

Ali In London

Muhammad Ali surrounded by press photographers last Thursday when he arrived at the London pavillion for the Charity Premiere of "Freedom Road" in aid of the Cancer Research Fund. The film tells the story of a former slave who returns from the American Civil War and becomes the first black senator of the United States.

Shortages of Engineers are Likely to Persist in Next Ten Years

ATLANTA, GA. - In the next ten years, shortages of engineers and other high technology graduates are likely to persist both in the nation and in the South, according to a new report from the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). These manpower shortages may be eased, however, if more high school students take a rigorous set of math courses and if women and blacks shift to the high technology fields. The SREB report

focuses on the relationship between the study of mathematics by high school students and the supply of high technology manpower. "To a con-siderable extent," the report maintains, "the production of engineers, mathematicians, physical scientists, and computer programmers depends on a strong background in mathematics."

However, women and minorities — who helped

mathematics graduates to create the recent boom elsewhere in the job 10 higher education market. And recent trends enrollments - have not been very inclined to study mathematics in either high make the current shortage of high school math school or college. Furthermore, one southern state continue. In the South, estimates that only one half as many bacout of ten of its recent calaureate degrees in math high school graduates has were awarded in 1977-78 taken trigonometry, the essential pre-calculus than just seven years earlier. course.

The report, entitled Engineering and High Technology Manpower productivity technological achievement Shortages: The Connecis likely to spur an even tion with Mathematics, was prepared by SREB greater demand for high economist Eva C. Galamtechnology manpower, the bos, who concludes that report says, mirroring the present low level of America's reaction to the participation in these high launch of Sputnik twenty school math courses years ago. Yet the tradirepresents tional source of new scien-"fundamental constraint" tists and engineers on a rapid expansion of young, white males - will technology manhigh be in short supply in the power. coming years. In fact, the

In addition, many absolute number of all school districts currently high school graduates in are plagued by shortages 1985 is expected to be 15% of math teachers, due in lower than ten years part to the many better-in-

In the engineering field, where supply and demand tended to "roller coaster" the over years, enrollments are surging once again. For example, junior-year 1979, in enrollments were 80% greater than in 1973, and some 62,000 to 67,000 new engineering baccalaureates are expected annually in the nation during the Eighties.

Dr. Galambos shows that the demand for these engineers should remain strong in the near future, but she questions whether the annual supply of new engineers can be maintained. Many public engineering schools already are at peak capacity, and it is difficult to rapidly shift faculty and other resources to high-demand programs. Indeed, faculty shortages in engineering are already reported. With the starting salaries commanded by engineers there is little incentive for students to pursue graduate study for an academic career.

In the nation and in the South, demand for engineers is expected to outpace supply as the pool of 18-to-21 year olds begins to decline, The many specialists who cross in enrollments and degrees over to engineering from other high technology fields may help fill teachers seem likely to engineering jobs. But, the overall balance of the nation's technical manpower may be adversely affected because the physical sciences, computer · science, and other high The nation's growing. technology fields are exconcern with industrial periencing shortages of and their own. Dr. Galambos suggests that industry may resolve the impending

shortage of engineers by "engineering shifting technologists" into engineering positions. Yet such a shift would only produce another shortage in the production and maintenance areas where such technologists are now deployed.

Another possible constraint on the supply of engineers and engineering faculty is that the number of students who constitute the potential supply base

includes a growing enrollment of foreign students, many of whom are expected to return home after receiving their degrees. The SREB report notes that in 1978 in the South, over one-third of all engineering doctorates were awarded to foreign students. "In short," notes Dr.

Galambos, deliberate action at all educational levels.

Comparing Labels Key To Bargains

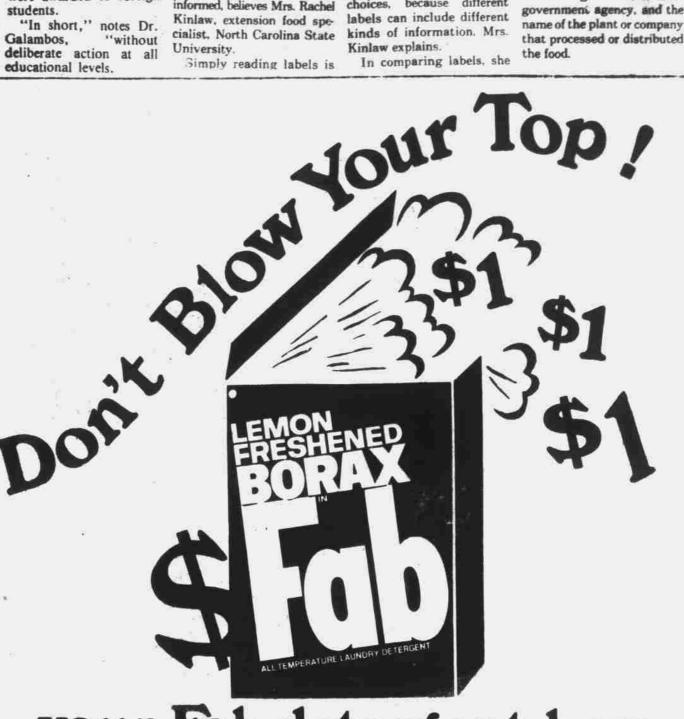
SAT., DECEMBER 27, 1980

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