

With the possible exception of secret meetings, all sessions of the Senate and its committees should be televised.

There should be "a firm agreement among Senators that they will not travel abroad, except on urgent matters, when Congress is in session. This would also help to assure a better attendance.

The three branches of government, the executive, legislative and judicial, would benefit from joint hearings of House and Senate committees on matters that would permit this.

### DAWSON

(Continued from front page)

Ear, Nose and Throat. A graduate of Meharry Medical College, he did further studies at the New York University of Ophthalmology; as well as serving in the N. Y. Eye and Ear Infirmary.

From 1968-1970, Dawson served as Medical Director of Lincoln Hospital. Further services include duties as a clinical instructor in Ophthalmology at Duke University Medical Center.

### GROUP

(Continued from front page)

leaders from across the nation. OMBE funds The Durham Business and Professional Chain to provide business assistance to minority persons seeking to enter or expand business, as part of a national minority business program.

The conference will take up questions and challenges faced by minority business development organizations in a series of workshops covering such areas as sources of financing and management assistance to minority businessmen.

The Durham Business and Professional Chain, organized in 1938 as a Local Business Development Organization has provided assistance in the area of business developments for 34 years. Its offices are located at 511 Grant Street.

Hunt and I. Jarvis Martin of the Chain will attend the conference.

### GOVERNOR

(Continued from front page)

mal attire is preferred." Crockett praised the work of the League and said the organization "is workin' at full capacity to make this Inaugural Ball the best ever. They are to be congratulated for their great effort and for their contributions to so many state-wide charities.

Crockett stressed that the Ball was intended to be a true statewide event and that tickets were available to all North Carolinians.

Although many Inaugural ceremonies are scheduled to begin at 12 noon on Friday, January 5, in front of the east facade of the State Capitol Building. This is the area facing New Bern Avenue and the State Highway Department Building.

Following the ceremonies at the Capitol, the Inaugural party will move to the reviewing stands in front of the Wake County Courthouse for the parade, which is scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m.

### NEWS REPORT FROM WASHINGTON

G.O.P. Rumbles—Nixon's Task-Democratic Changes—Mitchell & Westwood—Washington, D.C.—President Nixon is faced with disension in Republican ranks on Capitol Hill. There is a feeling among some solons the President did too little in the campaign to produce a G.O.P. majority.

In the Senate, where the party lost a net of two seats, some Senators feel the President, by campaigning more in states such as Colorado, as he so often has done in the past, could have meant the difference.

In addition to this feeling, there's disenchantment among G.O.P. solons over the quality of the liaison between the White House and Congress. It hasn't been what it should have been, is partly responsible for several presidential defeats, including the rejection of two nominees to the Supreme Court.

Thus Mr. Nixon must mollify key congressional leaders and improve his congressional liaison team, if he is to gain maximum influence in the 93rd Congress.

There are indications Democrats are likely to succeed in remaking their party structure. Chairman Jean Westwood is expected to resign at the December 9th National Committee meeting. But she won't give way to Robert Strauss, or anyone she considers a moderate or conservative—according to reports.

She'll only step down when someone like George Mitchell of Maine, a friend and former employe of Senator Edmund Muskie, has the votes to succeed her. She feels party reforms adopted recently are of paramount importance and only if she can save them is she willing to go.

If she cannot, there is likely to be a fight in the party and the present split could remain. The question is whether the liberal Mitchell can regain party losses in areas such as the South, that is, whether he can rebuild the party from the traditional groupings which have so often produced victory in the past.

And some wonder if Mitchell, or others on the left, really want to regain the conservatives.

\*\*\*\* If you get rid of envy you will be surprised to see how many nice people there are in your community.

## TO BE EQUAL

REVENUE SHARING SHIFTS POWER

By Vernon Jordan

The federal government's Christmas present to the states will be about \$5 billion in revenue sharing funds—the first installment of a program that will pump about \$30 billion into the state and local governments over the next five yrs.

Money is power, and this new federal "share the wealth" program represents a significant shift in power from Washington to state capitals and local city halls. Unlike other federal programs, which mandate strict controls on every dollar spent, revenue sharing funds come with very few strings attached. State and local governments have wide latitude in the expenditure of this money.

Proponents of the revenue sharing plan claimed that this was an idea whose time had come. Recent news reports indicate that it is an idea whose time may have passed. Revenue sharing was conceived at a time when federal tax collections were climbing while local resources seemed about to dry up. The Vietnam war and higher federal spending, coupled with increased state tax revenues have reversed that situation.

Now, it is the federal government that is desperately trying to keep the lid on spending, while many state and local governments are reporting fat surpluses. Some communities say they'll use the new federal revenue sharing money to cut taxes, something the plan's authors didn't have in mind.

Of course, that's just the general, overall picture. Many cities, especially larger ones, are hurting bad. Newark is in a tight financial spot, Detroit announced it is closing its schools for lack of funds, and others are also cutting back on important public services.

Revenue sharing won't be of much help to such cities because the amounts they'll receive won't be nearly enough. Since Congress authorized the revenue sharing program for five years, it ought to take a long, hard look at its effects and make necessary changes

before the program becomes permanent.

Another aspect that bears watching is how local governments use the new money. Past experience has shown that federal programs are more effective and more free from discrimination than most local efforts. Local governments—have often been plagued by scandals, and the experience of blacks and other minorities with many state and local officials has been one of discrimination. And many local governments have actually been less anxious to do something about poverty and social conditions in their town than have those much-maligned Washington agencies.

So the real problem is: how will the money be spent. If state and local officials respond to the flow of federal dollars by expanding important social programs and by improving schools, housing—health and welfare systems, then revenue sharing will be a historic act.

At the moment, there isn't much reason for optimism. But past experience need not be future reality and it is up to local leadership, voluntary social agencies, and committed citizens to put pressure on the state house and city hall to insure that new funds are used properly. It is also up to the Treasury Department, which administers the revenue sharing program to keep close tabs on how the money is spent.

The Treasury Department has the power to cut off all funds from governments that don't comply with the law. While it has the power to do this for violations of the law's anti-discrimination program, its interim regulations don't go far. The success or failure of revenue sharing may depend on how tough the Treasury is willing to get. This is an experimental program involving billions of dollars and the burden is on the Treasury, state, and local officials to prove that revenue sharing is better than direct federal action to build housing, feed the hungry and heal the sick.

### Do's And Don'ts



Westminster Abbey, with its 1000-year history, has a Poet's Corner, in which England honors its greatest writers.

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Robert Brown ELLIOTT...

...THE CONGRESSMAN FROM SOUTH CAROLINA—THE STATE THAT SENT MORE NEGROES TO CONGRESS DURING THE RECONSTRUCTION THAN ANY OTHER; SOME FOR AS MANY AS FIVE TERMS! HE WAS EDUCATED AT ETON COLLEGE, ENGLAND