



Keith M. Franklin has recently completed the Allstate Sales Training Course which was held for two weeks at the Allstate Southern Zone Headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia. Franklin is a graduate of South Carolina State College. He attended Westside High School in Gary, Indiana. He and his wife, Rhunette, live in Charlotte with their two children. Franklin will work at the sales office located at Suite 102, 4600 Park Road, in the Park Abbey Building. The new agent is offering a full circle of protection including homeowners, life, business insurance and motor club. He is also a representative of Allstate Finance.

# Society Holds Skilled Professionals in Low Esteem

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the fourth in a series of 15 articles exploring "Working, Changes and Choices." In this article, Robert Schrank, a former blue-collar worker now with the Lord Foundation, discusses the skilled blue-collar workers.

By Robert Schrank  
Special To The Post  
Not every craftsman has gone the way of the clock maker and the printer. Some maintain their skills, including those who can

read blueprints and turn them into metal parts, tools, houses complete with modern plumbing and electrical wiring, and bridges.

But society holds even these highly skilled professionals, such as plumbers, electricians, and iron workers, in low esteem. These workers are frustrated because their own sense of social worth is not shared by others. For example, if a blue-collar worker wants to go out to dinner after work, he or she considers it necessary to change into "street clothes," that is, the WORK apparel of the white-collar worker that can be worn without scorn in public.

Other invidious distinctions make blue-collar workers continually aware of their lower social status. They punch time-clocks and are paid by the hour, most white-collar workers do not punch time-clocks and receive "salaries."

Blue collar workers have little control over their time on the job and have access to few amenities. White-collar workers usually have less supervision, greater freedom to pace their work, and access to a free phone for personal business. Because blue-collar workers make or install things, their work is easily quantified, most white-collar workers are

## Fourth in a series

not subjected to such measurement of output.

Blue collar workers also face daily the task of making their repetitive work bearable. In order to cope with routine jobs to which society assigns no intrinsic value, all employees, but blue-collar workers in particular, create a sense of community with their co-workers.

This feeling of a community at work, the social life of the office or factory, is one of the few satisfactions available to factory workers and laborers. Thus the inability to schmooze "shoot the breeze" in a noisy, fast-paced auto factory is one reason that such jobs are often considered "bad," even though they are highly paid.

A Clean Hands Society Television has made all Americans aware of the division of labor in our society and of the unequal distribution of amenities on the job. As a result, young people tend to reject manual work, preferring the white-collar world. In fact, America is in danger of becoming a "clean-hands" society in which native born men and women refuse to do the necessary work of civilization.

Even as the economy continues to eliminate blue-collar work through automation, robots, and computers, there is a critical shortage of many types of blue-collar workers. High paid jobs—for example, screw-machine operators—go begging because Americans refuse to do noisy, dirty work such work is therefore being exported along with potential jobs for Americans.

But even noisy, dirty work can be made more attractive by giving blue-collar workers some of the same prerequisites as white-collar workers enjoy: greater control over their

own jobs and greater opportunities to schmooze.

At least for the near future, a substantial and critical part of the labor force will wear blue collars. If America is to in-

terest people in such work, it may have to rethink how to give those who make ours an "attluent society" the respect they deserve.

The views expressed in

Courses By Newspaper are those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the University of California, the National Endowment for the Humanities, or the par-

ticipating newspapers and colleges.

NEXT WEEK, Historian Thomas Dublin of the University of California, San Diego, discusses blue-collar women.

## Federal Cuts To Reduce Work Incentive Program

Special To The Post  
RALEIGH—Federal budget cuts will necessitate a substantial reduction in North Carolina's highly successful WIN program. WIN (Work Incentive Program) is a joint effort by county social services departments and local Employment Security Commission offices to help welfare recipients find jobs and become self supporting. Ninety percent of the funding for the program is received from the federal government.

John Syria, Director of the Division of Social Services of the N.C. Department of Human Resources announced that federal funding for WIN in fiscal year 1982 was reduced from 2.4 million dollars to 1.7 million dollars, a 34 percent cut. The reduction is retroactive to October 1, 1981 and will be in effect through September 30, 1982. According to Syria: "As a result of the funding cutback the program will continue to operate only in the six North Carolina counties with the highest concentration of AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) recipient: Cumberland, Durham, Forsyth, Guilford, Mecklenburg and Wake. This means that federal budgets will not be available to 39 of the 45 counties which now operate WIN, beyond reimbursement for January expenses."

In addition, a total of 74 WIN staff positions in the Employment Security

Commission will be terminated effective February 1, and the ESC will be forced to shut down WIN operations in 39 counties.

Dr. Sarah Morrow, Secretary of the Department of Human Resources expressed disappointment over the reduction in the WIN program.

"It is very unfortunate that one of the North Carolina's most effective people programs is in doubt because of the cutbacks. In the past WIN has helped thousands of our citizens find employment and stop depending on public assistance."

During federal fiscal year 1980-81 North Carolina's WIN program achieved welfare savings of \$13 million dollars—the most cost effective rate in the nation for the past several years. A total of 6,745 AFDC recipients in 45 counties obtained jobs through WIN. These facts demonstrate that a substantial number of the state's welfare population were trying to become self-supporting.

### "Y" Ski Trip

The Rock Hill YMCA is planning a ski trip to Appalachian Ski Mountain Saturday, January 23. A chartered bus will leave the Y at 1 p.m., ski from 6-10 p.m. then return to Rock Hill, arriving about 1 a.m.

The cost of 30 for Y members or \$35 for others includes transportation, equipment rental, and slope fee.

## Fighting Against Herpes

Continued from page 2

ara-A, a vaccine already licensed by the FDA and available as a prescription medicine for use against two forms of herpes—encephalitis and ocular herpes; Ribavirin, now in widespread use in Mexico and Brazil; PAA which has been very effective on animals; and DG "looks very promising" against genital herpes. Of course, there is \$100 million an ounce interferon guaranteed to make all rich people well.

Preliminary reports after experiments at Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore indicate that aciclovir (AVC) cures genital herpes and recurring infections and eliminates cold sores of the herpes I variety. ACB successfully manipulates the parasitic herpes virus to commit suicide.

Tony Brown's Journal, the national television series, will move to public television (PBS) on February 6, 1982. Watch this newspaper for details and check with your local public television station.

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