

## LOCAL EDITORIAL COMMENT

Thursday, September 3, 1964

### Oh, Those Fees

Education was once described as "something a poor man can get, that a rich man cannot take away from him." More and more, it gets harder and harder for a poor man to get an education. Politicians will tell you the wonders of a "free" education, but parents will know differently when they make the annual trip to the school houses this week and cough up the money to cover fees.

While fees in Franklin County are certainly in line with other counties, and continue to be in line with past years, they are still too high. In our opinion any fee is too much. Every child should be allowed to enter school, receive an education with instructional supplies furnished by the school system.

A few years ago it was reliably estimated that it would cost the taxpayers of Franklin County around \$15,000 to eliminate fees in schools and it was decided at that time that this would be impossible to do under the present tax structure.

To show the magnitude of this problem, take a parent with four children in school, two in elementary and two in high school. This parent must pay \$72.20 on opening day in fees alone, to say nothing of clothing, additional books, paper note-

books, etc. Add to this \$45 per year for each child for school lunches, plus such "nonessential" expenses as plays, programs, ball games, etc. and you can see that the cost is concerning to the rich man and is almost a catastrophe to the poor.

The Board of Education can do nothing about these fees, other than to try to keep them at a minimum, which they have done. Children must have the things these fees pay for and until the Legislature does something about it, the fee system must continue.

But while we concern ourselves with so called higher education, it is time someone became concerned about the lower education. Working folks with large families, in today's expensive society, are having a hard time meeting this cost of education.

A child entering the first grade this year will have paid \$104.90 in fees when he graduates, plus \$495.00 in lunchroom charges, and the graduating fees are yet to be added. The money must come from somewhere, and the place is from the taxpayer, equally distributed, so that children of parents who cannot afford the fees will not be jeopardized because of it.

### Lost Weekend

Very soon now the arrival of Labor Day will signal the last big holiday weekend of the summer season. It is a day traditionally set aside to honor America's working men and women who through the years have helped make the nation strong and great.

And to paraphrase Lincoln, it is "fitting and proper" that we should do so.

But wait. As the holiday nears we are forced to look forward with apprehension and concern. There is an uneasiness in the air, vague fears surround us.

Could it be the coming death toll?

Like it or not we are forced to think of those pre-scheduled to die in brutal, meaningless and preventable traffic deaths!

Because it has happened before, back through the years. Back a year ago when 26 died over the holiday weekend and the year before then when 17 perished and in 1961 when 23 died and so on.

We've said that any number of Tar Heel weekends will and do exceed the Labor Day death toll. Admittedly, weekends like these are pretty horrible examples. Yet, in viewing the overall picture, we see the general pattern is the same.

Last year, in North Carolina, 38 per cent of all the traffic mishaps occurred on two days of the week--Saturday and Sunday. When we review such facts as these the dangers of weekend travel can hardly be over emphasized.

What to do about it? Well, certain things already have been done. As we approach Labor Day, for example, you will be reminded that all available state troopers will be at their posts during this dangerous period.

And that's only part of the story. Fact is, the patrol is out in full available force on every weekend of the year to protect your life and property.

Troopers will be watching primarily for speeders and drinkers, the twin villains that cause the most trouble in traffic accidents, especially during a holiday period.

But troopers feel, like most of us, that underlying all such driving faults are the basic attitudes of impatience, aggressiveness, irresponsibility and plain thoughtlessness.

Now, this is our problem. Yours and mine. It seems the least we can do in our driving over the holiday is to use reasonable caution, courtesy and patience. . . drive at sensible speeds and only when cold sober and strictly observe all traffic laws and regulations.

We would like your holiday to end on the calendar--not on the highway!

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## Community Church Notices

### St. Paul's Episcopal

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity  
10:00 a.m. Church School and Morning Prayer. Mr. Hill Yarborough will be Lay reader.

### Louisburg Methodist

Sunday:  
9:45 a.m. Church School  
11:00 a.m. at the Morning Worship Service, the pastor's subject will be "Christian Morality or Christian Faith."  
5:30 p.m. Junior and Senior M.Y.F.  
7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts of America  
8:00 p.m. The Wesleyan Service Guild will meet with Mrs. Earle Murphy.

The M.Y.F. Sub-District Meeting has been cancelled.

Tuesday:  
10:00 a.m. The Maude McKinnon Circle

Wednesday:  
7:30 p.m. Senior Choir Practice

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer Group

Red Bud

Sunday

10:00 a.m. Sunday School, C. E. Nelms, Supt.

7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal

8:00 p.m. Evening Worship

Thursday

8:00 p.m. Prayer meeting

8:00 p.m. Prayer meeting and Bible study.

New Hope

Sunday:

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

6:30 p.m. Junior and Junior High P.Y.F.

Wednesday:

8:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Methodist Circuit

Sunday:

Preaching services will be held as follows:

10:00 a.m. Bunn Methodist

11:00 a.m. Leah's Methodist

8:00 p.m. Shiloh Methodist

8:00 p.m. Methodist Youth Fellowship at the Hill King Methodist Church

Sermon Topic: "A Charge to Keep We Have."

WSCS To Meet

Leah's Church W.S.C.S. will meet Friday at 8:00 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Henry Wiggins.

WMU Meets

Bunn--In the absence of the president, Mrs. F. G. Hinson presided over the general meeting of the WMU meeting Tuesday night. The meeting opened with the singing of a hymn and a devotional period.

The topic for study was "English Language Churches Overseas." The following participated in the program: Mrs. B. C. Johnson, Iceland; Germany, France and Spain, Mrs. Robert Wheelless; Luxemburg, Argentina, Mrs. Hinson; Guam and Japan, Mrs. Glenn Dickerson. The conclusion was given by the leader. One verse of "Onward Christian Soldiers" was sung as a prayer to end the meeting.

## Rocky Mount MD To Speak At Cancer Meet Here

Dr. Lewis S. Thorp, of the Boice-Willis Clinic, Rocky Mount, will be the featured speaker Tuesday night, September 8, at the annual meeting of the Franklin County Unit of the American Cancer Society to be held at The Murphy House at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Thorp, a doctor of Internal Medicine, will speak on the topic, "An Ideal Service Program for County Units." He is active in state and local medical societies and in the civic organizations as YMCA, Boy Scouts, Board of Health, and Sons of American Revolution.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Division of the American Cancer Society, of the Service Committee and past chairman of the Medical and Scientific Committee. Dr. Thorp is a lay reader at the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church. The election of officers for

the coming year will be held at this time.



DR. LEWIS THORP

A just criticism sometimes does an individual more real good than a compliment.



## BLUE CROSS and BLUE SHIELD Student Benefits Program

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