

Dr. Downum Speaker For PTA At Columbia

Uses As His Subject "Better Vision For the School Child"

In the interest of public information regarding vision among school children, Dr. A. F. Downum lectured and presented a number of photographic slides before the P. T. A. of Columbia last week.

"We, as optometrists," said Dr. Downum, "are greatly alarmed over the fact that an ever increasing number of school children are developing visual defects and are forced to wear glasses. However, the lack of understanding and the almost total disregard of the problem of proper classroom environment among school officials makes it imperative." He stated, categorically and without apologies, if the classroom environment was what it should be, more than half the children who now wear glasses could throw them away."

"We have made tremendous progress in the science of visual care in the past ten years. New homes, factories and office buildings are being designed and built with primary emphasis on the eyes. Proper lighting and restful colors are being used and glare and brightness contrasts eliminated. Here in the south, however, practically no improvements in design of school buildings can be noted in the past 50 years. It is not only deplorable, it is a disgrace. It is an indictment against everyone connected with our school system.

"The answer to the problem is three-fold: (1) an adequate screening program for every school child every year to determine any visual disturbance; (2) redecoration, along scientific lines to eliminate brightness contrasts, harsh shadows and glare, and (3) redesigning the desks and seating arrangement and lighting to eliminate glare and provide more uniform lighting."

In one school in Texas where this program was carried out, visual de-

fects were reduced by 57% in six months," Dr. Downum said.

The same lecture was presented before the Roper P. T. A. on Tuesday, April 3.

National Guard Unit Adds More Drills

(Continued from Page One)
Promoted to private first class are Albert L. Benton, James R. Briley, William A. Crumney, Emmett E. Eason, Joseph L. Henniger, Richard E. Hudson and Henry O. Peoples.

Pfc. Willard H. Goodwin has completed an 8-weeks course in cooking at Fort Bragg, which included the Food SV Program, Nutrition, Sanitation, Cooking and Serving of Foods, Garrison Mess Equipment, inspection and storage of foods, field messing and equipment. Pfc. Goodwin completed the course with a rating of excellent.

Pfc. Archie T. Lane, Jr., of Hertford, and also a member of the local unit left April 1 to attend the cooking course.

Corporal Albert E. Lassiter and Corporal Thomas P. Griffin left April 10 to attend the light and heavy weapons Infantry Leaders Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, a 4-month course. They will receive instructions on the U. S. rifle cal. 30, sub-cal. machine gun, technique of rifle fire and night vision, carbine cal. 30, Blowing automatic rifle, pistol, rocket launchers,

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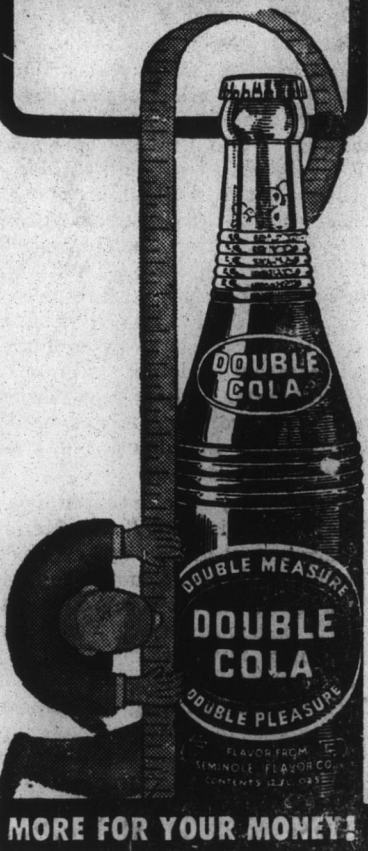
Pfc. Richard C. Copeland, Jr., will leave April 17 to attend the Personnel Administration course at Fort Jackson, S. C. He will receive instruction on organization, Army Administration, personnel management, typing and administration problems.

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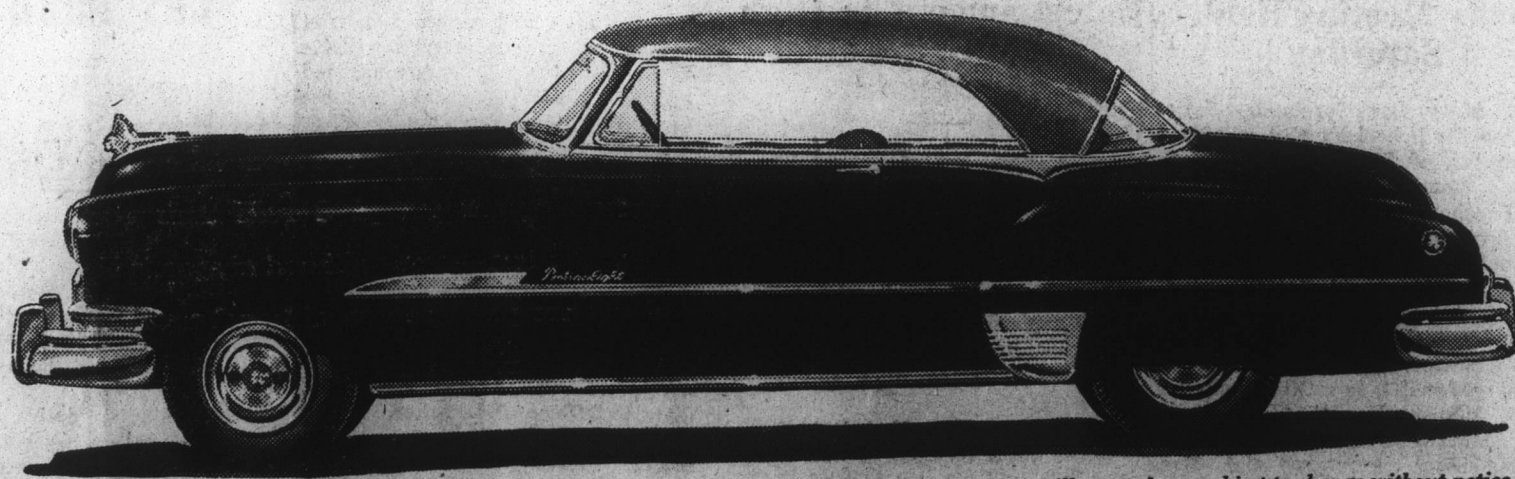
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