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NEWS OF EDUCATION

Accountability has become the watchword of education. In school districts around the country, the emphasis is now on results.

This trend began when the National "Right to Read" campaign was launched because one out of every four students in the nation had a significant reading deficiency.

School administrators recognizing the need and wishing to cooperate with the

reading to its students. They tested four different innovative reading programs during the 1971-72 school year. The largest overall gains were made by students enrolled in



The BRL Sullivan reading program

country. It was developed by Behavioral Research Laboratories of Palo Alto, Calif. and uses the individualized programmed learning approach to reading. The noted linguist, Dr. M.W. Sullivan, developed the materials based on the premise that every child can learn to read.

The results of Project Read seem to bear out his premise, for children are learning to read with the BRL-Sullivan method.

In the Project Read schools in Inglewood, Calif., for example, over 80 per cent of the first and second grade students made impressive gains. One Inglewood teacher remarked, "Project Read reaches the students since its individualization allows them to work at their own pace. You can monitor it anytime, learning where the pupils are, what their needs are."

Philadelphia's District Four initiated Project Read in the fall of 1970 and subsequently its rank in reading achievement in the city great

ly improved. The district's administrators noticed a change in student attitude, and a new awareness and interest in reading.

The Dallas, Texas school district last year embarked on an interesting study to find the best method for teaching

These students and the nearly five million others who have participated in Project Read have shown encouraging progress. And concerned school boards are getting more such projects underway on Atlanta, Ga., Inkster, Mich., Jasper County, S.C., San Jose, Calif., Chicago, Ill., Brooklyn, N.Y. and other communities.

The new techniques are not only increasing achievement and reducing failure, but also giving teachers more opportunity to teach. In the years ahead, it may be much less common for teachers in higher grades to be confronted with "problem students" who are problems because they never really learned to read.

AUTO COSTS

Even if your car is paid for, it still costs you money. The U.S. Department of Transportation says that driving an average, standard-size car will cost 13.6 cents per mile. Costs are lower with smaller cars: compacts cost 10.8 cents per mile and the mini-size compacts will cost 9.4 cents.

Invite Birds To Your Home

Birds are good neighbors! The birds of farms, towns, and suburban areas make life more pleasant for the people there by their songs, color, and lively activity. Many weed seeds are eaten by birds, who also feed on insects that attack flowers, lawns, gardens, and people.

Birds are becoming more important in our urbanizing society because they are one of the few forms of wildlife which are readily observable that will live close to man. By providing for bird needs, you can attract greater numbers and species variety to your home, whether it is a small lot or part of a large farm.

Manmade bird attractors such as feeders, nest-boxes, and birdbaths are familiar to all and are productive ways to invite birds to your home. However, there are also natural attractors—trees, shrubs, vines, and other plants—which not only attract birds, but they can also bring beauty to your property. Plants useful to birds can also be good conservation tools by helping control soil erosion and water runoff.

Birds, like all wildlife, need food, cover, and water to survive. As you do your landscaping, you can provide for their needs by simply providing the proper mixture of plants. Choose plants that are pleasing both to birds and to the human eye. Bright berries and colorful annual flowers are decorative and provide food for many birds. Trees and shrubs not only offer shade and beauty to the householder, but they also provide cover for our bird friends for nesting and singing and shelter from predators and the elements. A good example of a plant that fits several of these categories is our native flowering dogwood. It is highly ornamental in the landscape with its white to reddish blooms in the spring, bronze fall color, and bunched bright-red fruits. It is also known to be used by 36 different species of birds for food and/or nesting cover.

The old saying that "variety is the spice of life" also holds true for birds. Try to provide birds a choice of places for their activities—from the crowns of tall trees down to low-growing flowers and grasses. Give them a choice of food sources—seeds, nuts, fruits, berries, and flower nectar. If your grounds have only deciduous trees and shrubs, there are numerous attractive evergreens that can provide cover for birds. Attention should also be given to periods of bloom which make it possible to have a succession of bird foods throughout the year. With careful planning, your home can become a haven for birds.

You can get further information on useful plants for birds and on conservation methods from your local Soil Conservation District Office, Extension Service, commercial nurserymen, and wildlife groups. The Soil Conservation Service, as part of its assistance to conservation districts, helps people apply many conservation practices that increase wildlife. Several U. S. Department of Agriculture pamphlets may be helpful to you, particularly, "Invite Birds to Your Home" (PA-940).

PRUNING

The shrubs that bloom in late summer should be pruned during January or early February, according to North Carolina State University extension horticulturists. Among these are crepe myrtle, cistix, oleander, althea, aaleagnus and buddleia.

PEANUT ACREAGE

North Carolina's peanut allotment in 1973 will be 167,898 acres, virtually the same as last year and the fourth largest in the United States. Production allotments are tightly controlled because there is a national surplus supply of peanuts.

GUEST EDITORIAL

By JOHN F. VANCE, JR.,
Area Biologist
Soil Conservation Service

EDITORIAL

Personal Involvement

"There is no such thing as an operation manual for a farm or any substitute for close personal involvement."

The author of that statement is Dan Cordtz, author of a recent "Fortune" magazine article dealing with corporate farming, which he describes as "a tough row to hoe."

Cordtz finds no evidence whatsoever of a corporate threat to family farming. He noted, instead, that corporate farming as a profit-maker has been a spectacular failure, with overhead costs growing much more profusely than the crops. In fact, corporate farming "...has turned out to be so profitless and trouble-filled that many of the corporations which became involved in the 1960's are now in full retreat," Cordtz said.

If big corporations with adequate financial backing, tough management know-how and a long string of industrial successes to their credit can't make a success of farming, how can Mr. and Mrs. U. S. Farmer make a go of it?

More often than not, Mr. and Mrs. U. S. Farmer not only make a go of it, but also raise and educate a family, support their church, pay substantial taxes for schools and other government programs, and put something away for the time when they can no longer work a 50 or 60 hour week producing food and fiber.

The owner of a family farm must be ready to make countless management decisions right on the spot in order to adjust his farming operation to meet weather, soil, price, labor, transportation, mechanical failure and other variable conditions.

Most of all, his success is due to his personal involvement in both management and labor input. Madison County is a typical example.

Trout No Longer Tagged

If you eat fresh mountain trout in a restaurant this year, you won't have to worry about biting down on a metal tag. Now all you'll have to watch for are bones.

The N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission has changed the regulations regarding the sale of commercially raised mountain trout, and the major change is the elimination of the requirement that all such trout be tagged with a metal tag.

Instead of tagging each trout, commercial trout growers in North Carolina will be required to package the trout in a printed wrapper which bears the following information. Printed on the wrapper must be the name, address and license number of the producing hatchery, the species, number and weight of the enclosed mountain trout. Also printed on the wrapper must be a notice to the effect that the sale of the contents of the package in North Carolina is authorized by the N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission.

The Wildlife Commission will also require that no package of commercially-reared trout shall contain more than ten mountain trout or a net weight of more than two pounds, and it shall be unlawful to remove the trout from such package until they are to be prepared for consumption.

BOB TERRELL

A Tough Man Retires

The only reason Raymond Ramsey never arrested his own grandmother was because he never caught her violating the game laws. He wouldn't have hesitated.

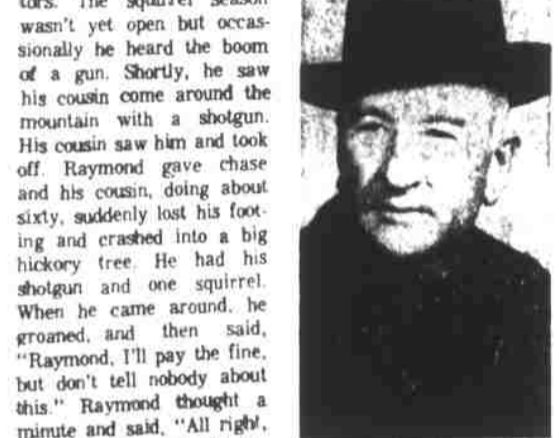
Raymond once threatened to write his own son a ticket when the boy told him he thought he'd go rabbit hunting illegally. He did write up his cousin for violating the squirrel-hunting laws. He also wrote tickets to a justice of the peace, three deputy sheriffs, and a high official of the Democratic party in Madison County. His charges didn't always stick, our court officials being fallible as they sometimes are, but he was never faulted for trying.

Raymond Ramsey retired the first of the year after 27 years as Madison County's game protector and those who persist in breaking the game laws in that county breathed a collective sigh of relief. They know he'll be replaced, but they also know that no one will ever enforce the game laws with more devotion.

Naturally, Raymond Ramsey has been cussed a lot, and some of those he cited even tried to work him over in court, but he always managed to hold his own. A lawyer, defending a man Ramsey had written up, referred to Raymond in court as a "catfish warden." The second time the lawyer said it, Raymond gave him an ugly look, and the third time, Raymond called his hand right there. "I want you to understand," Raymond said, "that my name is Ramsey." The lawyer called him Ramsey from there on.

Raymond had a cousin who hung around a grocery store where everybody gathered. When Raymond stopped by, his cousin would wink at the boys and say, "I'm going squirrel hunting tomorrow," and they all would laugh. One Labor

Day, Raymond was high on a mountain at the crack of dawn, looking for violators. The squirrel season wasn't yet open but occasionally he heard the boom of a gun. Shortly, he saw his cousin come around the mountain with a shotgun. His cousin saw him and took off. Raymond gave chase and his cousin, doing about sixty, suddenly lost his footing and crashed into a big hickory tree. He had his shotgun and one squirrel. When he came around, he groaned, and then said, "Raymond, I'll pay the fine, but don't tell nobody about this." Raymond thought a minute and said, "All right, I promise. I won't tell nobody but the boys down at the store."



RAYMOND RAMSEY

Raymond said Earl Radford, a barber, used to ask him all the time when he was stocking trout that particular day. "One day I told him Big Ivy," Raymond said, "and he turned to Jim Holcombe, the undertaker, and said, 'Go get your rod, Jim, and let's go fishing.' I hadn't tied. I had 10,000 fingerlings about an inch and a half long that I stocked in Big Ivy that day and Radford and Holcombe fished Big Ivy all day long and never got a nibble."

Raymond caught a man shooting a duck out of season on the French Broad River once. He slipped up and was 10 feet from the man. "Looks like you got one," Raymond said. The man turned, saw who it was, and said, "Yeah, and it looks like you caught one."

He caught a neighbor squirrel hunting before the season. Early in the woods, Raymond sat down in a gap in the mountain and began to read a magazine. He heard a gun fire out along the ridge and when he got there, his neighbor was looking up a big hickory tree. The neighbor fired and a squirrel fell. As he broke down his gun, the neighbor saw Raymond's shoes behind him. He wheeled around, saw Raymond, and said, "Hello, Raymond." Then he did a double take and asked, "What the hell are you doing here?" Raymond wrote out the ticket.

A mother once wrote Raymond about ticketing her son. "Raymond, you ought to be ashamed of yourself, doing what you did to my son," she wrote, then added: "If it was me, I'd shut his damn brains out."

The most unusual story he recalls is about a justice of the peace in Hot Springs who found a goose wobbling along with a broken wing. It had been shot. The JP took the goose home, killed and plucked it, and his wife put it in the pot. Soon, Ramsey and Clyde Hunsinger, supervisor of Rich Laurel Wildlife Refuge, brought some warrants to the JP's home, and Hunsinger took them inside. When he came back out, he said, "Raymond, I'm a suck-egg dog if they ain't cooking a goose in there." Raymond went in and, sure enough, the JP's wife showed him the goose in the pot. Raymond explained the illegality of the deed, apologized, and hauled out his book and wrote out a citation for the JP. The JP, in turn, asked for permission to try himself, got it, found himself guilty, and slapped the maximum fine of \$50 on himself. His wife took the cancelled check and the breastbone of the goose, framed them, and to this day they hang in the house of the JP.

Raymond said the best fishing he ever saw was about 20 or 25 years ago in the six or seven mile stretch of the Pigeon River from the Waterville Dam to the power plant. "That was before I-40 was built," he said, "and the area was rather remote. You could get a limit of trout from 14 inches up, and catch plenty of bass, too. I remember one time the fishing was so good I caught six bass on three casts. Fishing with two hooks, I'd catch one and let it play and others would gang around it and before I hauled it out another would hook itself. That was great fishing."

Ramsey said he was "kicked to death" when Clyde Paston was restored as executive director of the N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission after he had been fired "in a political move."

"I don't always agree with Mr. Paston," Raymond said, "but he has done a good job. He's built up the deer population and improved wildlife law enforcement, and a lot of other things for the good of both the game and the hunter."

There are things that must be done, as Raymond sees it, if our game programs are to survive. "The most immediate need," he said, "is regulations to control guns and dogs on government land. Wildlife protectors can't enforce anything the way the rules are. Anybody can go in with a gun as long as it's in a scabbard. We got one of the worst poachers the other night in the Pink Beds. He had a loaded gun with him, but the way the rules are, we couldn't touch him."

Hunters are sorry to see Raymond Ramsey retire. With him gone, hunting may be as good in Madison County—but it sure won't be as interesting.

Just A Woman's Observations

BY DOROTHY BRIGMAN SHUPE

Well, we are finally getting our winter weather, although today (Monday) has been much warmer and the prediction is for more nice weather for the next few days. I have enjoyed getting another vacation, but I've spent most of it going between here and Hendersonville. Shupe had an operation over there last Thursday and is getting along fine and I hope he will get to come home by the time you read this.

The day he checked into the hospital, so did Betty Bailey Roberts, you remember her and Cline. (They both graduated at Walnut a few years ago) and she only stayed a couple of days. I also saw Betsy McDevitt Roberts and learned that she lost her husband just a short time back after helping fight a fire out there near their home near Hendersonville. I didn't even know about it while I was talking to Betsy and regretted that I didn't get to express my condolence at the time. She is still as pretty as can be and has five children.

How did you like the football game? I was for the Dolphins, so I was on the winning team for a change! I saw some of the game in George's hospital room, but heard most of it on the way home. Charlotte called me after she got back to Winston Salem just about the time the field goal was blocked and I missed seeing that, but got it on the replay. She came up Thursday night and we both spent the days

over with Shupe while she was here.

Bobby Johnson was hobbling this morning as I stopped by the store, and he has turned skier on us instead of golfer! He said about five couples went over to Wolf Laurel for the week end and learned to ski. But, unfortunately he didn't do as well as he could and twisted his knee a bit. I think I have passed the time for indulging in such activity, but it's good for the young ones.

Did you read in the News Record the other week about our basketball teams here at Walnut being coached by Donnie Banks? I think they sounded real good and I especially was delighted with the names, the Liberty Belles and the Minutemen. Since our high school teams will be called the Patriots, I just want to commend the persons responsible for selecting those names. Have you seen the movie—1776—yet? I haven't, but hope to before it leaves Asheville.

Guess we'll get back to school by Wednesday. It will be good to see my students. I know they will be anxious to get back to see their class mates—sometimes they may miss me—about like one would miss a sore tooth!

OBSERVED—I've about got all my mid term exams graded—I have done a few each day—didn't want to overtax myself!—Forgot to tell you that Dennis Treadway came home for the holidays—

believe he has finally fallen in love—He even went back early—Thanks to Diane Messer for all she did for my birthday party, I missed naming her and she was very instrumental—You should have heard my U. S. history class singing "The Old North State" the last day we had school—some of them had never heard it—so I decided that should be corrected at once—Elaine Rice played the music without having ever heard it—Joyce Goforth's last name now is Franklin, her Grandmother says she is doing just fine at Warren Wilson—Sandy and Charles are enjoying the aquarium she gave him for Christmas—got all kinds of fishes in it—it does look pretty—Gee, I hate to get back to work, but guess I'd better finish this last batch of papers—Have a good day!

SMILES

Generous Husband
"I believe my husband is the most generous man on earth."
"How's that?"
"Well, I gave him a dozen of the loveliest ties for Christmas, and he took them right down and gave them to the Salvation Army."

A Slight Misunderstanding
A Scotsman, on a visit to Canada noticed the mounted head of a bull moose hanging in the hall of the house where he was staying. He asked his host what sort of animal it was.

Host: "Oh, that's a moose."
Scotsman: "A moose! Eh, man, what are your rats like over here?"

Take A Stick To Him
A famous conductor on tour with his orchestra was handed this note from a member of the audience one night, following a concert.

"I don't like totell tales out of school," it read, "but I think you should know that the man who hits that little triangular-shaped bell only played when you looked at him."

No Creditors
"I like to take a jaunt in the country," remarked a city man who is up to his neck in debt. "I love to stroll along past quiet country meadows. You know you just can't owe money to a cow."

Impossible
Mrs. Knagg—"Don't fidget so, Harold. You should sit perfectly still while mother is talking."

Mr. Knagg—"It's cruel to compel a child to sit perfectly still for such a long, indefinite period."

Pharmacy Comments

VD—A Prudish Notion!

It is time for us to get over the prudish notion that nice people don't talk about VD, that nice people don't get VD, nor do they associate with people who do. In the upper-income county of Westchester, New York, more than 1,000 gonorrhea infections were reported last year. Many more went undetected or unreported, officially.

North Carolina law permits minors to seek medical treatment for VD without parental consent. If VD is suspected, see your doctor or local health department. Don't ignore the facts. Over

500 died last year of syphilis in the U.S. — again, "officially" speaking!



So, don't take chances. VD can kill you — the treatment won't!



Bill Powell

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According to Dr. Jacob Korman, Director of the N.C. State Board of Health, "In 60% of the cases, the pharmacist is the first professional to be approached for VD information."

FOR:

★ Marshall

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