

Industrial School Field Trip Stirs Hiwassee Dam Students

Editors Note: On Oct. 28, Director Holland McSwain of Tri-County Industrial Education Center was host to representatives of the Hiwassee Dam Hi-Lites Staff. They were there to ask him what the Industrial Center is and what effect it will have on their lives now and in the future. This is their story).

By Hiwassee Dam Hi-Lites Staff.

Our field trip to the Tri-County Industrial Education Center was arranged by Mr. Harry Bagley. As we drove over, he told us, "This is the best thing that has ever happened to this community. When Mr. McSwain showed me over the plant last week, I determined then that the journalism students had to see the set-up."

Gaynell Allen, Senior Editor, remarked later, "We'd been hearing rumors about the Industrial School, and we knew, of course, about the adult evening classes at the school. But we were anxious to see for ourselves what it's all about, what it's doing now, how far it's going—just what is meant by an Industrial Education Center."

When we pulled up at the small white administration building at what was formerly the Peachtree Prison Camp, we found Mr. McSwain and his secretary, Mrs. Margie Zimmerman, waiting for us with a big welcome.

Before answering any of our questions, Mr. McSwain insisted that we get the background by having a look at the entire plant, beginning with the workroom, already equipped with a mimeograph machine for preparing schedules, notices, and test materials. We were impressed by the great amount of materials in the storerooms paper, books for many subjects, the most modern of teaching equipment. We were particularly interested in the "Speed-X" to help with spelling and rapid word recognition. The shadowscope and the controlled reader could have held our attention a long time, but there was so much more to be seen. It will take much work to convert the cell block into classrooms; but with Mr. McSwain explaining it, we could see what enthusiasm and work can make of it. Less work will be required to turn the old lunchroom into quarters for a full secretarial course. Tables and desks have already arrived—lovely armed desks with bucket seats in pastel

shades. The old tool shop will take very little work beyond additional heavy wiring to turn it into a modern shop which can offer the finest of training in cabinet making, carpentry and all other phases of training in skilled woodworking.

We couldn't resist asking Mr. McSwain if students who didn't do their homework would be put into the "dungeon" for solitary confinement. His smile might have meant it was a good idea, but he assured us it would be used strictly for storing equipment.

After a long, interesting tour, which Mr. Mack will be glad to repeat to any and all

he said. "Whether this person quit school in the lowest grades of grammar school, or whether he dropped out in high school, if he now sees that further training will help him, and if he wishes to attend, the door is open. A second group which is increasingly taking advantage of the training is high school graduates. They may feel the need of more English or math, or an updated course in history. These classes are for him too."

He paused. "I'll tell you more about electronics later, but I want to tell you about one student in the electronics class that we are now having over at Mountain View. There

He turned then to his calendar and circled Wednesday, December 1. "On this date, full length courses here at the school will begin. There will be a \$10 per month charge plus insurance and textbook fees for these courses. These will be fulltime classes, 5 or 6 hours per day, 5 days per week. These courses will include Carpentry, Masonry, Cabinet Making, Secretarial and related subjects. By "related" I mean subjects essential to mastery of the subject. These subjects might be English, math, science, blueprint reading, and a course in estimating costs of materials. When they finish our cour-

He pulled toward him a sheaf of notes that looked like facts and figures. "We hope that by having a training center here, new industries will be induced to settle here. This has proved true everywhere industrial schools have been located. We do not claim that the Center was the deciding factor, but it was shortly after the announcement that the Center would be located here that the Andrews Furniture Co. made its decision to locate here.

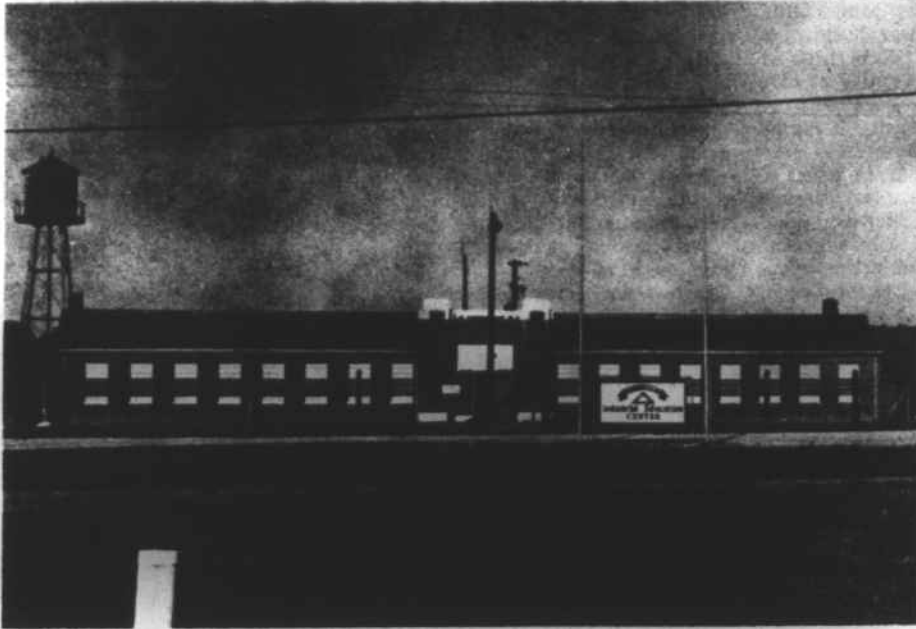
"We do not claim to be the deciding influence in another instance, but we have good reason to think we played a big part. I cannot give you the name of this company yet, but it's possible that the announcement of a new industry for this county will be made before your article goes to press. This new, unnamed industry has already bought 90 acres of land and will eventually employ 500 people."

He gave us some definite facts that can be quoted: Clifton Precision Co. has asked that the Center provide a training program for its employees. The Center is also serving as a training school for Levi Strauss.

These were facts that we could absorb, facts that meant something to us now and in the future. "Do you think that the Center is going to prosper?" we asked Mr. McSwain.

"With proper area support, it can be a guaranteed fact," he replied emphatically. "I have talked before civic, school and PT meetings, and I tell them the same things: We have State approval and backing; we have the necessary facilities and equipment, either on hand or on order. We have several contacts with businesses, showing their interest and their intention to make use of our training. It now rests with the people of this area. If the Tri-County Industrial Education Center does not prosper and grow into a real community college, it will be because the people of this area do not support it as they should."

The subject proved too big for one article. We have told nothing of the beginning of the program, the local people and the State officials who worked so hard to help get the Center for us, nor of the scope and size of the plans for the future. We hope we will be allowed to tell you more of this gigantic program which is being offered to us. We want to tell you more of why we, the high school students, hope all people of this area will support the Center to the utmost of their ability.



Converted Prison Camp Is Home Of New Tri-County Industrial School

interested persons, we settled down in his private office to satisfy our questions. We fired hard, searching questions at him and kept him talking for fully an hour. Included here are only some of the answers, ones that interested us most.

Loretta Coleman, Junior Hi-Lites Editor asked: "Doesn't this compete with the public schools?"

It does not. According to the director the new educational center operates under the Public School System and will, therefore, complement, not compete with it. This is emphasized by the regulation that no person under 18 years of age is eligible to attend unless the class in which he would have completed high school has already graduated.

Literary Editor Calvin Beaver asked just who, then, could attend. Director McSwain answered that briefly before explaining fully. "Any adult,

are 16 members and one of these students is a teacher. He says he's having the time of his life in that course. That story is just to show you that this is for everyone above 18 who wishes to learn."

Patricia Dillard, Hi-Lites Business Manager, was interested in the courses to be offered and the cost to the student.

"This will fall into three categories. For the evening classes in the general education field, there is no charge whatsoever. These classes have been going on for several months, starting with English. Language is the basis of all learning. We would like to emphasize that because some students are impatient to get on to other things; it is an established fact that one cannot master other subjects unless he is well-grounded in English. As he masters language, then math, science, and social studies will be added."

ses they are going to know all they need to know - not just how to drive a nail or saw a straight line. Beginning at that time, there will be four full-time instructors, with each course lasting 12 months.

"Just what will such a Center do for the Tri-County area as a whole?" queried Gaynell Allen.

"Two things, I would say, but I'll discuss them separately if you don't mind," replied Mr. McSwain. "First, this will offer training at home at an economical rate for our young people. We constantly lose our young people to trade schools in Clarksville and Atlanta, Georgia; Gadsden, Alabama; and Asheville, Our young people are our most valuable resource and for lack of opportunity they have been forced to leave this area. Our Center is designed to take care of our ambitious young people. I'd like to elaborate on that later, but let's go on to the second main objective."

Shoal Creek News

By: Beulah Slaughter
-SC-
Miss Doris Brown and a friend Miss Dorothy Knapp

came from Hialeah, Fla., on Thursday to spend a long week end with Miss Brown's mother Mrs. L. J. Brown.

-SC-
Mrs. E. C. Suit left Thursday for a visit with a daughter in Cincinnati, Ohio then to another daughter in Columbus, Ohio then to visit her mother and sisters in Akron and Massillon, Ohio.

-SC-
Mrs. Briscoe Hankins, Etowah, Tenn., came with her husband to Shoal Creek church Sunday morning. In the evening service she had a story hour for the children. She used a flannel board to illustrate. The stories were enjoyed by all.

-SC-
Mr. and Mrs. James Raper and family of Sunny Point, and Mr. Junior Stiles of Clover were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Jones.

-SC-
Mrs. Sophia Jones and Mr. Fred Holbrook spent Sunday in Eljay, Ga., with the family of Mr. Merrill Teague who passed away Saturday. Mr. Teague was buried at 2 p.m. Monday at Friendship Church in Suit, N. C.



Miss Cynthia McGill, daughter of Mary Sneed McGill, formerly of Murphy, is crowned Homecoming Queen of Hillcrest High School, Greenville, South Carolina by Hillcrest High School Principal, Hugh Chastain during halftime festivities of the Hillcrest-Pickens football game. Cynthia is a Senior at Hillcrest High School this year. She is the granddaughter of the late Mrs. Eveyln Sneed of Murphy.

Cane Creek News

Rev. Earl Cabe filled his regular appointment Sunday at Mt. Liberty. We had good attendance, seventy-four.

-C-
Mrs. Dorothy Crisp and daughters, Judy and Phillis went to Asheville Thursday and returned Friday afternoon.

-C-
Mr. J. R. Crisp and Mr. Oliver Payne motored to Jasper, Ga., Monday of last week.

-C-
Mr. and Mrs. John Donley were in the Cane Creek Community Tuesday.

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Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Crisp visited Mrs. Emma Flowers who is a patient in the General Hospital, Sunday.

-C-
Mrs. Jesse Ledford visited Mrs. Hazel Crisp last Wednesday afternoon.

-C-
Jerrei and Barbara Crisp of Atlanta, Ga., and Linda Tubbs spent the week end with the Crisp's.

-C-
Mr. and Mrs. Howell Crisp and daughters Pamela and Marie took dinner with Mr. Crisp's parents Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Crisp.

-C-
Mr. Bruce and Harry Little visited their grandparents last

Saturday, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Little.

-C-
Miss Brenda Millsaps spent Saturday night with her aunt Barbara Lee Crisp.

-C-
Mr. and Mrs. Felix McClure of Marietta, Ga., are home this week end. Mrs. McClure's father, Mr. Swanson is in the hospital.

-C-
A great big welcome to Mrs. M. G. Decker who was at Mt. Liberty church Sunday, come again.

-C-
Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Cavender have been visiting in Texas last week.

-C-

License To Wed

Forrest Barefoot, 18, Knoxville, Tenn., and Betty Sue Hatcher, 21, Johnson City, Tenn.
J. C. Bryant, 22, and Alice Wyvetta Nix, 19, both of Murphy.

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