

NCEA Leader Discusses Teacher Certification

Warning that the answer to the problem of teacher supply will not be found in "easy panaceas" by lowering certification requirements, A. B. Gibson, Legislative Chairman of the NCEA and former NCEA President, yesterday urged that a "careful and thoughtful study" of elementary certification be made. "More and better instruction is what we need — not less — and by teachers whose training is matched by their inspiration and experience," Gibson said in an address before the Northwestern NCEA District Convention held Friday, November 21, in Winston-Salem.

He discussed the possibility of making elementary and primary teachers out of high school teacher prospects, who are currently more numerous than those preparing to teach the lower grades. He pointed to the difference in temperament, interest, and specific abilities between those who prefer to teach

small children and those who prefer high school work.

In an analysis of the certification requirements for elementary teachers he listed eighteen hours of professional study. Six hours study of the child, his nature and development; six hours study of the school, its history, organization and purpose; six hours study of teaching including classroom management, methods, and practice.

"Who but the most foolhardy would want to enter upon a teaching career with less professional training; who would wish to entrust his child to a teacher with less training?" he asked, adding that the academic requirements of elementary teachers are "for the most part" essential elements of a liberal education.

Gibson outlined the legislative program as advanced by the NCEA and listed as the most serious threat to public education the shortage of qualified teachers, a shortage which, he said, has reached beyond the critical and entered the perilous stage.

"We can be certain that when all available teachers are employed and the element of selection has been reduced to the minimum, there are thousands of children in North Carolina who have poor teachers," he said.

"The NCEA and the United For-

ces for Education feel that a salary schedule of \$2600-\$4100 for A Certificate teachers, with comparable advances for other personnel, may well be a part of the answer," the speaker continued.

He pointed out "that the interest which has led to the development of great schools in other fields; such as engineering, dentistry, business, law and medicine, has not been matched in the field of teacher training. Even those institutions which have been primarily associated with teacher training have veered sharply from their original function. This is reflected in the desire not to be designated as teacher training institutions, and in other cases by the advocacy of dangerous doctrines in regard to teacher certification. The decline of the teacher training function in our colleges and universities is due in part to the fact that the work of teaching has not been given its proper place in our scheme of modern living — and that in turn has been due to some large extent to economic factors," he continued, and added, "this is happening at a time when the youth of our land in elementary schools and high schools need guidance as never before from the best teachers which we can possibly supply."

The answer to the problem confronting public education, according to Gibson, will come "through an awakening of the people to the place of public education in a Democracy — to its essential place in a besieged Democracy." He urged that industry and education work hand in hand. "Only if it is preserved and nourished can free education remain free."

A liberal is the kind of a person who is willing to spend your money until it hurts.

Sgt. Billie Bland Returning To U.S.A.

(This story mailed from Korea, Oct. 29, 1952)

WITH THE 7TH INFANTRY DIV. IN KOREA — Sgt. Billie W. Bland of Wallace, N. C., is returning to the U. S. from Korea under the rotation program.

He served with the 7th Infantry Division, the unit which has seen action in almost every part of the peninsula since landing at Inchon in September 1950.

Sergeant Bland, who entered the Army in July 1950, has served with Company D of the 17th Infantry Regiment more than nine months. He has been awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge for front line duty.

Sgt. Robert Page In 'Warm Wind'

ALASKA — Sgt. Robert G. Page of Wallace, N. C., winds up the final phase this week of his participation in Exercise Warm Wind, a test of United States Alaskan defenses.

The exercise began for him almost a month ago when he was airlifted from Fort Campbell, Ky., to Alaska in the longest military air-lift on record. Since that time he has been given cold weather indoctrination and pitted against an enemy "aggressor" force, in realistic, cold weather maneuvers which included a paratroop of more than 300 soldiers from his regiment.



Me and the old lady figured we'd best get rid of our old hens last week since they weren't doing much for us 'cept eatin' up feed. So we cooped up about 50 and took them over to town. Fannie got out at the ten cent store and I went on out to the processin plant. Soon as I got my hens unloaded and weighed I ambled on in the office to get my check. While I was a sittin there waitin for 'em to write it out, I saw this feller in there in the manager's office a talkin. I knowed I'd seen him before but I couldn't quite figure out when it was. So I asked the girl who was runnin one of them figgerin machines who he was. Soon as she told me it was Ralph Kelly from the Agriculture Department at Raleigh, I knowed right off who it was. He's the feller who looks after the poultry marketing and, if I'm any judge, he really knows what he's a doin too.

Pretty soon he come out and was headin toward the office where I was. So I got up and spoke to him and danc if he didn't remember me. I'd been up to his office several months ago a talkin to him about some broilers and he recognized me right off and even called me by name.

We talked for a little while and I was tryin to get him to go out by our little farm with me, but he said he was so pushed for time 'til he couldn't make it. He told me he was on his way up to Charles Town or some such place in West Virginia to inspect a bunch of turkeys. I asked him what he was goin way up there for and why was he gonna inspect the turkeys. He told me that they was about 9 carloads of North Carolina turkeys up there in a warehouse and they had been sold to PMA for the School Lunch Program and he'd been ordered to inspect them.

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Duplin Cotton Ginning Report

The Bureau of the Census report shows that 3,723 bales of cotton were ginned in Duplin County from the crop of 1952 prior to November 1, 1952 as compared with 3,785 bales from the crop of 1951.

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He has participated with elements from Air Force, Navy and civil defense units of Alaska in a rigid exercise to test equipment, supplies and logistical support for arctic fighting. He was fully equipped with the latest cold-weather and special clothing.

Sergeant Page, a section chief in Battery B of the 457th Airborne Field Artillery Battalion, entered the Army in July 1950.

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