

### Hitch-Hiking Against State Laws; Violators Urged To "Cease, Desist"

RALEIGH — The gesturing, upturned thumb, universally recognized highball among wanderers of the highway is strictly frowned upon in North Carolina. Fact is, it's against the law.

However, like many statutes, the ban against soliciting rides from motorists on public roadways has fallen by the wayside. For one thing, the transportation fare loaders have decreased in number, thus drawing enforcement eyes to more pressing problems. And too, nearly everybody drives nowadays since the Department of Motor Vehicles knows officially of 1,226,339 vehicles. Among non-drivers, the old time shank's mare traveler is virtually unknown. Transients feel, if they don't own cars, there are plenty of others who do. Thus the declining, but aggressive corps of hitch hikers who unknowingly flout the law regularly.

College students are perhaps the worst offenders according to the State Highway Patrol. At football games they all but commandeer slow moving cars, creating additional hazards for hard pressed officers directing traffic. Fortunately a stern warning, with a hint of indictment, breaks up this gay game — sometimes. And it would indeed be an unobservant driver who failed to notice the platoon of Wake Forest student-thumpers who line upper Person Street in Raleigh every afternoon. The young Deacon law students

may not know it yet, but they are breaking a duly enacted state law.

The same situation prevails in West Raleigh where dozens of State College students bend their thumbs and break the law. In education centers throughout the state, weekend thumbers create minor traffic problems.

If there is a regular semi-organized corps of hitch hikers, it would be students say extensive travelers.

And while most safety officials condemn the practice, it's often overlooked in blanket preparations for highway safety promotion. The Department of Motor Vehicles produces no statistics on fatalities and injuries among hitch hikers. That some few are injured, and perhaps killed, every year goes without saying. Thus an appeal to those who thumb rides regularly to "cease and desist" is probably the best answer.

For the academic minded the manual of motor vehicle laws, in one short paragraph, presents the state's point of view on hitch hiking. In section 20-175 it reads: "No person shall stand in the travel portion of the highway for the purpose of soliciting a ride from the driver of any private vehicle."

And for the hair-splitter, the "travel portion" of the highway means right up to where the pavement ends at the shoulder.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

"Polio Strikes Kings Mountain", the excellent written articles of last issue, should certainly become the first in a series of articles to bring to the people, the facts on the coming bond election, why it is sorely needed, how it will affect the present sewage system, how the tax dollar will be spent to bring about better health conditions, and why every good citizen will, on Saturday, December 6, go to the polls and mark a YES on his ballot for the Sewage Bond Election.

Epidemic Wipes Out City could certainly become true headlines if the present outmoded and overloaded sewage disposal system is allowed to continue in existence. The city's outdoor toilets, sink drains emptying into roadside gutters, and the large overflow of raw sewage from city disposed plants, now offer excellent breeding spots for flies, insects, and germs, make a future epidemic, not only possible but likely, unless improvements are made.

The children of today certainly deserve the opportunities to become healthier, stronger citizens of tomorrow. The sewage bond election, when passed by the approval of the people, will mean new and adequate modern type sewage disposal plants to process all sewage, pumping stations to maintain level flow from all directions, and a pipe system to allow city sewage in all homes. A complete removal of present health hazards.

In all fairness to future citizens it is indeed the duty of all to register and vote YES, Saturday, December 6, on the sewage bond issue. It is better to build children than to mend adults.

Mack Murray

### Class Presents Guidance Guide

The sixth program of the series "Learning to Understand Our Children" was presented Thursday night, November 6, in the high school auditorium.

The program concerned methods of dealing with the dull pupil, by encouraging his participation in certain creative activities.

A group of eighth grade students demonstrated activities which could be used in the classroom to provide an outlet for creative expression, and give the dull pupil something concrete — something he could see, and do with his hands.

The activities were: modeling of clay, and modeling of planes and ships; one group was preparing their own classroom paper; some were displaying collections and hobbies which they had obtained from the outdoors; some boys were working on a science experiment; some were doing geometric designs while others in the class had set up a store and were practicing the art of buying and selling; several were tending some bulbs which they were watching as they grow large enough to set out on the school ground. Other activities shown were: a play, the social graces, rhythm, finger painting, preparing notebooks, visual aids, and a class in human relations.

This program was written, organized and directed by I. B. Goforth, Jr. Pupils taking part were from his eighth grade class.

### Resurrection Youth To Present Program

The League of Young Adult Lutherans of Resurrection Lutheran church will be host to the congregation and friends on Thursday night at 7:30. This group is sponsoring the showing of two films, "Reunion in Berlin" and "Trail Blazing in New Guinea". A social hour will follow the showing of the films. Herbert Mitcham is president of the League of Young Adult Lutherans.

On Sunday evening at 7:30 the Luther League of Resurrection Lutheran Church will present a public program. The program will be presented in the newly completed place of worship.

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