

TRANSYLVANIA'S MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

By - Dr. Joanna Byers
Consulting Psychologist

New Ways For New Times

Last week we were concerned about individuality. This week I want to report to you what is being done in the Transylvania County Schools with regard to individualized study.

We are all aware that some students learn at a very fast rate; others learn at an average rate; and still others learn very slowly. And there are those who go at a rate between these three main groups. Often we act as if we don't know this. Because we have tried to teach students as if they all learned at the same rate some students were not stimulated to strive harder. For the same reason some students suffered failure day after day. And all of the students suffered because they do not learn early that we are all individuals.

In the school system there has been a gradual effort to teach the student at the rate he or she best learns. Now the effort is all out to do this. Just what does this mean? First, it means that if a child is educable (can learn to read and write) he is placed with his age group, not in a special class. Second, it means that if a child is not ready for primary reading he is given work that is called "readiness materials." When he is able he is given primary reading. If a child has been in school four years but is able to read at second grade level he is given work at second grade level and allowed enough time to learn that work before being put on third grade level. At the same time the child who is able to learn more rapidly may move ahead at his own rate.

You see, it is very difficult to talk about school work without bringing in grade levels, because we have used these terms for so long. This means that the old labels we placed on work because it was done in such and such a grade will have to be replaced. Instead of saying a child is doing first grade or second grade, we will have to learn to speak in terms of work accomplished or progress made.

Third, this means that the student's progress will be compared with HIS former work accomplishment as well as his rate of learning. There will be fewer and fewer comparisons which make one child look good and another bad. All students can and do learn; it is unfair to make unfair comparisons.

Fourth, this means that the old grade marks of A, B, and C etc. will have to go. Progress reports will go to the parents. Parent-teacher conferences will help both to know how well the student is progressing at school and at home. Parents may learn how much to "push" a student and when to be happy with what he or she is accomplishing.

Now this probably will cause many of you to raise questions about the new system. I hope it does and I hope you will ask questions of the teachers, principals and school administrators. For this will be of benefit to the young people of our community if we adults are all going in the same direction. If you have a question that can be answered in this column address them to me and I'll try to give you the information.

Next week I'll tell how these individualized study programs are planned and presented.

From The Clarion

Quotations From College Assembly

By David Arledge

The assembly was silent and motionless while the speaker made his way to the stand. As he looked out upon the sea of several hundred faces, all eyes were upon him. With the movement of his hand the entire crowd rose quickly to their feet. He leaned forward into the microphone and in a slow but firm voice began reading. As he spoke, everyone before him chorused as one the same words from identical leaflets of their own:

"We believe that families in all parts of the world should have available to them necessary information and medical assistance for birth control through public and private programs.

"This issue must be seen in reference to the pressing population problem now before the whole world.

"We advocate through educational efforts in home, church, and school designed to elevate our whole understanding of the meaning of sexual experience.

"We believe that lack of significant employment tends to destroy human self-respect. We believe that employable workers must be safeguarded enforced unemployment.

"We stand for reasonable hours of labor, for just wages, for a fair day's work for a fair day's wages, for just working conditions, for periods of leisure, and for an equitable division of the product of industry.

"We believe special protection should be provided for women and children, as well as migrant workers and others especially vulnerable to exploitation.

"We stand for the right of employees and employers alike to organize for collective bargaining, protection of both in the exercise of their right, the responsibility of both to bargain in good faith, and the obligation of both to work for the public good.

"We stand for equal rights for all racial, cultural, and religious groups, and insist that the principles set forth in this creed apply to all alike. The right to choose a home, enter a school, secure employment, vote, and have access to public accommodations should be guaranteed to all regardless of race, culture, national origin, social class, or religion.

"We recognize that crime, and in particular juvenile delinquency leading to crime, is often a result of family failure and bad social conditions.

"We recognize the right of the individual to answer the call of his government according to the dictates of his conscience.

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science. We recognize this may be legal exemption as a conscientious objector or non-violent resistance. We believe that society must provide through public and private facilities for the treatment, rehabilitation, and after-care of narcotic addicts and other victims of drug abuse."

What new radical group is this? Far left? Far right? Or even quotations from Mao? Not at all. Just Brevard United Methodist church on a usual Sunday service, reciting the Methodist Social Creed.

A covered dish supper will be served, consisting of ham and turkey salads, vegetables and deserts.

Mrs. Mary Linville, secretary of the chapter states it is seldom the Star has an opportunity to express its appreciation to the Masons for their support and cooperation.

Clifford W. Frady, the Worshipful Master, states a stated communication of Dunn's Rock lodge will be held following the covered dish supper.

A Master Mason's lodge will be opened promptly at 8:00

o'clock. Labor will be dispensed with at 8:15 and the wives and friends of the Masons will be extended an invitation to the lodge room at which time a program will be given.

Theodore E. Reid, Past Master and Past District Deputy Grand Master of the 60th Masonic District, will present 25-year certificates and lapel buttons to the following members:

Bruce Haggard Cassell, Warren Coy Fisher, Vernon Perry Fullbright, Robert Tabor Kimzey, Harry Foster Morgan, Leo Augustus Reid, Charles LaGarde Russell and Fred Otis Stroup.

Charles B. Peevy, Past Master and Chairman of the Educational committee, will give a

program on Masonic Education.

Following the program, labor will be resumed and the annual election of officers will be held to serve next year.

The term "countersteer," one of the keys to safely controlling a skidding car, is confusing to many motorists. Liberty Mutual Insurance Company automotive specialists explain it simply as "driving in the direction you want to go."

NOTICE

FOR SALE — One 1964 Ford, serial No. F60DN411987, 22 'ton cab and chassis truck; to satisfy mechanics lien of \$950.00. Past due to be sold December 28th, 1971, at 12:00 noon. Location, McCrary Chevrolet Olds., Inc., Brevard, N. C. 29 2tc

EXECUTRIX NOTICE
In The General Court Of Justice Superior Court Division State of North Carolina Transylvania County

Having qualified as Executrix of the estate of Earl F. Parker of Transylvania County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said Earl F. Parker to present them to the undersigned within 6 months from date of the publication of this notice or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate please make immediate payment.

This the 9th day of December, 1971.
MILDRED C. PARKER
Route 1, Brevard, N. C.
Cecil J. Hill, Attorney.
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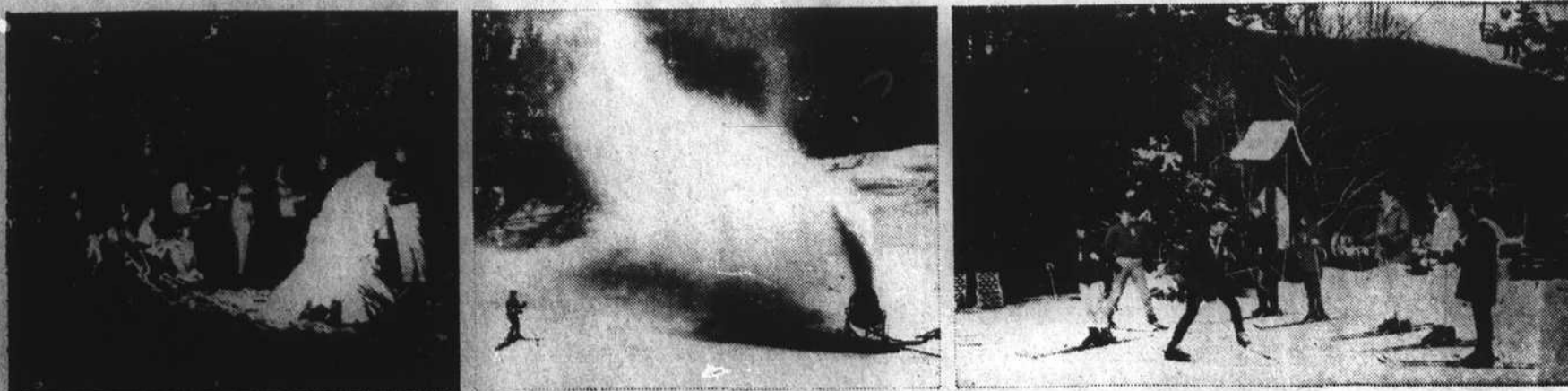
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