

# Commissioner Of Education To Address A. S. T. C. Graduates

Dr. Lawrence G. Dertick, the U. S. Commissioner of Education, will address the summer graduates of Appalachian State Teachers College at commencement exercises August 18, according to Appalachian President W. H. Plemmons.

Dertick's background includes many experiences in education before becoming the U. S. Commissioner of Education. He was superintendent of Chattanooga public schools, assistant superintendent in charge of instruction for Nashville public schools and principal of Clarksville, Tennessee High School.

Commissioner Dertick has spent—or rather, invested—about 33 of his 54 years as a teacher and school administrator. But even during his precareer years, education prevailed the atmosphere around him.

A native of Kentucky, he was born in a dormitory of Hazel Green Academy. His father, 87-year-old Henry J. Dertick, has been an educator more than 69 years. President-emeritus of Milligan College in Elizabethton, Tenn., the veteran educator still supervises a guidance and counseling service for Eastern Tenn. youth during the workweek, and preaches in Protestant churches each Sunday.

The Commissioner's mother, the late Pearl S. Dertick, was dean of women at Milligan. One of his brothers is a teacher and another is a former teacher.

Commissioner Dertick, an on-the-go six-footer with a warm, contagious smile, embarked in education as teacher-principal of consolidated elementary and high schools in Greene County, Tenn. Later he was high school principal in Clarksville, Tenn.; State high school visitor for East Tennessee and professor of education at East Tennessee State College; assistant superintendent in charge of instruction in Nashville, Tennessee and professor of education



DR. LAWRENCE G. DERTICK in Chattanooga.

In 1948-49 he took leave of absence for fifteen months to head the Education Branch, Office of Military Government for Bavaria. In the international area he is also a member of the United States National Commission for UNESCO; Chairman, Interdepartmental Committee on Education Activities in International Organizations; and a member of the Fulbright Board of Foreign Scholarships.

Mr. Dertick is a member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He serves the Boy Scouts of America as a member of the organization's Committee on School Service, and the Girl Scouts of the United States Advisory Committee on School Relations. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Christian Board of Publication.

He was graduated from Milligan College. Later he earned a master's degree at the University of Tennessee and did graduate work at George Peabody College for Teachers and Columbia University. He holds honorary doctor of laws degrees conferred by Milligan College, University of Chattanooga, Franklin College, Kent State University, Boston University and Fairleigh Dickinson University, as well as an honorary science doctorate in education conferred by the University of Maine, an honorary doctorate in education from the Rhode Island College of Education, an honorary doctor of public service degree from Ohio Wesleyan University and a doctor of humane letters degree from Yeshiva University.

To gain first-hand information on the organization and operation of Soviet schools and colleges Mr. Dertick directed a United States mission of 10 educational leaders on a 7,000 mile tour throughout the Soviet Union in May and June, 1958. He and members of the

study group reported to the Nation on this Cultural Exchange Agreement Project between the USSR and the United States immediately upon their return, through the press, by radio, and television. A full report of the mission's findings has been given nation-wide distribution.

Information brought back from the Soviet Union by the Commissioner and his fellow educators was most helpful to the Congress of the United States when legislation to strengthen the Nation's security through education was under consideration. This legislation was passed by the eighty-fifth Congress as the National Defense Education Act of 1958. Under this Act the Commissioner of Education holds important responsibilities to the Congress and the American people in administering Federal funds for educational programs under State and local control.

A teacher and school official at the community level for many years before he became Commissioner of Education, Mr. Dertick's heart is very much with the folks back home. The philosophy he expressed at the time he took the oath of office to serve as Commissioner, and the one which is his continuing guide as he performs the many tasks of his high educational position of the American people, is:

"The Federal contribution in the total endeavor for education should be leadership without domination and assistance without interference. Control of education rests with the States and communities, and should remain there."

### TV DEBATE

Vice-President Nixon has formally accepted an invitation from the major television networks to debate campaign issues with Senator John F. Kennedy, his Democratic rival for President.

Mr. Nixon had said he would be willing to meet Mr. Kennedy face-to-face for television debates. In telegrams to the three networks, he repeated his suggestion that the joint appearances be arranged for "full and free exchange of views without prepared texts or notes and without interruption."

Senator Kennedy has said extemporaneous discussions would be agreeable to him. He has already agreed to public debates over television.

### CARD OF THANKS

The family of A. L. Miller, Jr. wish to express their appreciation to their friends and neighbors for every expression of sympathy shown them during their sorrow.—The Miller Family.



SCIENCE STUDENTS.—Margaret Osborne, a rising senior at Taylorsville High School who is interested in marine ecology, and Jim Clackum, a rising junior at Fayetteville High School whose special interest is zoology, are two of the fifty high school students attending the National Science Foundation's summer training program at Appalachian State Teachers College. With them is Dr. F. Ray Dertick who is explaining a deep-water sampler. Miss Osborne is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Woodworth M. Osborne of Taylorsville, and Clackum is the son of Sgt. and Mrs. J. W. Clackum of Fort Bragg.—Corey photo.

## Baton Twirlers Will Compete At Drexel

Drexel — Baton twirlers and band majorettes in this area and throughout North Carolina are invited to participate in the Baton Twirling Contest being sponsored by the Drexel Community Fair during the week of August 23-29.

Ralph Abernethy, Fair Chairman, and Mrs. Sue Cozort, baton instructor at Drexel and in charge of the twirling event, announce that the contest will be held at the Drexel Community Center grandstand on Wednesday night, August 24, at 7:30 o'clock.

Trophies will be given to winners of first, second and third places of age groups from 0-9 years, 10-12 years, 13-14 years and 15 years and up. Ribbons will be awarded also for first, second and third place winners in a Baton Corps contest. Another added feature is also anticipated.

Time limit in the contest for soloists is two and one-half minutes and corps performances six to eight minutes including entering and exiting. Each entrant is required to bring his own record accompaniment and should report to the Drexel Fairgrounds at the Community Center between 5 and 6 p. m. August 24.

Four to six judges will be secured for each contest. Those interested in participating in the contests should send their name, address, age, grade in school, and sex, with one dollar entry fee, to Mrs. Sue Cozort, Box 275, Drexel. Entries must be received by Wednesday, Aug. 17.

Further information regarding the contests may be secured by writing Mrs. Cozort.

Mr. Abernethy also announces other entertainment for the Fair includes a beauty pageant, horse show and fireworks. Admissions to the Fairgrounds are free.

### DEFENSE POLICY SCORED

Governor Rockefeller has told a Senate investigating committee that the State Department sabotaged a White House planning group that sought to develop a more imaginative, creative approach to national security policies.

The group, which he headed when he served as an assistant to President Eisenhower, also had some secret assignments, the Governor observed. He said the State Department had resented its formation and would not cooperate with it.

U. S. office machines industry expands abroad.

## Know The Weather

By E. H. SIMS

Which is heavier, cold air or warm air?

Cold air is heavier than warm as most people know. Cold air is denser. The principle of warming air to fill a balloon, which will then rise, is well known.

Not as well understood is the characteristic of warm and cold fronts stemming from this weight factor. A cold front slides over the earth's surface, leading edge hugging the surface, slanting

backward.

The warm front's leading warm air is high, the frontal edge leaning forward. This allows the keen observer to spot an approaching warm front by detecting the meaning high cirrus clouds that move in from the west.

4-H Club enrollment in North Carolina has now reached about 166,000.

Surplus of exports over imports to rise.

### AIR DRILL

Civil aviation in most of North America has received notice that it will be grounded for six hours September 10, to clear the skies for a vast Air Force training exercise.

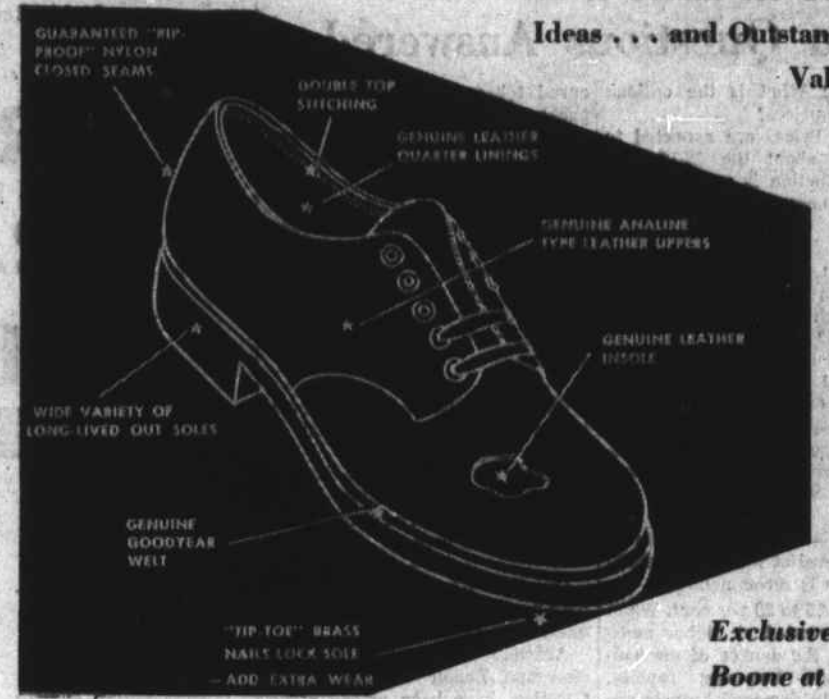
The grounding affects not only all the airlines in the United States and Canada, but about thirty foreign airlines serving North America. It applies also to the thousands of business and commercial airplanes, agricultural aircraft and light sports planes.

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