

Of Our 'Deliberated' Pilgrims

This material was written by Dr. Larry McGehee, vice president for development and professor of religion at Wofford College. It was provided free to newspapers by the Spartanburg, S.C. School.

The irony of Plymouth Rock is that the Pilgrims and the Puritans of Massachusetts Bay soon after escaping from European religious conformity immediately established their own brand of it. Their liberty was de-liberating. In Connecticut and in Massachusetts, it would be more correct to say that their religion was "disestablished" as the official faith for citizens of those colonies/states.

"Deliberate" is a terribly good word to ponder at Thanksgiving time in the season of the annual celebration of liberty. "Deliberate" means "to set free." "De-liberate" means as a verb ought logically to mean "to imprison or enslave." An uneducated person ought to be called "deliberated" but "deliberated" if caught and engaged again.

"Deliberating," of course, means something else. It is not just the antithesis of liberating. We use it to mean "intending" or "thinking" through or "talking over." Democracy in America, often has been called "the deliberate experiment," something taken seriously and consciously.

Democracy as a concept was hardly more than a gleam in its parents' eyes when the Pilgrims arrived just as the birth, infancy, adolescence, and maturity of a person is a deliberate experiment.

requiring consciousness, planning, concerted action, and goals-so it has been with democracy in America. The price of liberation is deliberation.

We are a nation of individuals, and democracy has placed high value on the liberties of individuals. But those individuals most often exercise those liberties within institutions—within schools, governments, churches, clubs, volunteer service agencies, businesses.

All institutions limit the liberties of their members. They have charters, by-laws, rulebooks, dues, procedures, meetings, and parliamentary-in short, "deliberations"—for that very purpose.

Short of being a savage or a hermit in a wilderness, the only way to have "liberty" is "de-liberately" to create it in association with others. That takes the form of institutions. Mayflower Compact, Constitutions, and so forth. We define ourselves by electing to have others with whom to be-for comparisons, for cooperations, even for criticisms and conflicts. We find our liberty by deliberating.

Institutions are licensed license, deliberated liberty. Institutions survive and thrive by two means—drift or by deliberation. Drift is the cellophane tape approach. It means ad hoc and added-on actions, as when a school becomes aware belatedly of the dangers of asbestos ceilings and then replaces them, or a hotel closes after an earthquake instead of not building atop a geological fault at all.

The second means by which institutions—collections of individuals

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By Harriette B. Skaggs
Duke Power Consumer Products Specialist

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Garner Completes Course



MARK C. GARNER

Specialist Mark C. Garner of Mooreville has completed the Primary Leadership Development Course conducted by the Office of the Adjutant General and the 328th U.S. Army Reserve School at the North Carolina Military Academy in Asheville.

The course consisted of four weekends plus seven days of training in many areas, such as training to lead, land navigation, communication procedures, artillery fire adjustment, combat techniques and combat patrolling.

Specialist Garner is a member of Detachment 1, Headquarters, Second Battalion, 120th Infantry of the North Carolina National Guard in Statesville.

He is employed by Lakeside Cable Television in Mooreville.

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Visit To N.C. Zoo Special Treat
Creighton Wayne Martin was 5 years old on November 7 and his special birthday treat was a visit to the North Carolina Zoo at Asheboro. Creighton is pictured with his sister, Jennifer Nicole, 18 months old. They are the children of Melanie Martin and grandchildren of Ray and Rosie Martin.

Staff, Space Limitations Cited By Iredell Health Department

The Iredell County immunization program is a rousing success on its way to becoming a perennial headache for the health professionals at the Iredell County Health Department.

Census Director Plans 1990 Regional Count

The U.S. Bureau of the Census is getting ready for its decennial count, and the regional directory plans to get an early start.

"We're going to be out there a lot earlier," said William Hill, 49, "in past years, we were active from the fall of the year ending in '9' to the fall of the year ending in '0'. This time, we're going to begin in the spring of 1988."

Charlotte is the home of one of 12 regional census offices in the nation. The office does the nation's total count for Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky and the District of Columbia.

The estimate is that in the 11-billion 1990 census, 1 percent of white and 3.5 percent of blacks were not counted. In the 1970 census, the estimate is 7.7 percent of blacks went uncounted.

The bureau wants an accurate count everywhere, but increasing pressure comes from the big-city mayors who are demanding more federal aid and political representation.

For North Carolinians, the first notice of the census will probably be a questionnaire in the mail on March 23, 1990. Official "Census Day" is April 1, 1990. The census is given to the president on Dec. 31, 1990.

But Hill will be sending thousands of enumerators, who will make about \$5.50 an hour, into the smaller cities and rural areas of the region next spring. They'll be armed with maps and directions to record every dwelling. Each of these census workers may have several hundred, perhaps 500, dwellings to locate.

From the maps, the bureau will compile mailing lists, which will be given to the postal service. Postal workers will compare these lists with their own.

In bigger cities, the list-making will go on in mid-1989. In the fast-growing cities like Myrtle Beach, S.C., the census takers will put off the listing of dwellings until late 1989.

Counting noses is harder work than it once was, Hill said. It took on greater significance because of the Supreme Court's 1965 "one-man, one-vote" decision, which requires state legislatures to apportion seats by population. Introduced a strong new political dimension.

The first American census was conducted in 1790. The cost of the Revolutionary War had been high, and the government needed to divide the debt among the people. Also, the Constitution provided for a representative House.

But the U.S. Census now does far more than determine how many legislators and government dollars an area gets. It produces social and economic data used for marketing studies and locating businesses. It provides information for academic research and planning.

The Charlotte region has a few peculiarities that make the head count challenging. In the mountain areas particularly, said Hill, a small house or trailer may be concealed down a road behind a larger house.

"Also, there are a lot of dogs at the door," he added.

Still, from the census-taker's perspective, Charlotte is far better than New York, where Hill was regional director.

"I find the courtesy on the roads pleasant — not that folks here use their signals," he told The Charlotte Observer. "But the fact is that they

A total of 3,000 doses of vaccine were given to children in day care, kindergarten and first grade from July to October of this year. At that rate, Iredell County's health specialists project 21 percent more immunizations will be given this year than last year.

Added to last year's 41 percent increase in immunizations over the previous year, that amounts to a whopping 61 percent increase in shots given and patients seen in only two years.

As far as the health of the county's citizens is concerned, that does well, perhaps; but it also exacerbates a couple of problems. For one thing, the county has not been able to hire anybody else to give the extra shots. And for another, the county has not expanded the small, 30-year-old facility where the shots are given.

In New York, "having a waiting list" is a pain. Hill said. "They paid a guy to keep the rubber-duck away. Here, towns should be great (for taking the census), the suburbs should be great. Why? Well, the housing projects are low-rise."

"When the Charlotte office came open," he added, "I went to some of the cities in the region. In Memphis, I saw a lot of poverty but I didn't have a sense it would be difficult to conduct a census. Poverty is important. It is very important to know that people fundamentally are going to let you do your job."

The census bureau now operates from offices on Church Street. But soon Hill will open a census center to accommodate the 150 to 200 people who will be working at the peak of the count. The bureau will also have 18,000 enumerators and others working across the region.

At Thursday's Iredell County Health Board meeting, Jo Ann Raby, preventive health supervisor for the Iredell County Health Department alluded to these problems.

Recently, she said, while giving 1,500 flu shots mostly to senior citizens, "the staff was extended as far as they could be extended and the rubber-band was just about to break."

Sorely needed, Raby pointed out, is another nursing position so that "follow-up" can be speeded up. The nursing position would also provide help for counseling, testing and immunizing.

But even more of a priority is the need for more space. The Hartness

Road facility does not have nearly enough examination rooms, a fact which compromises confidentiality and privacy — an especially poignant shortcoming now that AIDS testing is being done at the facility.

The lack of space also means certain clinics, such as sexually transmitted disease clinics, can't be held often enough to meet state public health standards.

In spite of the facility and staff limitations, Iredell County communicable disease specialists seem to be doing a good job.

Raby pointed out that 99.4 percent of children in kindergarten through first grade in Iredell County were in compliance this year with the basic series of immunizations required by state regulations making Iredell County "one of the leading counties in compliance."

"I think we have a good immunization program" in Iredell County and for that you can be proud," Raby told the board. She also praised area physicians for reporting communicable diseases early enough that interventions could be made and the spread of disease checked.

Raby said that state officials are now considering legislation that could alleviate the problems somewhat.

Under consideration is the possibility of charging patients "on a sliding scale" for receiving certain tests, such as STD (sexually transmitted disease) tests, and for immunizations now offered free. Charging on a graduated basis, Raby pointed out, would not deny services to those who can't pay.

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STATESVILLE

Chock full of new record-breakers and record-holders, the 1988 Guinness Book of World Records has rumbled onto the scene.
How's this for a valuable piece of information — one you can't be without? The cat population of the United States now exceeds the dog population. Guinness says that there are 56.2 million feline house pets and only 51.5 million canines.
Then, there are record-holders who just keep adding to their leads. Fifty-year-old Shridhar Chitla continues to claim the longest fingernails on record. At last measure in March, the nails on the left hand of Chitla, who is a resident of Pona, India, had an aggregate length of 158 inches.
Everybody wants a piece of the pie — and now everybody can have it, says Guinness. At fourth annual Pecan Festival in Okmulgee, Okla., on June 19, the bakery department of Oklahoma State University Technical Branch baked a pie 20.7 feet in diameter. It was three inches thick and weighed 6,353 pounds. They popped it in the oven for a total of five hours — and presto! it actually produced 5,500 pieces of pie.
If you are an aficionado of duck decoys, you probably will be interested to learn that the largest decoy was completed in January. It is 20 feet long and eight feet high.
But if flowers are your thing, you'll undoubtedly say "Wow!" when you are informed that the largest bouquet was made up on September 19, 1986. The finished arrangement, which included 9,299 flowers, was 36 feet, 10 inches high.
The legendary Rick Kraus broke his record by splitting a cherry-stone 66 feet, 6 inches on July 4 at Eau Claire, Mich.
And, assuming you didn't know it, Dick Clark has just received the Guinness Supreme Achievement Award for hosting the longest-running musical television show — "American Bandstand." More than 600,000 teens "danced till they dropped" in the 35 years the show was on the air.

Santa Will Visit Kids, Parents At N. Meck YMCA
The North Mecklenburg YMCA will host a special holiday breakfast with Santa for pre-schoolers and their parents Dec. 16 at 9 a.m. at the North Mecklenburg YMCA in Cornelius.
The program will feature a nutritious breakfast with milk and juice, Christmas carols, a special visit with Santa and a Christmas stocking for the youngsters.
The breakfast is for pre-schoolers ages 4 and under. Cost is \$5 per family for YMCA members and \$7 per family for non-members. Breakfast is limited to 60 people. Please register early at the North Mecklenburg YMCA, 1st come, 1st served. For more information please call 892-1761.

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