

# THE HAPPY TIMES

Newspaper for Boys and Girls

It's Storytime

## The Finishing Touch

"All right, bring it here." Bill spoke impatiently. "Can't you see I'm reading? I should think you could work out decimals by this time—but bring it here!"

Nell's face flushed as she brought her arithmetic. "I can't seem to understand this one," she murmured apologetically. Then, after a few moments of her brother's clear but curt explanations, she said, "Thank you, Bill."

No response from Big Brother! "Bill, can you stop at Mrs. Morris' on your way to the gym," asked his mother, "and leave this material for Nell's dress?" "Why, ye-es, I suppose so," Bill replied, hesitatingly. "It's a block out of my way, but—yes, I can do it."

"Oh, never mind it, then," said his mother, "if it's inconvenient." "No, I can do it," and Bill stretched out an ungracious hand and took the package.

Mr. Martin, setting out for his office, looked oddly at Bill over his glasses, but Bill did not see the look.

Late in the afternoon Bill and his father came up the cement walk together.

"Sorry, father," said Bill, "but I had to leave my shoes at Castle's to be soled. Uppers are good for another three months—but I'm a little short of cash."

"How much do you want?" asked his father curtly.

Bill looked up. "Why—why, a dollar, father."

"Well—take it." Mr. Martin jerked a bill from the roll in his pocketbook and half tossed it to his son.

"But—but, father," Bill flushed, "isn't it—all right?"

"Oh, yes, I suppose so," gruffly. Then, suddenly, a fatherly hand clapped Bill's shoulder and Mr. Martin laughed. "I am just giving you an object lesson. I've left out the finishing touches to my work."

Then, after a moment, he continued, "I'm quoting from a motto your grandmother used to have hanging in her room. I thought of it this morning when you were helping Nell with her decimals, and doing your mother's errand. You did what they both asked—but—well, this is the motto—I do not even know who is the author of it. 'Don't forget to put the finishing touches on your work. God borders the brooks with violets. Great things—those 'finishing touches,' those 'borders of violets.'"

"Oh!" murmured Bill, and then again, with a look that pleased his father, "Oh!"

—Religious Telescope

### Mothers of Pupils Help Boost Use of Library

Wayne, N. J. (AP)—Weekly circulation in the library at Alps Road school jumped from a handful to 266 books after principal Rocco Di Pietro got some new librarians.

He invited the PTA to "adopt" the school library and now the mothers of the pupils are in charge.

When a Hopi Indian builds a new house he puts a piece of cactus in each corner to give it "roots."

## Birthday Club Welcomes Six

This week the Birthday Club is happy to welcome Sonny and Hal Jacobs, brothers who live in Wilmington, Kimberly Jean McKay of route one Beaufort, Joanne Faye Garner of Newport, Margaret Ann Swanson of Durham and Teresa Lynn Gillikin of route two Beaufort. Welcome gang, and we hope you like being in the club.

Each year on their birthdays the members receive cards in the mail and their name appears on the Happy Birthday column on this page. This continues until the member reaches his twelfth birthday.

How would you like to get in on the fun? It's easy to do and doesn't cost a cent. All you do is fill in the birthday blank or write a letter to THE NEWS-TIMES giving your name, address, present age and date of birth. If you have a picture, send that along too.

Get all your friends to join and then watch for your names in the paper. It's lots of fun, so hurry! We are waiting to hear from you!



Ann Swanson

The US \$100,000 bill, which is used only in transactions between the Federal Reserve System and the Treasury Department, carries the portrait of Woodrow Wilson.

## Happy Birthday

Oct. 4  
Teresa Lynn Gillikin, Beaufort, was 5 years old.

Terry Vasco Carver, Louisville, Tenn., was 12 years old.

Carolyn Ruth Willis, Morehead City, was 8 years old.

Lynn Talbot, Beaufort, was 9 years old.

Oct. 5  
Denise Lawrence, Brunswick, Ga., was 5 years old.

Oct. 6  
Mary Thompson, Beaufort, was 11 years old.

Today:  
Johnny Smith, Morehead City, is 6 years old.

Chuck Walton, Morehead City, will be 5 years old.

Saturday:  
Roslyn Denise King, Morehead City, will be 5 years old.

Monday:  
Billy Davis, Straits, will be 6 years old.

Kimberly Bedsworth, Morehead City, will be 2 years old.



Joanne Garner



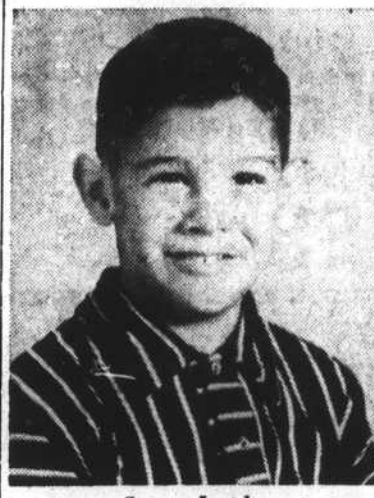
Kimberly McKay



Teresa Gillikin



Harold Jacobs



Sonny Jacobs

## Ability Grouping Popular; But Educators Disagree

By JOHN COREY  
Education Department  
Appalachian State Teachers College

Grouping children into fast, average, and slow classes by "book-learning" ability is a rising trend in American schools today, from first grade through high school.

A survey conducted by Dr. Stuart E. Dean of the Office of Education in Washington reveals that 30 per cent of our elementary schools now teach the bright and the dull separately, at least in some subjects.

It's one answer to the cry for greater academic achievement.

Philosophers support the common sense notion that with "mental segregation" pupils can learn more. Won't bright youngsters take off with jet speed when no longer held back by the plodders? Won't slower students pick up when instruction is geared to their pace and need?

But many schoolmen don't think ability grouping either fair or democratic. They don't like what it does to a child. How would you like to be officially labeled a dullard? And make no mistake, children know the real difference between the "fairies" and the "brownies."

Moreover, schoolmen can cite good research showing that ability grouping alone isn't particularly effective. Other factors affect achievement much more importantly—the competence and maturity of teachers, class size, etc.

They add the ability grouping, once popular, was abandoned in the 1930's because of its damage to the child's "self-concept."

It's certainly a sour note that to separate by ability is also to separate socially. This distinction is vividly seen in an actual classroom.

With but few exceptions, pupils in the top class come from wealthier and more socially prominent families. This is true in practically any city or neighborhood, according to Dr. Maurice Ahrens of the University of Florida.

These more privileged kids sparkle in all aspects. They're generally better looking, better dressed, better mannered, better behaved, more personable, more active, healthier, cleaner.

In fact, if your child lands in a top group, he's in sharp company. But in the slow class?

Its members for the most part stem from families at the lower end of the social and economic ladder, Dr. Ahrens notes.

As a group, the slower learners lack appeal, dress shabbily, often seem unhappy and antagonistic. They're absent from school more often, appear unclean (some teachers actually detect differences of smell between low and top classes), and create more discipline problems.

In certain worldly respects, however, many members of the so-called low ability groups learn fast. Unfortunately, it's the wrong subject-matter. For instance, too many can curse and "fight dirty."

They know a lot about cops, knives, sex, and stealing. Further, they enjoy exchanging such information with classmates.

For obvious reasons, many teachers (who usually come from the middle class themselves) in-

tensely dislike working with slow groups.

The fact that ability grouping in practice conforms so closely to social grouping moves Dr. Ahrens, along with numerous others, to advocate mixing pupils in the traditional manner. The teacher then meets individual differences as best she can.

And Dr. Ahrens says that competent teachers can do this job effectively, despite ability differences of several years which occur among pupils of the same age in the same classroom.

In this way American society as a whole, not just the bright elite, will be uplifted. The social distance between the poor and the rich will become less instead of greater.

However, almost as many educators, according to the National Education Association, share Admiral Rickover's opinion that schools don't exist to uplift the lower end of the social scale. They exist to accumulate and pass on knowledge, in the fastest and most efficient manner. In fact, Rickoverites contend that in today's competitive world, the nation which does the best job of developing its brain-power resources will come out on top.

Ability grouping better accomplishes this purpose, they believe. And if this means social segregation, that's too bad. A youngster quickly learns his social rating anyway, they say—grouped or not grouped.

The final decision on grouping, of course, lies largely with parents.

Before deciding, however, put your Junior in the exclusive class of dull learners and analyze this classic education question from that viewpoint.

(Readers having questions concerning education are invited to send inquiries to School and Your Child, Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone, N. C.)

## Clerk Probates Guy Morris Will

The will of Guy Morris of Atlantic was probated and filed Sept. 29 in the office of A. H. James, clerk of court, Beaufort. The will was drawn July 11, 1956, and was witnessed by Donald Clarke, Murray Robinson and Mrs. Jack P. West.

The will directed that the executor pay all debts of Mr. Morris, erect a monument at his grave, and make provision for the care of the family cemetery lot.

To his wife, Ellen R. Morris, was left all property, both real and personal, for as long as she lives. At her death the property is to go to a son, Charles Graham Morris, his heirs and assigns.

The will instructed that if any of Mr. Morris's daughters became separated or widowed, they be provided a home by his wife or son, if the daughter desires.

Charles Graham Morris was appointed executor of his father's estate.

The Apostle Paul left such an impression on the Island of Malta during his visit in the year 60 that even today half of the male residents are named Paul.

# SHOW ON WORTH! CHEVROLET

## NEW '61 CHEVY CORVAIR

More space . . . more spunk and wagons, too!



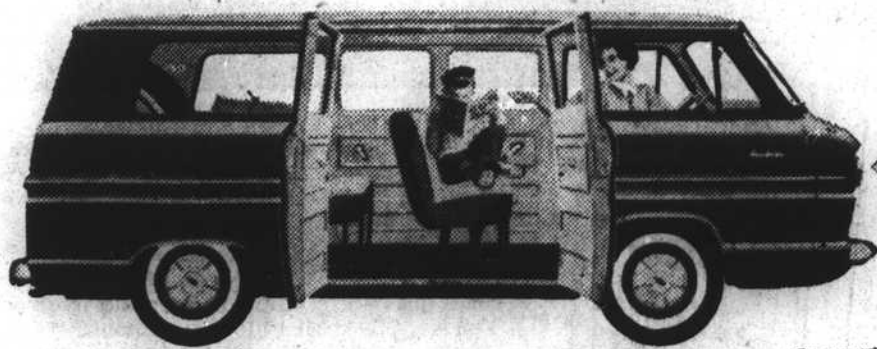
The newest car in America: the CORVAIR 700 LAKE-WOOD 4-DOOR STATION WAGON.



CORVAIR 700 CLUB COUPE. Like all coupes and sedans, it has a longer range fuel tank.



CORVAIR 700 4-DOOR SEDAN. Provisions for heating ducts are built right into its Body by Fisher.



Even middle-seat passengers sit pretty; thanks to Corvair's practically flat floor.

Now in production—the GREENBRIER SPORTS WAGON with up to twice as much room as ordinary wagons (third seat optional at extra cost).

Here's the new Chevy Corvair for '61 with a complete line of complete thrift cars.

To start with, every Corvair has a budget-pleasing price tag. And Corvair goes on from there to save you even more. With extra miles per gallon . . . quicker-than-ever cold-start warmup so you start saving sooner . . . a new extra-cost optional heater that warms everyone evenly. Riding along with this extra economy: more room inside for you, more room up front for your luggage (sedans and coupes have almost 12% more usable trunk space).

And our new wagons? You'll love them—think they're the greatest thing for families since houses. The Lakewood Station Wagon does a man-sized job with cargo, up to 68 cubic feet of it. The Greenbrier Sports Wagon you're going to have to see—it gives you up to 175.5 cubic feet of space for you and your things.

Corvair's whole thrifty lineup gets its pep from a spunkier 145-cu.-in. air-cooled rear engine. Same rear-engine traction, same smooth 4-wheel independent-suspension ride. See the polished and refined 1961 Corvair first chance you get at your Chevrolet dealer's.



Spare tire is in the rear in coupes and sedans—leaving more luggage space up front.



Even middle-seat passengers sit pretty; thanks to Corvair's practically flat floor.

Now in production—the GREENBRIER SPORTS WAGON with up to twice as much room as ordinary wagons (third seat optional at extra cost).

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## NEW Johns-Manville Seal-O-Matic Asphalt Shingles

They hold tight in high winds because they are Self-Sealing

Here's the secret: The sun's heat seals the tabs automatically because of a special petroleum resin cement strip on the underside.



The butt edges are sealed down by the sun's heat.

No fear of damage in high wind... wind can't get under the shingles.

Traditional shingle design.

This development of Johns-Manville research is the most important contribution to roofs in the last 20 years. Seal-O-Matic seal themselves down—grip the

shingles underneath with bulldog tenacity. Cost but little more than ordinary shingles.

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