

Are You Happy?

To consolidate or not to consolidate, that's the only one of the educational questions. In a full-page advertisement in the Tribune two weeks ago, Southview Christian School posed an all-encompassing question: "Are you happy with the education your children are getting?"

What is a Southview Christian School? More to the point, why Southview Christian School and the growing number of private—or "non-public"—schools? Would a \$300 million state bond debt to finance school buildings be a wise investment, or would it be throwing good money after bad?

If you aren't satisfied with what your schools are doing for you, are you pleased with what you've done for your schools lately?

Is American public education failing American children? Or are American parents simply becoming disillusioned because "free" education isn't the good-life guarantee they expect it to be? The questions go on.

Recently, The Christian Science Monitor addressed itself to some of these questions. The Monitor's observations deserve your attention. As September began, nearly one of three Americans obeyed the academic calendar. They headed off to school. With 62 million students, teachers and administrators, and \$96.7 billion in budgets, education is the largest American enterprise.

Given education's importance, it is well to note a grave downturn of confidence in American schools.

A Harris survey of last October showed that the percentage of Americans holding "a great deal of confidence" in education had fallen from 61 percent in 1968 to 30 percent in 1972. And over roughly the same period, the percentage of bond issues for education plummeted from 80 to 47.

The subject of race and the schools is much on the public's mind. But it is important to note that the drop in public expectations for its schools cannot be traced mainly to the trends in desegregation. Integration simply does not affect enough Americans for this to be the cause. As of last fall, more than 63 per cent of American 6-11 million black children were still in largely black schools. Nearly three-fourths of the country's white youths were in schools at least 90 per cent white.

Other complicating factors: drugs in the schools, conflict over sex education, the deflated value of the high school and college degree, a lack

of good vocational training for non-college youths, parent resentment at the sway of professional educators and the billions over local schools.

Billions of dollars in federal money have been poured into the system for compensatory education, for Head Start. The issue of community involvement in school affairs has had to be fought out. So has teacher segregation.

There has been a tremendous shift to the hiring of younger teachers — to save money on salaries, chiefly. Simultaneously the country's three million teachers have moved sharply toward a union mentality. Merger between the United Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association now appears likely. The teacher strikes of the recent past—often more for the sake of better quality education than for the teachers' self-gain—partly account for the decline in public trust in education.

It is difficult to foretell whether, on balance, desegregation will spur a movement toward "white academics" and thus a resurgence of nonpublic school attendance. But the right of individuals to choose nonpublic schools should be maintained. So should the desirability of a diversity of school types. Nonetheless, any further drop in support of public schools would be bad for the American experiment in democracy. So would any attempt at desegregation. Citizens interested in the welfare of their communities should oppose both of these trends.

Many basic precepts for American education have been shaken. For instance, one recent study shows generally far less of a relation between education levels and economic achievement than was long thought to be the case. Equality of education, then, it is now thought, may not lead to equality of opportunity.

Still, in a democracy public education is the most effective releaser and harnesser of intellect, skill, culture, and productive energy. As with armies traveling on their stomachs, it can be said that democracies advance via their schools.

Americans cannot afford to lose heart about their educational system. Whatever each citizen's self-interest—a tax-rate vote, an integration order, or just sending his first child off to school—he ought to support his community's schools with vigor and add to the climate of appreciation of them.

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Parson Jones' Pulpit

DEAR MR. PUBLISHER:

I read a joke the other day that I think I oughta pass along. It seems that the door in the wall that divides heaven and hell was in a bad state of repair. Both sides had worked out an agreement to take turns fixing it. Now, it was hell's time. St. Peter said, "Satan, it's your time to fix the door." The Devil replied, "I ain't gonna do it." The Devil laughed and said, "Where are you gonna get your lawyer?"

That joke ain't so funny these days with all the lying and covering up by lawyers in high places. When I was a boy I heard you had to be asked to be a lawyer. Well Sir, I was smart enough to take that as a grin at said. However, it seems that right lately my salt shaker is about empty.

As a youngun, I was always taught to respect the law. Even back then I knew that life is like a ball game. There's gotta be rules or the game ain't no fun. Cheaters in ball games were never too popular with the other players, or the spectators. But, when folks who are trained to defend the law become the law-breakers we're in bad shape. If ole Moses had carried the Ten Commandments to the people and then sneaked behind their backs and broken all of 'em he would have lasted too long.

Mr. Publisher, I've got sense enough to figure out that all lawyers ain't crooked, but it seems there's enough of 'em who are that the state of the union might be in serious question. It appears to me that the preacher that the legal profession better begin to police its ranks and get shaped up, or else the word lawyer may become a dirty word.

Maybe the law schools ought to start out by having one hole year to study the Ten Commandments. "Thou shalt not steal" and "Thou shalt not bear false witness" would lay a good foundation for the study of all laws.

And now, I'll go hide in my closet to escape any flack that might be coming my way. But, the saying still goes, "If the shoe fits, wear it." Or as my daddy always said, "If I'm stepping on your feet, move 'em."

Yours Truly,

Parson Jones

OUR COMMUNITY



IN OTHER 1934 YEARS... 39 YEARS AGO

Iredell county 4-H Club girls and boys have had a great week at Swannanoa, and are expected to return to their respective homes today, July 10. Those going as a county unit on this outing were: Misses Ruth Alexander, Elsie Beaver, Nan Lynn Brawley, Ruth Brumley, Olean Crawford, Martha Culp, Della Douglas, Pauline Douglas, Lena Fesperman, Nell Galtner, Margaret Goodwin, Margaret Harrington, Nellie Hartness, William Lee Lowery, Helen McLean, Mildred McLean, Beatrice Nesbit, Mary Pence, Emory Retzel, Hazel L. Sherrill, Nellie Shumaker, Margaret Sills, Elizabeth Turner, Jeannette Van Hoy and Edna White.

Earl Bustle, Francis Bell, Price Brawley, Ray Brumley, Royce E. Eagle, Rose Fox, G. H. Goodwin, W. Leonard, Walter Hendricks, James Ingram, Morris Johnston, Robert Keanerly, Lawrence Mason, Thomas Moore, Dempsey Morrison, Ray Morrison, Joe Pou, Heath Sherrill, Walter Sherrill, Jr., W. B. White, Jr.

Mrs. Victor Meekins and two sons, Roger and Francis, left Saturday for their home at Manteo, after a month's visit with Mrs. Meekins' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Deaton. Mr. Meekins, accompanied by Mr. Bill Meekins, spent several days here last week. They with Mrs. Meekins and Roger attended the meeting of the North Carolina Press Association at Banner Elk last week.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Mooreville Volunteer Fire Company Tuesday night the annual election of officers took place, resulting as follows:

Chief, D. E. Turner, assistant chief, C. A. Troutman, Sr.; Lieutenant, J. T. Brantley; captain, Troy Sherrill; secretary-treasurer, F. B. Freeze.

Harry P. Deaton, who has served the company as secretary-treasurer for quite a long time, requested that his name be withdrawn from the nomination, offering a good and sufficient reason for declining to serve in that capacity and the fireman respected his wishes.

Frank B. Freeze served as head of the organization as chief for two terms. Mr. Turner was formerly chief of the department.

Mrs. Stella Thompson, wife of Troy R. Thompson, died at her home in Pomona, near Greensboro, Thursday morning following an illness of five weeks. Mrs. Thompson was a native of Mooreville, being a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Thomas, but had been living in Greensboro for about five years.

Elkin Tribune: B. C. Brown, of Mooreville, returned to his home Wednesday after spending several days here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Brown, having come up to be with his mother, who underwent a major operation at Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital.

Mr. R. Y. McPherson, of Raleigh, spent the week end here with his sister and brother, Miss Sallie McPherson and Dr. Carl McPherson. He was accompanied by his son, R. Y. McPherson, Jr. They left Monday for a visit of a few days in Asheville and other mountain resorts.

Mr. R. M. Sasser, in charge of the winding up of the business of the busted banks at Cleveland, Harmony and M. & F. bank building and will direct the business of the three banks from this city. The process of liquidation is necessarily slow.

Mrs. Ida Rhinehardt, of No. 9 township, Cabarrus county, died at her home there Monday, aged 74 years. Funeral and burial service took place at Cold Springs Methodist Church Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Rhinehardt was the mother of our townsman, Mr. C. M. Rhinehardt.

Drive The Pontiac Of Your Choice Today!

McKnight Pontiac-Buick Co.

137 S. Broad St.—D. L. No. 5211—Mooreville, N. C.

COG, Long An Invisible Servant, Discussed The 'Regional Concept'

Now and again you see mention in the papers of "COG," and "Centralina" and the "regional concept."

Do the terms register? If you think about them at all, what images do they create for you? If you're an ordinary citizen and casual newspaper reader, you probably dismiss such references as so much more government gobbledegook. You shouldn't.

"COG," for example, is an apt acronym. It abbreviates council of governments, and it is indeed an important cog in the activities that touch your lives.

Malcolm J. Jones is communications director of Centralina Council of Governments. He recognizes that the average Piedmont North Carolina citizen gives little thought to his organization. He has set about to broaden the image of Centralina COG.

These are excerpts from an explanation Jones prepared of what "regionalism" and "regional citizen" and COG are all about:

Most of us are familiar with the terms "region" and "regionalism," but the significance of being a regional citizen is generally ignored in our modern society.

A region may be described as a group of neighboring communities and counties whose residents are joined as a unit economically, socially, and geographically, but which generally lack governmental unity.

Regionalism is not new. We are regional citizens in many aspects of our daily living. Many of us travel to a nearby city to work. We shop in other areas of the region, and we seek

problems together.

Thus, regionalism has been an effort to construct an intergovernmental system within a region, on a voluntary basis, by elected representatives of local governments.

It has made possible planning in such areas as economic development, environmental controls, land use, development and control of quality water, sewage disposal, law enforcement, health planning, housing, manpower planning, transportation and many other phases of growth that affect citizens of the region.

The council is an association of local governments. It's business is carried on by one elected representative from each member government.

Today, there are 35 member governments in Centralina—48 counties and 27 cities and towns.

The COG has no taxing power. It can neither make nor impose ordinances. Its method of implementing programs for the region is through its member governments. Its financing comes from a levy of 11 cents per capita from each member government and from various federal funds that are earmarked for planning in many problem areas of the region.

This, then, is what regionalism is all about. This is the reason local governments initiated the council of governments and decided that it was to be a cooperative organization dedicated to solving problems that affect the entire region, problems that know no city limit or county boundary, problems that a single governing unit often finds impractical of solution because of their wide scope or the lack of financial means.

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New Program Of State Aid To Students Starts New Era In Higher Education

A new program of state aid to students at North Carolina's independent colleges begins this fall, marking a new era in North Carolina higher education and providing substantial savings for the state's taxpayers.

This new program will mean a savings to the taxpayers because it encourages North Carolina students to use existing space in our state's many fine independent colleges instead of requiring continued expensive expansion at our state universities," Spencer noted.

State officials have estimated that more than 25,000 North Carolinians will be enrolled in the state's 39 independent junior and senior colleges in 1973-74. Compared with the average of \$200 in state financial aid to students in these independent colleges, taxpayers subsidized the student in state universities with an average of \$1,007 a year and in two-year public institutions with an average of \$816.

At all independent colleges in the state, the amount North Carolina students actually receive will be determined by demonstrated financial need, measured by standards such as those of the College Scholarship Service and the American College Testing Program.

Each independent college will receive a share of the \$4.6 million in state funds, based on the number of North Carolinians it has enrolled, for distribution to its students with financial need.

Davidson's director of admissions and financial aid, H. Edmund White, said that the \$75,000 which Davidson receives this year from the state will provide substantial assistance to its North Carolina students with financial need. It is especially appreciated in a time when the rising cost of college has meant that students at all colleges need more financial aid now than ever before.

Davidson's director of admissions and financial aid, H. Edmund White, said that the \$75,000 which Davidson receives this year from the state will provide substantial assistance to its North Carolina students with financial need. It is especially appreciated in a time when the rising cost of college has meant that students at all colleges need more financial aid now than ever before.

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Funeral Rites Friday For Mrs. Hager

Mrs. Betty Duke Hager, 40-year-old resident of Mooreville, route 1, died last Wednesday in the Charlotte Memorial Hospital, following a long period of declining health and a critical illness of several weeks.

She was the wife of Jimmy Lee Hager.

Betty Mecklenburg County on August 4, 1933. Mrs. Hager was a daughter of Mrs. Lottie Sherrill Carver of Mooreville and the late Clyde Oliver Carver.

Survivors, in addition to the husband, include: one son, James Michael Hager of the home; two sisters, Mrs. Charlie Bumgarner and Mrs. Darrell Knott, both of Mooreville; and two brothers, Jarvis Carver of Mooreville and Eugene Carver of Sherrill's Ford.

Funeral services for Mrs. Hager were conducted at 4 p.m. Friday at the Shearer Presbytery Church, with the Rev. Fritz Mahlin officiating. Burial was in Glenwood Memorial Park cemetery in Mooreville.

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PRICES IN THIS AD EFFECTIVE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 15 AT A&P WEO IN Mooreville

AP & WEO

ITEMS OFFERED FOR SALE ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO WHOLESALE DEALERS OR RETAILERS

WHERE ECONOMY ORIGINATES

IMPORTANT FOR YOU!

A&P POLICY:

Always do what is honest and fair for every customer.

RAINCHECK:

If an advertised special is ever sold out ask the Manager for a Raincheck. It entitles you to the same item at the same special price the following week. Or if you wish we'll give you a comparable item at the same special price.

GUARANTEE:

A&P offers an unconditional money-back guarantee. No matter what it is, no matter who makes it, if A&P sells it, A&P guarantees it.

100% BRAZILIAN

EIGHT O'CLOCK COFFEE

WHOLE BEAN 1-Lb. Bag 85¢ 3-Lb. Bag \$2.49

Jane Parker Bake N' Serve Cloverleaf Rolls 3 12-Oz. Pkg. \$1.00

Made With Buttermilk—Jane Parker White Bread 24-Oz. Loaf 35¢

Ched-O-Bit Cheese 71¢

INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED PROCESSED SLICES 12-Oz. Pkg.

ANN PAGE SPARKLE Gelatin 3-Oz. Pkg. 9¢

ANN PAGE GROUND BLACK Pepper 4-Oz. Can 49¢