



Educator Warns Of Pollution Danger

BOONE - Dr. F. Ray Derrick paints a horrifying picture of what the world will be like in just a few years if humans continue to disregard what he calls the ecological balance of nature.

A specialist in environmental education and Chairman of the Department of Biology at Appalachian State University, he says that unless something is done to reverse the pollution of the earth's atmosphere within the next 20 years, the human race cannot continue to maintain its present standards of health.

And if the current trend of using pesticides and herbicides continues, he points out, our soil will be too depleted to grow food. Derrick explains, These pesticides or poisons do their job in controlling weeds and destructive insects, but they also destroy the mites, nematodes and pseudo scorpions which have a fundamental ecological role in making the soil -- farmers are killing the soil-making organisms without realizing it."

And there are other problems that ecologists are just now becoming aware of. "Take, for example, the cloud cover caused by jet airliners over our airports," Dr. Derrick continues. "This cover is cutting off the sunlight, and it is reducing the average temperature of our cities. We can only speculate what effects this will have on our environment."

In the past, the public has paid very little attention to the warnings of the ecologists. But as the environmental situation approaches catastrophe, the National Science Foundation is responding with a \$17,793.00 grant to implement a proposal written by Derrick.

With the support of the U.S. Department of Interior and the N. C. State Board of Education,

Appalachian State will host a unique NSF institute on its campus next summer to educate the people to an awareness of the effects of ecological imbalance in our environment.

With Derrick as its director, the institute will select and train 24 elementary school teachers how to teach environmental science in the primary grades.

The idea, Derrick explained, (Cont'd on Page 4)

Yancey Mental Health Association Is Commended At Dinner, Receives Charter

By Don Elly

The Yancey County Mental Health Association reached a new milestone in its history on Monday evening, January 26. On this date the local Chapter, which meets monthly at the Health Center, received its charter. This means that the effort of Yancey County citizens concerned about the growth of Mental Health facilities and the solution to Yancey County

needs will have State and National Resources to tap. A number of concerned citizens gathered at the Amberjack Restaurant for the presentation of the charter and to hear Rev. Orin Hutchinson, Regional Vice President and National Board Member, commend and encourage the Association to focus upon more of our State and County needs. Mr. Vic Sydnor, Executive Director of

the North Carolina Mental Health Association, introduced the speaker, who then presented local County President, Don Elly with the Charter. Mr. Hutchinson is pastor of Ardmore United Methodist Church in Winston-Salem and has written several books. He is very actively involved in the State and National levels of the Mental Health Association.

In his speech, Mr. Hutchinson pointed out how the national movement was initially begun by a nucleus of concerned citizens as volunteers. It was first founded by a man who himself was a former mental patient, Clifford Beers. Out of this movement begun in 1900 has grown three levels of action; local, State and National. None of these levels can meet the needs totally, but must be interdependent with and support the others. One of the most important aspects of the State and National effort is with regard to legislation to gain appropriations for research and educational programs.

At the local county level, citizens concerned are aided in adapting to meet immediate and specific needs. For example the Yancey County Mental Health Association, with the aid of the County Commissioners and personnel from Buncombe County Department of Mental Health, sponsors a Mental Health Clinic and will soon be starting a Drug program to help returning patients from Broughton and elsewhere secure needed drugs at a lower cost.

In emphasizing the seriousness of Mental Illness, Mr. Hutchinson challenged the Local Association with some questions that all citizens need to consider: Do we create conditions in our communities where mental illness can subside? Three fourths of all mental patients in North Carolina return to the hospital because they are not accepted back into their own community. When a person is ill, what help is immediately available? Where are mentally ill patients kept until they can be taken to the hospital? When mental patients return from the hospital, what jobs are available?

As you run through these questions, if you are concerned about what is being done, come join the Yancey County Mental Health Association. We need your help.

Students And Parents Must Beware Of Educational Racketeering Says Phillips

Raleigh - Educational Racketeering, according to State Superintendent of Public Instruction Craig Phillips, is an ever-present danger to high school seniors in the selection of post high school instruction. He warned students and their parents to beware of institutions using pressure tactics in recruiting. Any reputable business, trade, or correspondence school in North Carolina, he said, will be approved by the State Board of Education. Out-of-State schools, he noted, should be compared with those in our own community college system.

Phillips warned that students and their parents should not sign contracts with schools until they have explored with a counselor or other appropriate school person the course of study the student chooses and the cost of it. Contracts can be a protection to students, but they should be carefully considered and understood before they are signed. He advised students to remember that the school agrees to supply only what is written on the contract. Oral representations of salesmen are not valid and binding, he said. He also

warned students to check for small print and seek competent legal advice before signing a contract involving large sums of money. And contracts, he added, aren't always identified by the word "contract."

Concerning correspondence or brief residence courses, Phillips advised students to contact employment managers for suggestions and opinions to determine the acceptability of the training offered. He also suggested studying the literature of the school and comparing costs of the same course in a number of schools.

Schools that promise or guarantee work placement, he warned, should be investigated. Many schools have placement bureaus to assist students to secure work upon the completion of courses. If there is any question or doubt concerning place-

ment, Phillips suggested requesting the names of graduates for whom the school claims to have obtained positions and contacting these persons about their experiences.

A legitimate and reputable institution will always welcome investigation, the State Superintendent said. Legitimate schools are proud of the reputation for honesty and integrity and will be glad to have you check on them.

Phillips said the curriculum in the State's system of community colleges is broad and varied and nominal in cost. And also there are many other fine and reputable schools approved by the State Board of Education, he said. Plans for post high school education should not be made in a hurry or under pressure by recruiters.

If an organization is legitimate and responsible source of recognition, it will be listed in the Approved List of National Contests and Activities published by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, Phillips noted. Students can check with their high school principals for approved schools in North Carolina.

Notice

Herbert Klouse, nationally known authority on irrigation, will speak to the Yancey tomato growers on Tuesday night at 7:30 p. m. in the Courthouse, according to E. L. Dillingham, County Extension Chairman.

Taylor Announces His Candidacy For Re-election

Congressman Roy A. Taylor of Black Mountain today announced his candidacy for re-election as 11th District Representative in Congress. He has forwarded his filing fee to the State Board of Elections in Raleigh.

He will seek nomination in the May Democratic primary.

The 59-year-old lawmaker has represented the 11th Dis-

trict in Congress since 1960. He is a member of the House Interior Committee and chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation. He also serves as a member of the House Science and Astronautical Committee.

Recently approved projects which he has sponsored include a 180-mile extension of the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Cra-

dle of Forestry visitors' center in Pisgah National Forest, National Park Service acquisition of the Carl Sandburg estate for preservation as a national historical site, a NPS roadway in to the Cataloochee region of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and radar at Asheville Airport.

Earlier, he was instrumental in securing a new VA Hospital

at Oteen and 24-hour weather service for the mountain counties.

Most rating organizations put Taylor among the conservatives of Congress. While voting against funds for most new domestic social programs, he has been a consistent supporter of federal aid to education, conservation and law enforcement measures.