



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

### Cleanup Continues

The cleanup continues at Holden Beach and officials expect it to last several more weeks. During a special meeting last Thursday, the town board voted to continue free pickup of storm-related debris through the month of October. Property owners need to leave the debris in the street right-of-way at least five feet off the pavement. In this photo taken earlier this month, Pete Singletary, right, and Chris Thompson unload a trailer of debris at the regional parking lot under the Holden Beach Bridge.

### Former Principal Dusts Off Paper After 11 Years

(Continued From Preceding Page) just line up, pass through and receive.

Eventually the standards were eroded and the "social promotion" or the "pass through" from grade to grade, even for the pupil of high or normal intelligence, became the standard. Along with this came the political takeover of the public school system by the feds and any special interest group lurking in the shadows.

Discipline became almost non-existent. The lazy troublemakers of all flavors quickly adopted civil rights and renamed it student rights. Marching under the banner of student rights, they disrupted classes at will, demanded crisp courses, demanded freedom to do as they pleased — no more firm punishment, no more suspensions and no more expelling from school.

Incompetent teachers saw the success of student rights and adapted it to their cause and renamed it teachers' rights. School boards were forced to employ incompetent teachers under various guises. And to compound matters, these incompetents could no longer be dismissed, at least without a court battle.

Incompetent administrative and supervisory personnel followed suit. This left us with two groups with no rights — the student who wanted to learn and the competent

teacher who wanted to teach.

Teachers and administrators at all levels of competency were and still are attacked, beaten and even killed in their schools by students in the misguided belief that their rights are supreme over others.

Thus, the attitude became a Free Lunch. Why not a Free Learning? Not a good aura for ambitious students who really want to learn.

But education is not like food stamps. It cannot be donated, allocated or even legislated. It must be personally acquired by the individual through the pursuit of understanding concepts and the absorption of facts.

Like our senses we are all born with levels of intellectual ability. We can give love, food, clothing, shelter, transportation, protection, etc., but education comes as the individual mind personally seeks and acquires knowledge.

Government programs administered so many times by ultra-liberal or politically motivated administrators encourage less incentive for the individual to acquire sufficient knowledge to be self-supporting and to rise above the bare existence into a state of self-sufficiency and self-respect. Serious students hardly have a chance in this atmosphere.

Children at home hear and learn the language of the welfare state

and become infected with the contagious something-for-nothing syndrome before they come to school and the disease becomes chronic as they mature, especially if reinforcement is provided by the public school personnel.

Free government services (free housing, food stamps, etc.) and the "Social Promotion" or Social "C" are one and the same to the welfare mentality. In plain English, "I don't have to earn one. Why should I have to earn the other?"

This attitude toward work and learning has created a new, undisciplined dependent class of adults and pupils. These misguided people have lost their self respect and respect for others, partly by their own doings, but mostly by the nonaction of the taxpaying citizens who continue to allow the social engineers to turn our schools into a circus of disrespect for discipline and authority which promotes a poor atmosphere for serious students to learn.

Well intended programs when improperly administered can destroy those they were designed to help and therefore cause deterioration of the total society. Appropriate responsibility must accompany rights and freedom.

Robert H. Sellers  
Teacher, Principal, Retired  
Shallotte

### HIGHWAY PROJECTS ADVANCE

## State To Award Construction Bid For Segment Of U.S. 17

All six bids for construction of a segment of U.S. 17 north of Supply to be considered by the State Board of Transportation Friday in Raleigh are greater than the cost estimates for the 1.72-mile project.

The state had estimated the four-lane project would come in at a cost of \$2,324,872. But when the bids were opened, the figures ranged from 2.8 percent to 14.6 percent above that figure.

The apparent low bidder is C.M. Lindsay & Sons of Lumberton, \$2.39 million. Also bidding are BMCO Construction Inc., Lumberton, \$2.42 million; W.E. Blackmon Construction Co., Smithfield, \$2.58 million; Dickerson Carolina Inc., Castle Hayne, \$2.60 million; South Carolina Division, APAC-Carolina, Darlington, S.C., \$2.603 million; and Propst Construction Co., Concord, \$2.66 million.

The bid to be awarded Friday is for grading, drainage, paving, pavement marking and striping of U.S. 17 from N.C. 211 to southwest of the lower end of S.R. 1401, Gallo-way Road N.E.

Work can begin as early as Nov. 13, with all work to be completed by Sept. 1, 1991, except for the "observation period". March 1, 1992 is the final completion date.

The bids are accompanied by the formal request for the board to ap-

prove the construction work. It overall work is budgeted at \$2.7 million, of which \$2.026 million is federal and \$679,714 is state.

Other Brunswick County projects on the board's agenda include the following:

—A request for \$4.1 million in North Carolina Highway Trust Fund-intrastate system money for construction of U.S. 17 from existing U.S. 17 at Bolivia north to northeast of N.C. 87 south, a distance of 4.5 miles. Like the Supply project, this proposal relates to state efforts to complete the four-laning of U.S. 17 across Brunswick County, with bypasses of Shallotte and Bolivia.

—Replacing of a bridge on S.R.

1140, Oxpen road, at a cost of \$10,193, in conjunction with other improvements to the road.

—Approval of an additional \$9,240 to pave in front of three additional bays constructed by Sunset Beach Volunteer Fire Department. Since the state, in April, approved \$7,000 for paving the entrance apron to the fire station, the station has been enlarged.

—A request to reduce funds for grading, draining, basing and paving of S.R. 1427, Hooper Road. The new estimated cost is \$30,000 for the 1.7-mile project.

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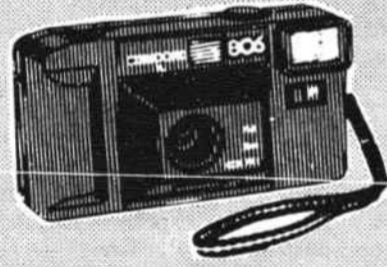
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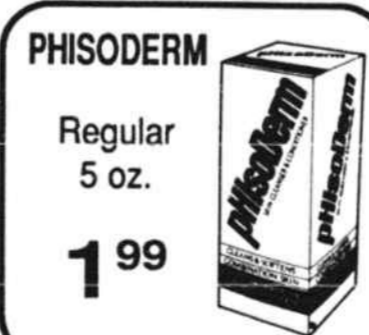
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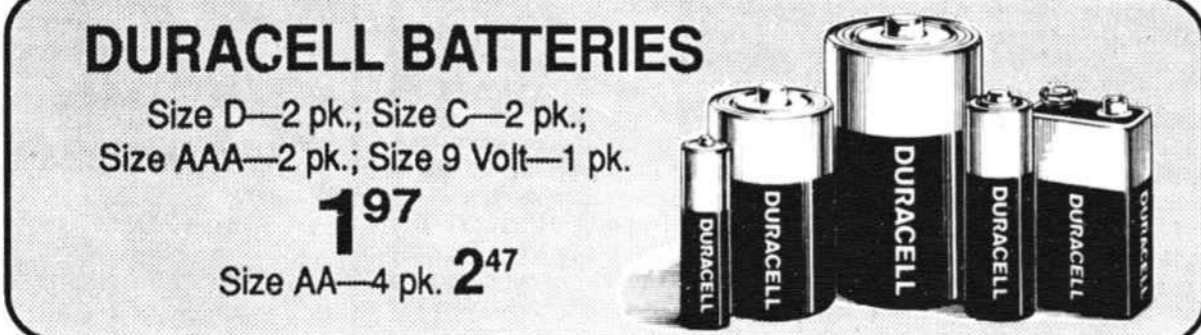
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