

## STATISTICS SHOW FEW BEGINNERS COMPLETE TWELFTH GRADE IN STATE

Of Each 1,000 White Pupils Who Entered First Grade in 1940-41, Only 313 Completed High School in 1951-52; 1,000 to 111 is Ratio For Negro Pupils For Same Years

Not quite a third of white pupils and slightly more than a tenth of Negro pupils who entered the first grade in 1940-41 "made" a grade a year and completed the twelve-year course of study provided by the public schools of the State.

The number of pupils not promoted plus the number who dropped out of school entirely after they had enrolled were included in the 687 white and the 889 Negro pupils who failed to complete their public school education by the end of the 12-year period following their entrance in the first grade. Part of the nonpromotions remain in school, repeating work failed, and in the end complete the twelve-year course of study by taking 13, 14 or perhaps 15 years. This fact would tend to have inflated the survival figures. Since this tendency is common to each year, however, it is believed to balance out in the end. The main reason for the seemingly high mortality from grade one to completion of high school appears to be due entirely to drop-outs, many of which started out by being nonpromotions, or failure to do the work required in order to be promoted to the next succeeding year.

There is, however, a bright side to the picture which the record for the 1940-41 entrance class appears otherwise. First grade children entering since that year appear to be making progressively better progress through the grades. This is true for first grade enrollments back to 1929-30. In other words, the record indicates that survivals, or those who remain in school for longer periods of time and thus reach higher grades in the school system, are becoming increasingly greater. This is true for both white and Negro children, although the record in the case of Negro survivals is about a third that of white pupils. Even this situation is improving as this ratio was five to one in 1924-25.

First grade survivals for white pupils have increased from 628 in 1923-24 to 958 in 1950-51. In other words, 372 out of each 1,000 first grade white children failed to reach the second grade in 1924-25, whereas only 42 failed in this respect in 1950-51. Or, on a percentage basis, take the third grade: 60.5 per cent of the original first grade children who entered in 1923-24 reached the third grade in 1925-26. Contrast this with 92.7 per cent of the first grade white children who entered school in 1949-50.

In the case of Negro pupils the improvement in survival rates is also evident, and for each grade as in case of white pupils.

More white children were enrolled in the public schools during the year 1951-52 than any other year, the total being 641,081. Peak enrollment for the Negro schools during this period was during 1923-34 when there were 280,741 pupils enrolled.

There is a tendency toward equalization of enrollment in the grades, with a greater percentage going to the high schools than heretofore. Expectations would be that the ratio between elementary and high enrollments should approach 66 2/3 to 33 1/3, or two to one, but because of necessary drop-outs and increased birth rates they do not quite reach this ratio. This is to say, therefore, that there is still a desirability that this trend will continue.

### ENROLLED AT HAMPTON

Of the sixty-five students from North Carolina included in the freshman class at Hampton Institute, of Hampton, Va., one is from Edenton.

He is James Elles Joyner, a graduate of Edenton High School. Joyner is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Joyner of 130 East Carteret Street.

### Finishing Touches Made To U. S. 17 Between Williamston - Windsor

Highway Chairman A. H. Graham and Commissioner Emmett Winslow of First Division report that the finishing touches were being put on the widening and reconstruction of US 17 between Williamston and Windsor.

The improvement is 7.91 miles long. Work was started in October, 1952. The Bertie County job runs from the end of the 22 foot concrete pavement on US 17 about four miles northeast of Williamston to a point in Windsor. The pavement is 24 feet wide. Dickerson, Inc., of Monroe did the grading and paving at a contract estimate of \$367,086. Pyramid Construction built the structures at a total cost of \$54,805.

Highway department personnel who supervised the work included W. N. Spruill, division engineer; J. D. Miller, assistant division engineer in charge of construction; and R. J. Peel of Williamston, resident engineer.

Graham and Winslow said widening and reconstructing US 17, a heavily-traveled tourist road, is part of a long-range plan to rebuild and modernize this important coastal highway.

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## 60 - SECOND SERMONS

—By—  
FRED DODGE

TEXT: "Character is much easier kept than recovered."

—Thomas Paine.

This story is told of a circuit judge who held court in a tiny backwoods county seat. In one case the local defendant pled guilty and threw himself on the mercy of the Court. Nevertheless the judge ordered a jury trial. To his amazement the jury brought in a verdict of "Not Guilty". "What do you mean?" the indignant judge demanded. "Why this man confessed his guilt!"

"That's right, Judge," said the jury foreman, "but you don't know this fella' like we do. He's the biggest liar in this country and no twelve men

young people's meeting at 6:30 P. M. all services.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE  
The marriage rate declined and the divorce rate increased in 1952, it is revealed in the section on "Marriage and Divorce" prepared for the American Peoples Encyclopedia 1953 Year-book.

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### Johnnie A. Dillard Is Promoted To Corporal

Johnnie A. Dillard, son of Mrs. Emma Dillard, 108 East Gale Street, was recently promoted to corporal while serving in Korea with the 7th Infantry Division.

Men of the "Hour Glass" division are undergoing intensive training to maintain the peak combat efficiency displayed by the unit from Pusan to the Yalu river.

Corporal Dillard, whose wife, Pan-MAKE YOUR OWN HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPINGS

Surprise and delight your friends and family this Christmas with new and different gift wrappings you make yourself. Look for easy instructions in the timely helpful feature in December 13th issue of

THE AMERICAN WEEKLY Magazine in Colorgrave with the BALTIMORE SUNDAY AMERICAN Order From Your Local Newsdealer

sy, lives at Young Village, Fort Belvoir, Va., arrived in Korea last July and is serving as a cook in the 17th Regiment's 1st Battalion Headquarters. He has been in the Army since August 1942.

Moral Offset  
"It is said that the advent of the auto has increased profanity at least fifty per cent."  
"Maybe, but think how it has cut down horse stealing."

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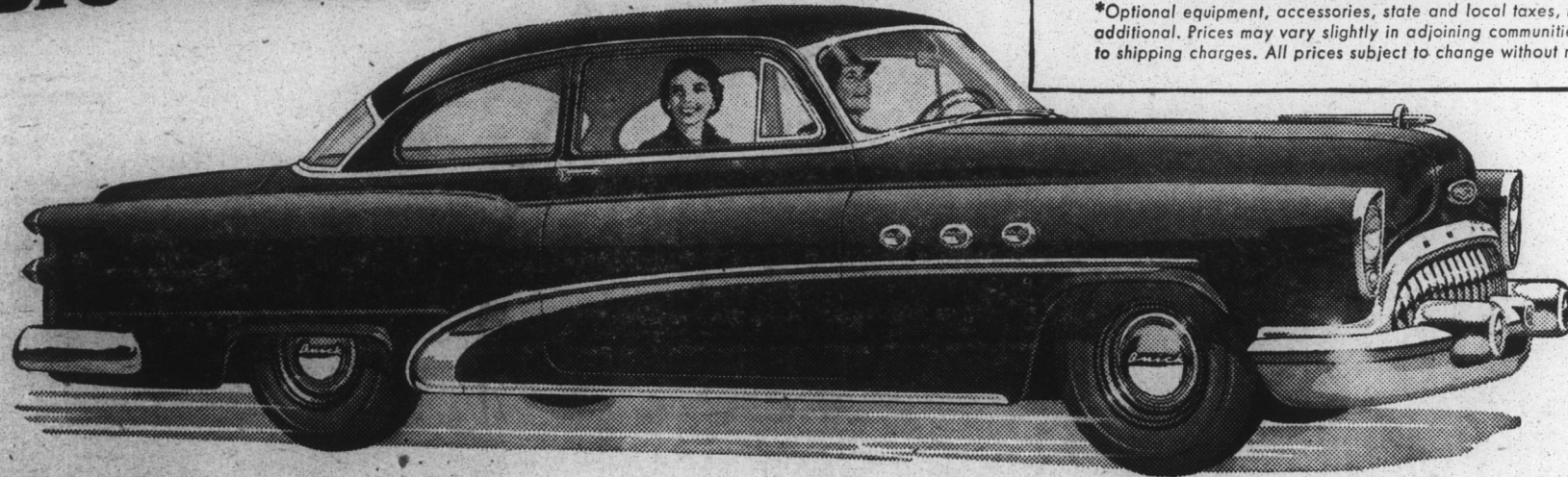
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