

Through  
THE  
Looking  
Glass

The NEW BERN

# MIRROR

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There are those who would have you believe that our criticism of certain aspects of the so called War on Poverty is simply an isolated instance of a small town, crackpot editor sounding off.

Consider these excerpts from a nationwide survey conducted by the highly respected Christian Science Monitor, a great international daily of unquestioned journalistic integrity, and judge for yourself.

"In the first year and a half of chasing after cures for poverty," says The Monitor, "the Johnson administration's 'economic opportunity' program has come up practically empty handed."

According to the survey, "These are the findings of Monitor correspondents in some 40 cities across the country, who were asked to evaluate the impact of the program to date."

The Monitor observes that "It is the community-action programs which are presently coming under strong fire from Congress. The House Committee of Education and Labor has moved to cut back funds drastically from this part of the poverty program."

Further, the survey states, "It is generally conceded throughout the country--and confirmed by OEO director, R. Sargent Shriver, Jr.--that the really poor are not being reached in any numbers yet."

Continuing to quote The Monitor, "Our correspondent there reports that the war on poverty in Vermont has never moved off dead center. The CAP programs have been so ineffective that they haven't stirred up one ounce of real controversy... The CAP efforts in Burlington, as throughout the state, have flopped so far, and most have never gotten beyond the application stage."

Turning to Newark, N. J., "a Monitor correspondent reckoned that the controversial CAP in that city just about stood still in the last year." Cited are "bitter internal struggles for control of the program that sapped energy otherwise usable in the antipoverty campaign."

Exploring further, The Monitor's survey says, "One leading critic, a spokesman for the local ADA claims, 'The program isn't off the ground in Philadelphia. The program writers haven't developed a single program in a year.' And a spokesman for the local Chamber of Commerce adds 'I don't see that it's doing any good, not that it's bad. I don't see any activity evident.'"

From Boston, where The Monitor is published, comes this report: "Because of its administrative difficulties, the local antipoverty agency has not really gotten off the ground to meet the needs of the poor."

And, according to the survey, the report from New York views this past year as "chaotic." It says, "In the last year, the program has pretty much stood still, if not gone backward."

Still quoting, "One official confided that Atlanta has received 3-1/2 times as much money in grants as OEO guideline figures allow. Now, local officials are complaining. Assuming they would continue to receive grants as large as those

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WE PROUDLY PRESENT—William Kenneth Taylor Jon, 15 month old son of Brian and Sherry Anne Wooten Jon of Gouverneur, N. Y., is the latest addition to our Mirror gallery of beautiful children. The handsome youngster's adoring grandparents (and who could possibly blame them for such boundless affection) are W. Z. and Sarah King Martin Wooten of New Bern. Even if we didn't tell you, you would know that Eunice Wray, whose portraits of juveniles are con-

sistently delightful, came up with this example of photographic excellence. Since we can't take any of the credit, at least permit us to say with characteristic immodesty that, thanks to Eunice and some very wonderful small fry, The Mirror's photographs of children have set a standard for even the largest dailies to shoot at. Our readers, God bless them, love kids as much as we do.

