# Editorial Views

## Federal funds available for juvenile work

Counties in North Carolina are now trying to come up with plans for local programs dealing with young people in trouble - a way to keep more from being sent to the juvenile training schools.

aAt mid-year, 1977, a state law will go into effect which eliminates the "status offender" from the training schools - keeping out of the institutions children who are school truants, discipline problems at me, runaways, and otherwise in ouble, but not involved in criminal ctivities.

The alternative is community eatment programs, and most of the ate's counties have decided to draw plans for such.

The Governor's Commission on aw and Order has set up guidelines r making available to the local rogams a total of \$2.2 million in Law nforcement Assistance Act money r such programs, and broad atlines of those which would qualify ave been sent to members of Boards County Commissioners.

It must be noted that federal funds re for a one-year period only, and e "counties should expect to sume the continuing costs of these forts during the second year" and

The four basic types of community ograms approved for conderation are these:

-non-residential services for hildren living at home; must offer individual or group therapy, counseling, and treatment for the entire family of the child; and can can provide medical rehabilitation, and educational aid.

-shelter care is for children needing more intensive work and for

A recent visitor from Chapel Hill

was commenting on the abundance

of water here, as compared to the

severe scarcity in the university

town. Extreme conservation

measures are being enforced there.

and the influx of students have added

students to devise ways to enjoy a

Some students put their house

plants on the floor of the shower stall

and gave them a good watering at the

time the student showers. Others

advise "shower with a friend." One

coed said she put her dishes in the

Like we said, students take such

things in stride and make the most of

it, even as serious as the situation

England is facing the most severe

shower stall and saved water.

that afronts them.

However, leave it to college

to the problem.

problem.

a longer time; involving such things as foster care, street workers, temporary shelter to keep them out of secure facilities such as local jails, or subsidies to existing programs of that sort.

-group homes are for those in danger of getting deeply into the juvenile justice system; should provide rehabilitation and counseling either as an alternative to the child's appearance in juvenile court, or as ordered by the juvenile court if the child has been there. Local agency suppoort and a local advisory board are required to set up a group

-specialized foster care is an approach for children who are in trouble in their own homes but would not do well in a group home.

Those close to the juvenile system, however, expect conflicts over funding which will require attention from the General Assembly next

In recent months there has been much debate about the conflicts and competition of state agencies to control the funds, and clear indications that state agency interests often take precedence over local

Involved are the court system which claims counseling and supervisory jurisdiction in certain areas, the Department of Human Resources which operates the training schools and several rehabilitation approaches, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Justice and several divisions of these often competing for the funds and for jurisdiction -a growing state problem which hits

every community. Taking water for granted

grought in 500 years.



### Old postal rates severe

Congress is trying to work out means of lending a helping hand to the postal department, which is running away behind in money, and also admits the service is not to their

There have been many proposals and ideas, but none have been accepted by the powers-that-be as of this time. So patrons - beg your pardon, we are now customers of the Postal Service - have faith.

It was A. C. Snow in a recent edition of The Raleigh Times, who cited terms of postal service of the early days, when by comparison, the current 13-cent first class rate is a bargain. Here is what Snow found:

A reader, noting a recent comment on 13-cent postage which included 10 cents for storage, passed along a description of the postal

service in the "good ole days" of the 18th century.

Back then, the person sending the letter paid nothing. The receiver paid the postage, usually a day's wages for just one page. The receiver could refuse the letter and have it returned to the sender, who then would be forced to pay twice the postage, or wind up in debtor's prison.

If you didn't pick up the letter or pay for it, the local newspaper would print the fact that you had mail but no money. And if the letter wasn't picked up within a month, the postmaster would print the juicier parts of it in the newspaper so all

In retrospect, perhaps 13 cents for postage is a better bargain than we suspected.

### Police safety takes priority

the job is being given top priority in devel North Carolina's Criminal Justice Information System

That network of information which will span this state and provide links to other states nd national data is now in the design stage, with completion expected to cost some \$6

Not without its major controversies during early development stages, the system now appears to be on track. Federal regulations which destroyed public access to critical information which has long been available to the public and press were overturned by efforts of Gov. James E. Holshouser Jr. and representatives of the N. C. Press Association and N. C.

Early battles over control at the state level were resolved by creation of a super-board cutting across agency and department lines in state government, and bringing laymen into the structure.

### TWO BOARDS

And with the recent establishment of both a new CJIS Board and a related CJIS Security and Privacy Board, the detail work of the system design is underway.

Gov. Holshouser's legal counselor, Sam H. Long, is the staffman most intimately involved in the long-running effort to get CJIS off the

Long recently reviewed that history for the two newly created boards, and talked about priorities, and how the system will actually operate. He presented a foot-thick stack of design proposals from firms interested in doing the detailed storage and retrieval hookups

Priority in the system, Long said, will go to "those things which improve our ability to protect our law enforcement officers on the street."

How can that best be achieved? Any number of steps might be possible identification of dangerous, wanted people before the officer approaches; data on locations and times of crime or traffic incidents so concentrated manpower can be applied; closing the doors on jailed criminals with proven records as troublemakers so they will not be released on bond or given early freedom from sentences; providing

The physical protection of means to the courts to bring more dangerous people to tria more quickly with better odd of conviction.

"In whatever way office; safety is to be affected, that if where we will look first," Long

THE ELEMENTS

These are the elements which will make up the system: the State Bureau of Investigation, the Police Information Network, and the National Crime Information Center which provides both federal links and a hookup with other states. Auto registration and theft data from the Division of Motor Vehicles and information from the State Highway Patrol will involve the State Department of

Transportation. The State Department of

The 1977 General Assembly will be required to put into law the procedures (the two boards and the Security and Privace Plan) which are currently being used.

Corrections will be involved providing information on the status of prisoners, former inmates, escapees, and other material which may prove helpful in solving crimes. The Judicial branch will provide full statewide data on convictions and records, cases pending, and bond status, etc.

Then, local law enforcement agencies - police and sheriffs will make up the critical using and feeding end of the operation with terminals across the state in local offices.

The two big gaps right now are the court system and the local agencies where computerization lags behind work which has been done in other

### **Courthouse Squares** V WWW

OLD NED SAYS THE

ONLY REASON WE



The Neuse River which supplies Raleigh with water averages a flow of 400 million gallons a day, has been down to 13 million during recent weeks. Raleigh is buying water from a town up-stream, while neighborly Durham is selling Chapel Hill several millions gallons a day.

When situations get to a critical stage as some towns find themselves. we wonder if sooner or later it will not be mandatory for every water system to be connected with the next as a means of helping out in emergencies.

Water supplies here in the mountains appear to be adequate. but the trend can change swiftly. We should be appreciative of what we have, and although it appears abundant, it is no reason to waste the precious commodity.

Stage is set for debate over career education Before things proceed much further in the running debate over career education in North Carolina, it is likely that the General Assembly will become involved.

The legislative body, after all, is supposed to be the arena in which major policy matters affecting the stage are argued and resolved.

The State Department of Public Instruction is now set to develop a short-range and long-range plan for immenting career education in the state's public schools.

While the State Board of Education has been cautious in moving that way, top state educators led by State Supt. A. Craig Phillips are committed to pursuing career education, and are pushing hard. A PHILOSOPHY

In materials prepared to pain the federal funds to do the lan, state officials outlined philosophy of career as "learning to live, learning to

aspects cut across discipline lines at every level of development and have as a basic objective relating the real world to the development of basic skills and academic

"Activities vary with the student's developmental level, but roughly take the following form: K-3, awareness; 4-9, exploration; 10-12, preparation and specialization.'

State position arguments further call for teachers in all subjects to use student in-terests, aptitudes, and abilities as "vehicles for teaching the content of the curriculum. Byproducts of the process include improved ability to utilize basic skills subject, enhancement of self-concept. clarification of value systems, skills, and improved ability to cope with change."

In simple terms, then,

learn, and learning how to educators hope to bridge the make a living." These three gap between vocational the public school student on a the plan. non-collegetrack. programs and academic The timetable now is for a programs, calling on cominvolvement, curriculum development, and professional development to

make school work more real,

to relate learning to life, and to

remove the stigma which has

loans

plan to be drawn up during the present fiscal year; pilot projects in several sections of the state in 1977-78; and further implementation through 1981-82 with modification as more

FOR ANY PURPOSE

attached in many instances to schools adopt and implement

But will North Carolina go as far as U. S. Congressman Carl Perkins hopes. Perkins sponsored the federal career education legislation, and sees it as "a comprehensive approach to education

home

improvement

loans

educational

checkloan

personal

loans



