

# Jobs Getting Slimmer For High School Dropouts?

High school dropouts, whose chances of finding jobs are getting slimmer every day, face an even less promising future unless education methods and attitudes change soon to reverse the trend in withdrawing from school.

"In ten years, there will be no jobs available for high school dropouts," said Virgil L. McBride, manager of Regional Public Affairs at R. J. Reynolds, Inc. of Winston-Salem.

McBride, along with representatives of private industry, community colleges, technical institutions and state government, met to discuss changes which must take place to insure educational training which would prepare teenagers and young adults for a productive place in the technologically advanced decade of the 1980's.

The meeting which was held at the Ciga-Geigy Offices in Greensboro last week was convened by the North Carolina Employment and Training Council. Participants explored methods of adapting educa-

tional curricula to the existing and future needs of private industry. The one-day meeting was a planning session which will help determine the agenda for a more expanded conference to be held in the fall.

Wayne Daves, executive director of North Carolina CETA Programs under the N. C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, noted that the private sector was represented by a wide spectrum of experts from manufacturing, financial and service industries. The participants were convened to plan the education and economic strategies for the 1980's which will be explored at length during the fall meeting.

The strongest suggestion by the group was the establishment of systematic linkages between educational institutions and private industry. The linkages would be a cooperative effort whereby industry would provide educational institutions with a profile of its needs, noting the job opportunities pre-

sently in high demand and a long-term projection of the types of training which would be required to satisfy industrial needs in the future.

Another approach cited by the participants was the need to make job opportunities more visible to students, possibly through more active vocational clubs and organizations. Attention to the trend toward plants with fewer employees which can match the production of firms with many workers was stressed. Not only is the ever growing number of technological advances reducing the required work force, but it can be further blamed for shifting industrial needs from operational skills to maintenance skills, said James Summers, chairman of the North Carolina Employment and Training Council.

Similarly, the research and planning officials expanded this concept and addressed the need for structural changes in relating curricula to job opportunities.

Consequently, an exchange program was suggested which would place teachers in private industry jobs for a summer or entire school year, while private industry personnel took over their duties in the classroom. In this way, students would benefit from exposure and training from skilled workers while teachers expand and update their academic skills area through in-service training.

Efforts to change attitudes on the part of parents, students, employers and the general public were also cited as areas of concern.

In addition, a change in the definition of success in relation to jobs was also encouraged. The public promotion of the concept that a skilled worker can be every bit as successful and vocationally gratified as the president of a large firm was championed by the participants.

Other issues to be addressed at the fall conference are marketing of new job training concepts; cooperative efforts between four-year institutions and technical schools or community colleges in regard to training with sophisticated equipment; and concerted efforts on the part of private industry and training institutions to educate parents concerning potential job opportunities for their children.



The Hagemeyer Learning Resource Center, the third building constructed on the Central Piedmont Community College campus houses the media department and Dolly programs on the first floor. Also the photography department, media instrument repair and Pease Auditorium are located there. The second floor contains a service desk for library draw

and return books, Tele Center courses taught by TV and classrooms. On the third floor there are books, records and a library reading room. Magazines are on mezzanine floor. The fourth floor has books in storage, a radio station, historical room and the technical services office.

## CPCC History From 1965-70

By Susan Ellsworth  
Post Staff Writer  
Campus construction, bond approval and a growing curriculum dominated Central Piedmont Community College's history from 1965-70.

Student population rose from 3,000 in 1965 to 12,000 by 1970; courses were added as the funds poured in, according to R. V. Mason, CPCC historian.

Expanding programs would not have been possible without acquiring more land and the funds to purchase the land.

Bond issues were approved granting CPCC billions to construct classrooms and parking facilities.

Growth marked those years with additions of the Child Care Training Center, Terrell Administration Building, Music Building, Pease Auditorium, Hagemeyer Building, and the Mason Building.

Among the new program offerings were dental hygienist, data processing,

police training, modern dance, computer repair and servicing, day care center training and adult education classes.

At a CPCC open house in 1976, George Broadrich, representing Governor Danial Moore predicted "CPCC will be the biggest community college in North Carolina."

After CPCC became accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and

Schools in 1969, registration skyrocketed, and by 1970 a \$4.5 billion bond vote was requested for health-related programs and additional construction.

By 1970 not only had Broadrich's prediction come true but CPCC was among the five largest colleges in the state.

In the next article of the series we will look at highlights of 1971-75 in CPCC's history.

## Energy Program Ranks Ninth

Common Cause-North Carolina announced last week that the North Carolina Energy Conservation Program ranks with nine other states as a national leader in conservation policies.

A recent letter from Jim Gibson, Director of the N. C. Energy Division to David Cohen, national Common Cause President,

clarified three of the state's original responses to the Common Cause survey. More specific information

about a trial period of time-of-day pricing, curtailment of declining block rates in some rate cases,

and the power of the state energy office to forecast energy demand raised North Carolina's rating to "excellent."

David Cohen has notified Jim Gibson that future issues on the Common Cause study will include the changes in the three North Carolina responses and in the state's rating.

## GCCC Will Look At Economy

The status of the current Charlotte and Carolina economy will be the program at a special luncheon presented at the Greater Charlotte Chamber of Commerce Monday, June 2, 1980 beginning at 12 noon. Speakers for the luncheon will be Ken Flynt, economic advisor to North Carolina governor Jim Hunt; Harald Hansen, regional vice president of First Union National Bank and Hugh L. McColl Jr., chairman of the board of the Charlotte Uptown Development Corporation.

Flynt will review the current condition of the North Carolina economy; Hansen

will comment on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg economic situation and McColl will concentrate on the economy of the center city.

With local indicators mixed, the luncheon session may provide the most up-to-date indication of how the state and local economy is fairing and what the short term economic prospects may be.

The luncheon, sponsored by the Chamber, is open to those making the earliest reservations. Luncheon cost is \$7.50 per person and the number of reservations will be limited because of space.

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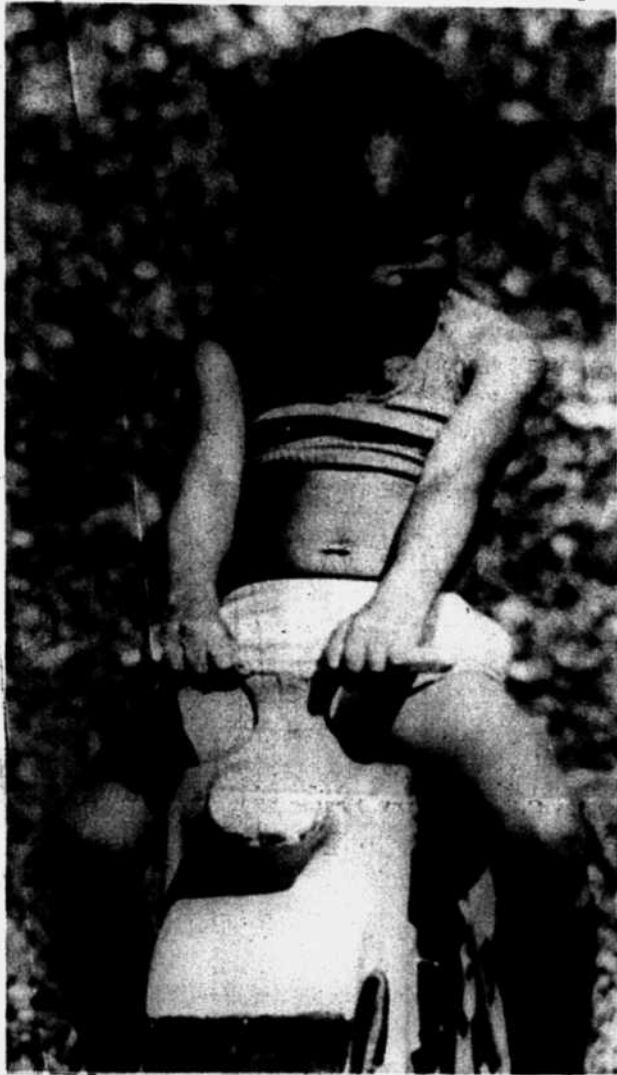
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Tomeka Kenyatta Porter, age 5, is out for a Sunday afternoon ride in Abbott Park. (Photo by Eileen Hanson)

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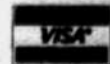
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