



Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER
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DROPOUT SEASON BEGINS

This week and next mark the opening of high schools across the country. This week and next also mark the start of the "dropout season" for the frightening record of the past shows that nearly one-third of those who drop out of high school will do so in the first six weeks of the term and thereby not only doom themselves to the bleakest employment-earnings prospect but also create an explosive economic-social problem for all of us.

This week, therefore, is the time when crash programs to encourage our youngsters to stay in school or go back to school should get into high gear from coast to coast.

In New York City, crash programs are going on, other programs are being accelerated and they are having an impact. In the last couple of years, the annual dropout rate in New York City has declined 2 per cent against a national average decline of 1 per cent. That's not great progress but it is a move in the right direction so here are the details.

(1) A New York City Mayor's committee will be directing a substantially expanded stay-in-school publicity program throughout September. It consists of intensive radio and TV promotion and personal counseling to potential dropouts based on the strong economic theme "the more you learn, the more you earn." Mobile stay-in-school units will be touring the city's neighborhoods. Favorite entertainers among teenagers will be leading neighborhood rallies to help pound home the message.

(2) The city's Board of Education will be holding "last chance" counseling sessions in 76 high schools on three successive Monday nights throughout the month. Dropouts and recent graduates who have been floundering will be invited to return to their schools for expert guidance on study courses and future jobs. Paul Driscoll, a Brooklyn high school principal and coordinator of the city's anti-dropout programs, estimates that at least 10 per cent of this year's potential dropouts reached by the "last chance" program will be persuaded to remain in school.

(3) Driscoll's group has just wrapped up a similar hearteningly successful program. In August, counselors in six "underprivileged" schools gave interviews on studies and future jobs to 1,300 youngsters. Says Driscoll, "90 per cent of those counseled have decided to stay in school. The response to our invitations was far bigger than we expected."

(4) New York's state-wide STEP (School to Employment Program) has tripled its efforts in the past five years, now reaches 16 New York City schools and schools in six other cities in the state. This is a half-work, half-study program — study in the mornings, work in the afternoons. It has three main aims: keep the kids off the streets, train them through work for full-time jobs or, hopefully, get them back to school full-time. STEP experience so far indicates that one-third go into full-time jobs or military service, one-third go back to full-time school, the rest stay with the half-and-half deal. The program covers about 1,000 potential dropouts each year.

(5) The city's long-standing "Cooperative Education Program" also is being stepped up. Under this one, two youngsters hold down a single job, alternating work with study. While the work-study program is now in fairly wide use throughout the country, the big thing about New York City's program this year is that, as a spokesman put it, "The city is literally making hundreds of jobs available to participants."

At the heart of the dropout program is the need for re-designing of study courses to meet the practical needs of problem students and to prepare them for the mechanical or technical jobs that they can fill and that will be available. On this, work is just beginning.

But we cannot afford to wait for realistic re-designing of high school curricula. This is dropout season and the time is today to save hundreds of thousands of teenagers from a lifetime on the economic and social junk pile.

DEBRIS PHOTOGRAPHED
Washington — (UPI) — The Navy said Monday the deep-diving bathyscaphe Trieste last week photographed debris that may have come from the sunken nuclear submarine Thresher. The pictures were taken on the bottom of the Atlantic about 220 miles off the New England coast where Thresher sank April 10 with 129 men aboard.

Linfield College Receives Books

McMinnville — Some 850 new keys to learning have been made available to Linfield college students this past year through the W. H. Kellogg foundation of Battle Creek, Mich.

The keys are in the form of new books added to Northrup library here by a \$10,000 grant from the Kellogg foundation for the purchase of books to improve the quality of teacher preparation programs and to increase the effectiveness of its library services in general.

The qualifications going with the grant stipulated that the books purchased with the funds were not to be exclusively in professional education, but were to include other academic departments that prepare students for teaching.

Many of the books acquired through this program are of use to students other than those in teacher education. In this way the teacher preparation program and the overall library services have been improved.

Linfield's Kellogg foundation grant is a part of a nation-wide three-year program during which \$2,500,000 will be given by the foundation to approximately 250 of the nation's liberal arts colleges. Linfield is now starting its second year in the program.

Youth Arrested As Woods Scanned

Portland — (UPI) — Arthur Van Morris, 13, of Maupin was taken into custody here late Sunday while 35 volunteers tramped through the woods looking for him near Mt. Hood.

The boy was reported missing from his cabin in the Zig-Zag area Sunday morning by his parents. His mother collapsed and was hospitalized when searchers failed to find any trace of him.

Portland police said he apparently became bored with the camp and decided to see the city. They turned him over to Clackamas county juvenile authorities.

LABOR EVERY DAY

Waterloo, Iowa — (UPI) — Although he retired from the barber trade several months ago, every day is Labor Day for L. D. Johnson, who was born Sept. 3, 1894, was named Labor Day by his father, who drew a \$2 fine from his union for failing to march in a parade at Omaha, Neb., the day of his son's birth.

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ON HONEYMOON—Actress Joan Bennett, center, chats with her recently married daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick E. Guest II, upon the couple's arrival in London to begin a European honeymoon. Mrs. Guest (Stephanie) 20, is the daughter of Miss Bennett and her former husband, film producer Walter Wanger. Guest, 25, is the son of sportsman Winston E. Guest of New York. (UPI)

Schedule Listed At Linfield College

McMinnville — Linfield college will open its doors to freshmen and transfer students on Saturday, Sept. 14. Other students will start returning Tuesday, Sept. 17.

Registration for freshmen is Sept. 16 and 17. Transfers, sophomores, juniors, seniors, and graduates register Sept. 18. For most returning students the registration process will be

simplified because of pre-registration last spring before the summer vacation started.

The expansion of the campus has made it impossible for students to walk from one side of the campus to the other in five minutes. To remedy this for the fall semester, the time between class periods has been lengthened from five to ten minutes.

Management Is Cautioned About Creativity Study

Eugene — Technical management is asking the wrong questions and expecting the wrong results from research in creativity, according to Dr. Ray Hyman, associate professor of psychology at the University of Oregon.

Writing in the August issue of the journal, International Science and Technology, Dr. Hyman warned management that psychological "tools," such as tests for creativity and training programs to make people more creative, have limited, transitory success at best, and many even have a negative effect on creativity.

"Although creativity research can make a contribution to management practice, the contribution will come through fundamental research aimed at a basic understanding of man, rather than attempts to devise short-term, superficial 'tools,' which are supposed to increase creativity," he pointed out.

"Although management tends to deal with the 'creativity problem' by seeking ways to change its employees, any success in changing the employees' creativity may boomerang, unless — at the same time — changes are made in the company organization and leadership," Dr. Hyman observed.

False Expectations
"False expectations and consequent resentment can occur when creative people are put into an environment that is not ready for them," according to Dr. Hyman, who has carried on research in creativity for the past several years both at the university and at his former post with the General Electric company.

The environment in which people work is based on a series of major assumptions about what makes men behave as they do. "Such assumptions can only be altered by basic research in creativity, research whose objective is understanding. Research that aims at giving managers what they now think they want — better tools to implement their current image — will contribute little."

Dennis the Menace



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