

For The People

by Bernadette W. Hoyle
Public Information Officer
N. C. State Board of
Public Welfare

"Public welfare helps protect individuals and families against potential or actual economic disaster and helps them find the means to regain economic and social self-sufficiency in times of individual and family crises."

—Dr. Ellen Winston,
Commissioner

Mr. D. was a tenant farmer who, although he had never accumulated any savings, had provided a decent living for his wife and nine-year-old son. When he became physically

disabled because of a serious heart condition and could no longer work, the family situation became acute. One by one he sold his possessions—his farm equipment and his two good mules. Then, when all his resources were depleted, he applied to the county department of public welfare for help.

It was possible, because of his physical disability, for the family to receive an aid to dependent children grant, which helped maintain them. Mr. D. died suddenly and Mrs. D., who suffered acutely from elephantiasis of both legs, was unable to shoulder the responsibility of making a living for herself and the son.

The aid to dependent children grant was continued, and the son, now 14 years of age and a healthy and strong boy, was able to do heavy farm work. He worked after school and during the summer months, and slowly their standard of living improved. Piece by piece he bought much needed articles of furniture for the home.

When he reached the age of 18, the aid to dependent children payment was terminated in accordance with law. The boy had one year of high school to complete. His mother, meantime, had become disabled and he had to

perform many tasks for her, for he was unable to hire anyone to help at home. Mrs. D. was granted a small payment under the program of aid to the permanently and totally disabled.

The son was ambitious to go to college, but had no idea how he could secure the money to fulfill this goal. He talked with his teachers, principal, neighbors, and case-

worker from the county department of public welfare. The caseworker told him that the public welfare department would help with his plan, and work was started towards securing a scholarship for him. Eighteen months elapsed during which the caseworker, through determined effort, was finally able to help him get enough money through scholarships for his first year in college. At present he is a junior, and although neither he nor the county department of public welfare is sure that he can secure scholarships to see him through the next two years, the agency has every reason to believe that with his continued determination, hard work, and good college record, he will graduate in 1964.

Because an aid to dependent children grant enabled him to remain in school until he finished high school, instead of quitting to take a laborer's job, this boy was able to set his sights on college. As a college graduate he will be in a position to make a good living and provide for his mother. At the same time he will be a contributing, tax-paying citizen—all because of a few years of help and guidance from the public welfare program.

Such an understanding would render ineffective the "everybody else does" psychology. Both parties—children and parents—would be happier. Knowing their bounds, the youngsters would be satisfied to enjoy activities natural for their age. Parents would enjoy group reinforcement of their child-bearing convictions. Many parents groups have taken this approach. A successful one is the Parents' League in Charlotte.

The league, composed of dues-paying parents of sixth to twelfth graders, even published their standards in a booklet called "Let's Agree."

Here's what the Charlotte mothers and fathers agreed upon:

They had oversteered the social in the past, causing their children to begin adult-type doings prematurely, a finding consistent with the views espoused by Dr. Robert J. Havighurst of the University of Chicago.

They found that activities formerly belonging solely to college were brought down to high school level. High school type activities were experienced in grammar grades.

Their offspring were "confused by being swept into the eddies of sophisticated life too soon."

The age-old saying still held: "You can't go against nature. It has an orderly process of growth by stages; for proper maturing, no one stage is rushed."

Parental zeal to give children "everything" has really meant "everything that money can buy." Prosperity had made us slight those values which money can't buy.

This group of parents concluded that their teenagers are wonderful people. The mothers and fathers were themselves at fault.

To curb the hothouse forcing of their children, they established these and other guidelines:

Dating: Double dating and group get-togethers should not

SCHOOL AND YOUR CHILD

Appalachian State Teachers College

by John Corey
Education Department

How to Beat "The Everybody Does" Argument

Kids can be master psychologists.

Many quickly learn to get their way by using the old "Everybody else does — why can't I" argument, acknowledges Dr. J. Edward Harrill, director of guidance and counseling services at Appalachian State Teachers college, Boone.

Parents might well recognize that conformity, whether desirable or undesirable to them, is likely the result of peer influence, say Dr. Harrill.

Seventh grader Jane, for example, wanted to date a ninth grade boy.

Her parents felt she was too young. But Jane plead emotionally that parents of girl friends her age permit them to date. Why must she be different and an outcast?

Jane's mother and father realize that group blackballing can be harmful to an adolescent. Not wanting their daughter to be hurt, they consented to her dating even though they didn't approve.

Ironically, the other parents were in an identical predicament. They had given permission for the same reason.

Appalachian's Dr. Harrill states that need for better communication between parents is clearly evident here. They should come together as a group and establish standards for their youngsters.

Is it not possible for parents to perceive life as rebellious fluctuating adolescents see it—and vice versa?

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Dating: Double dating and group get-togethers should not

be permitted before grade nine. Girls in grades ten through twelve will occasionally want to date a boy a year older. But too wide an age span is inadvisable.

Dances and parties: May begin in grade eight (but most parents preferred grade nine). Elaborate parties should wait until college. Discourage formal dress. Spend-the-night parties in large groups are inadvisable because they often deteriorate into unhealthy all-night sessions.

Hours: Agreement should be reached beforehand by parents and youngsters as to a reasonable lapse of time between the end of a social event and time of arrival at home. A child's reputation can suffer from the late meandering habit.

Driving: A privilege to be earned by responsible driving and conduct.

Clubs: Ban any semblance of secret competition for membership.

Dress: Girls should understand that simplicity of dress and makeup indicate good taste. Omit corsages until boys can earn money to buy them. Bermuda shorts aren't "de rigueur" for all functions.

Mixed affairs: Desire for these more naturally arises in grade nine. If their energies aren't expended before this grade, parents will enter the interesting phase with enthusiasm, not with the fatigue of discharging an oft-repeated duty.

League members all agreed that "standards are only as good as the parents who uphold them."

For a complete list of the league's standards for sixth to twelfth graders, write Mrs. J. L. Highsmith, Parents' League, Charlotte, N. C.

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

CLUBWOMEN TO PROMOTE SAFETY THRU LIGHTING

The North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs will cooperate through the Public Affairs Department with the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the Street and Highway Lighting Bureau, and the Floodlighting Institute, to promote the electric lighting of residential, business, school, hospital, playground, and park areas.

Mrs. H. Jack Sharpe, Jr., public affairs chairman for the state federation, said, "Darkness and evil have always been partners so with this project we will endeavor to improve our communities and insure safety on our streets". She announced that the program would be under the direction of North Carolina's safety chairman, Mrs. Joe Teague of Smithfield.

Mrs. Teague will help clubwomen as they participate in the national contest to promote safety through adequate lighting. She announced that The Reader's Digest is offering 45 cash awards totaling \$3,500.00 with prizes to be awarded at the 1963 General Federation convention in Milwaukee, Wis.

BROTHER OF MRS. FOSTER KILLED IN ACCIDENT

Lawrence Lail of High Shoals, N. C., brother of Mrs. Carrie Foster of Cragmont road was killed in an automobile accident Oct 22 at High Shoals.



TIPPER FLITLOCK
says...
"Hunting is a lot of fun, sight that bird but watch that gun!"
THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION teaches shooting safely

—During 1961, almost 20,000 Tar Heels died of heart and blood vessel diseases, according to the State Board of Health.

Veterans News

Here are authoritative answers by the Veterans Administration to questions from former servicemen and their families:

Q—I have heard that many veterans and widows are not taking advantage of VA pension plans that would give them more money? Is that true?

A—Yes. Apparently thousands do not fully understand the new pension law and the VA is still anxious to explain all the facts. Suggest you contact or write to nearest VA office.

Q—I am in the armed forces overseas and plan to enter training under the War Orphans Education Program. I understand the VA is authorized to provide transportation to Government expense to and from my place of vocational counseling. How can this be arranged when I am overseas?

A—It cannot be arranged. VA does not provide vocational counseling overseas nor can travel be authorized back to this country for such counseling. You should decide where you will go to school when you return to this country. If you then write to

a VA regional office near that school, advising when you will be there for counseling, time will be saved in setting up your counseling appointment.

Q—Do the Veterans Affairs Offices of the State Department act as an overseas arm of the Veterans Administration?

A—The offices have the function of administering directly VA educational and training benefits and VA medical care and treatment benefits for eligible veterans in the countries comprising Western Europe and in Mexico. In addition, the offices furnish information and assistance to veterans, their dependents, and beneficiaries on the full range of veterans matters, as

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Chili Spices A Halloween Party



Planning a Halloween party for your offspring and their pals before an evening of trick-or-treating? Make up a large pot of appetizing chili, spiced with Tabasco, the zesty liquid red pepper. Kids will spon up every bit of this luscious chili, served with crisp crackers and fresh milk. Keep the Tabasco bottle handy as some may like their chili even hotter!

Tabasco Chili
6 tablespoons butter, margarine or salad oil
4 medium onions, sliced
2 medium green peppers, cut in strips
1 cup coarsely cut celery
3 pounds ground beef
3 cans (20 ounces each) tomatoes
2 cans (6 ounces each) tomato paste
1 tablespoon salt
1 teaspoon Tabasco
2 tablespoons chili powder
3 cans (20 ounces each) kidney beans
Melt butter; add onion, green pepper and celery and cook until onion is tender, but not brown. Add ground beef; cook until meat loses red color, breaking up with a fork. Add tomatoes, tomato paste, salt, Tabasco and chili powder. Cover; simmer 45 minutes. Add kidney beans; simmer 20 minutes longer. Serve with crisp salted crackers. YIELD: 12 servings.