

## Christmas Seals Against TB

I am a little T. B. germ that flies around the air. My real name is Tuberculosis. Wow, what a thing to bear!

Really no one loves me; I feel so all alone. But I love everybody, those without and those with a home.

I love the little people and the very old ones too. Not forgetting the rich and poor; it doesn't matter who.

100,000 new cases every year. Can one of them be you? "Oh, no, not me!" was said by all, but is this really true? I make you feel awfully bad; you cough, you're tired and thin.

I smiled when you laughed at the T. B. mobile, saying, "It's for other men."

I fixed you, ha! ha! Remember your late cousin John? When he coughed, I came in and was in there all alone. You wish you had that extra sleep now just to fight me off;

But you just told your mother, "I'm not all that soft." Oh, for those balanced meals and milk that were turned away, Instead of all that junk and stuff just to get to play!

To the sanitorium we shall go and that's the end of me; But if it weren't for those Christmas seals, I would still be free.

Am I inherited? No, but, yes, I can be caught. Unless it is by Christmas seals and drugs that I am fought.

I hate good care and exercise, sleep and all that stuff! It makes my little job awfully, awfully tough! That research and x-ray machine makes me rather blue. Oh, gone from me's the hope for life; was that caused by you?

## Santa? He's Here All Year!

Rocky Mount Senior High has a Santa Claus all of its own; but instead of giving toys, he gives gum, lumps of sugar, and best wishes in the form of school spirit.

Here is a generous, lovable man, who has adopted the team and school. He has a kind word, a smile, and a stick of gum for most students he sees.

This is a description of Spero Kounoukls, local restaurant owner and the best representative of school spirit any school could ever have. He is better known as just "Spero."

If you want to see whether Spero has arrived at the game yet, just look in the bleachers and if a sea of smacking mouths and students nibbling sugar meets your eye, you know Senior High's Santa has arrived. He reports early to the stadium with the front seat of his truck loaded with oranges, candy, and gum for the team as well as for those in the bleachers.

Every Friday afternoon before all home games, you'll see a line of football boys filing into Spero's restaurant. He sees that "his boys" have the best food out of town as well as at home.

This Santa Claus carries a very special present—an example of loyalty to an ideal, and school spirit of a high degree to his "adopted school."

## Guilty OR Not? What's the Verdict?

Do you patronize your school store? Some do, some don't. Too many don't!!

This store is here for your benefit. The proceeds from this store go to your student organization, and these funds are used for your welfare.

The store sells notebooks paper, graph paper, shorthand pads, pencils, red pencils, ink, composition books, loose-leaf covers, notebooks, note cards, rulers, typing erasers, and compasses. Other articles are cellophane tape, kleenex, and even athletic socks in sizes for both boys and girls. Decals and pennants are sold also, with our high-school emblem on them.

These supplies are sold for exactly the same prices you will find at the stores downtown. Why not buy them right here in the building, and help our school at the same time?

For quite some time, students have requested that we sell decals so as to decorate their car windows. Well, now they are here, so let's buy them!!

Many of you don't realize that the Student Store has this much material on hand. All of these articles are available during the hours the store is open.

The Student Store is open for fifteen minutes before school, during the first lunch period, and fifteen minutes after school.

## To Decorate Later Brings Excitement On The Big Day

The family is just sitting down for a turkey dinner with all the trimmings when here comes not a Pilgrim Father, but ole' St. Nick — in the newspapers, on the radio, and in store windows.

Yes, it's true. By the time Christmas arrives, the public is "sick and tired" of the canes and Santas on the lamp posts. The decorations, which are really very pretty when first put up, remain until it is time to ring out the old and ring in the new year — Then they are dusty and sad looking after such long display.

There is a certain exuberance from that last minute rush to buy gifts; and if only the festive "dressings" were put up nearer "the big day", the joyous excitement in the air would be so much more exhilarating!

## Editor Explains

**Ed. Note:** Each year in November members of the journalism class write articles for a contest sponsored by the National Tuberculosis Association and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

Entries are judged by Mrs. Dorothy Hinson, executive secretary of Rocky Mount Tuberculosis Association, and her committee and this year the first place winner was Pat Bell, senior, and second place winner was Janet Bulluck, junior.

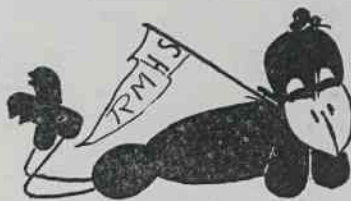
The above article is the second place winner. The first place selection will appear in the December issue of THE BLACKBIRD.

## Help Fight TB



Buy Christmas Seals

## Ben Blackbird Sez



"Seven days of school would make one weak."

## THE BLACKBIRD

Rocky Mount Senior High School

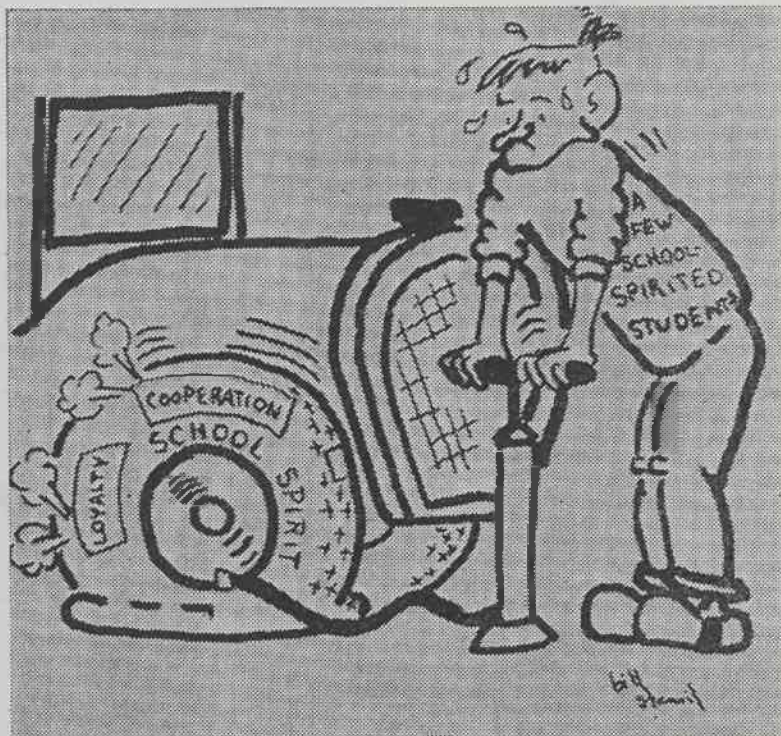
EDITOR . . . . CAROL THREATT

BUSINESS MANAGER . . . . . PAT BELL

ADVISER . . MRS. T. D. YOUNG



## Deflated Ego? Try School Spirit



## Special Weeks Have Value

In this country of abundance, there exists also an abundance of special weeks with nearly everything having a special week, from dumb animals, which want people to be kind to them, to the United Nations.

The principal purpose of these special weeks is to place emphasis on the subject for which the week is special. This is accomplished by posters, speeches, panel discussions and the like. If the campaign is correctly carried out, the public becomes conscious of the subject.

A good example is the "Youth Appreciation Week" just recently witnessed. Sponsored by the Optimist Club International, this week was set aside to place before the public the kind of young people who are seldom heard about but who compose the vast majority of youth population—the good, wholesome teenagers who are not "juvenile delinquents." The eyes of a good many people are opened to the fact that not all the youth of today are bad.

Another example is the "Character Emphasis Week." Sponsored by the service club, this week may be closely akin to the "Youth Appreciation Week" in that it is designed to make students become conscious of their character and the importance it will play in their lives. Its purpose is to help build the character of those who persist in violating duty or law and to strengthen the character of those who are about to give up.

If one will examine these special weeks closely one will find they are designed to improve a situation, whether to urge better fire prevention or better character.

## Prayer For A Special Day

For the time spent in happy companionship with my friends at our favorite place, for the use of the car (when I get it), for the phone (when I'm allowed to use it), for love (even if "?" doesn't love me), for my dates, for the chance to help make decisions in my family (now that they think I have become of age)

For the music (on wax that I enjoy so much), for freedom of speech (which my folks seem to think I use too often), for my clothes (of which I never seem to think I have enough of, so Mom says) . . .

For this free land into which I was born and for those who fought to make it free, for our great heritage (may it ever stand!), for churches and freedom of religion and for all other rights granted to us . . .

For Mom and Dad and the rest of the family—for their love for me and mine for them—, for my good home which my folks have worked so hard to make, mostly though for Thee and Thy Son and this day on which to say "Thank You, for all Thy many blessings."