

## State May Have To Turn To Private Schools To Avoid Intergation, Patterson Says

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — If Alabama must ever abandon its public school system in the face of forced intergation, Gov. John Patterson wants to know where to turn after schools seem to be our only choice," the governor says.

This week he was studying a detailed, legally-documented report on the operation of private schools in Prince Edward County, Va., where all public schools were closed last year in the wake of court-ordered intergation. The governor called the private schools "entirely successful."

The Virginia on-the-spot report was prepared by two Gov. Patterson's top lawyers — Robert P. Bradley, general and assistant attorney general and Edmon L. Rinehart, now state superintendent of insurance and formerly an assistant attorney general who prosecuted the NAACP case.

On the governor's Virginia talking to spent four days in Virginia talking to Gov. Lindsay Almond Jr., Atty. Gen. A. S. Harrison and other public officials. They visited Richmond, Norfolk and Farmville in Prince Edward County.

"The most impressive experience of our whole trip was the fact that a private school system to preserve our historic system of segregation of the races will work, because we saw it working in Farmville," they reported.

All public schools have been closed in Prince Edward County, and the county's 1,500 children now attend 24 private schools.

"Our investigation shows that the students attending the private schools now seem to be getting more out of school than ever before," Gov. Patterson said. "All the students appear to grasp the real importance of obtaining a good education, and they seem to be getting it."

The governor believes that a workable private school system could be set up in Alabama if the need ever arose.

"From our study in Virginia, it seems likely that a well organized private school system could take care in an emergency and could take care of the school needs of the community," the governor said. "Prince Edward County is doing it, and I believe it can be done equally as well in Alabama."

There are no Negro schools in Prince Edward County now, although the white people offered to set up a private school for them too. "The Negroes then are the only real losers in this controversy," said Gov. Patterson.

The governor emphasized that the recent Virginia investigation was part of a "continuing study" of the efforts of Southern states to maintain segregation. "We want to keep abreast of all developments in order to be prepared here in Alabama," he said. Gov. Patterson has promised to close any public school threatened with intergation. "I hope that this situation never arises, but if it does we should be ready to face it," he explained.

## Old Age Pension To Average \$50

Montgomery — Old age pension checks will average \$50 this month, an all-time high in Alabama, predicts Gov. John Patterson.

Last month pensioners drew an average of \$50.83, the first time payments had ever gone over \$50.

Patterson said that he has called a governor's conference on aging in Tuscaloosa June 9-9.

An undersecretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in Washington, Miss Bertha S. Adkins, will be principal speaker at the conference.

Store left-over vegetable water in the refrigerator to put in gravy sauce for the same vegetables, soups, or in a vegetable juice cocktail.

Keep eggs clean, covered, and cold. After they are broken place them in a covered bowl or pan, away from strong-smelling foods.

## Postmaster Dobson Says Proposed Postal Rate Increase Will Be About 15c Per Month

Postmaster Jack Dodson said he has been advised by Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield that proposed new letter rate increases would cost the average family in Tuscombiana only 15 cents more a month.

This finding, Mr. Dodson explained, is based on extensive new studies proposed postal rate legislation. Because about three-fourths of the mail covered in the recommended new rates would be mailed by large commercial users, they would pay most of the additional \$554 million in postage increases, the local postmaster emphasized.

In a press conference in Washington a few days ago, Postmaster Dodson explained, the Postmaster General said he is now optimistic that Congress will approve the recommended rate increases before adjournment this summer.

An account of the Postmaster General's remarks given in Washington provides the following news facts about the postal rate matter, Mr. Dodson said.

The proposed increases would raise ordinary letter costs from 4 to 5 cents an ounce, air mail from 7 to 8 cents, postal cards from 3 to 4 cents, and air mail postal cards from 5 to 6 cents.

## Protect Steam Iron With Distilled Water

AUBURN, Ala. — To keep from having a clogged steam iron, homemakers should use distilled water in them.

Minerals in hard water gradually clog the steam valves and vents of the iron, according to Auburn Extension Home Management Specialist Elizabeth Bryan. But distilled water can be bought at drug stores or at laundries. And water filter sets can be bought to demineralize the water.

However, some homemakers catch rainwater to use in their irons, says Dr. Orr. "Don't get rain water that runs off roofs or trees, since it is likely to be discolored or soiled. Also, rain water is likely to be cleaner after it has rained for an hour or so."

## Tuscombiana Pilots Have Recent Meet

Mrs. W. O. Reed presided over the recent meeting of the Pilot Club in the Community Center.

Club singing was led by Miss Mary Harris, accompanied by Miss Virginia Driver.

Mrs. Robert Hurston, co-ordinating chairman, was in charge of the program and presented president-elect, Mrs. E. H. Craig, who was re-elected delegate to the district convention in Gadsden. Mrs. Craig, Miss Harris, Mrs. Pridmore Wansley and Mrs. Genevieve Burnett, all delegates, gave reports of this meeting.

There were 210 delegates and visitors attending the convention and attendees awards were presented to Talladega, Evergreen and Selma.

New district officers were elected and they are Mrs. Selma Thomey, district governor; Mrs. Daisy Harrison, first lieutenant governor; Mrs. Francis Speed, second lieutenant governor; Miss Minnie Lee Heath, district treasurer.

Visitors attending from the Sheffield club were Mrs. Louise Emens, Mrs. Francis Bishop, Mrs. Marie Poole, Mrs. Martha Pace, Mrs. Marguerite Vanderhoef.

Refreshments were served to the members and their guests, Mrs. Celia Nichols and Mrs. Sam Hall, Jr.'s, young son, Sammie.

## Williams Heads Management Group

George W. (Ripper) Williams was elected president of the Muscle Shoals Management Association recently, succeeding Florence banker Leonard C. Johnson.

Working with the Tuscombiana savings and loan executive are vice presidents Edwin Catts, Hollis Rice and Sidney Painter with Luther Parker as secretary and Bob Holloway as publicity director.

Members of the board of directors for the current year are Bill Ferguson, Noble (Buster) Arnett, Charles Peery, Sam Israel, Louis Eckel, John Whitteman and William T. Watson.

## EDITORIAL GRIST

### DON'T TURN THE CLOCK BACK

The Transportation Act of 1958 marked the first legislation in this field for many years. While the Act leaves most major transportation problems untouched or unresolved, it does contain a number of constructive provisions. One of these makes it possible for the Interstate Commerce Commission to permit railroads to reduce loss-producing passenger service with greater facility. Maintaining that kind of service — for which there is no longer any appreciable public need or demand — has resulted in enormous operating deficits and has made heavy contributions to the critical financial situation now plaguing the industry.

Yet bills pending in Congress would undo what good has been accomplished. They would institute a far-reaching scheme of unnecessary and destructive regulation. Every aspect of passenger service, equipment and facilities would be covered by government decree, including the type and number of cars in a train, schedules, hours of operation of ticket offices, and so on. Railroads could even be required to expand the number of heavily-losing trains in service.

This would amount to turning the clock back with a vengeance. The conditions that existed in transportation a generation ago smell soiling bearing on the conditions of the present. The private auto-mobile alone, to say nothing of non-rail commercial carriers, has revolutionized individual and family travel. To force railroads to keep unwanted, deficit-breeding trains in operation would compound one of the most serious domestic problems the country must deal with.

### HIGH STAKES

At the end of March, the American Medical Association sponsored a regional conference on the medical needs of the aging in Baltimore. The AMA's president, Dr. Louis M. Orr, set the keynote in these words: "The time has come for both political parties to lay aside their partisan political approaches and seek, as groups of thoughtful people, the courses we must follow in providing our older people with fuller lives."

"The stakes are too high, in terms of human lives and productivity, for either party to use the problems inherent in aging for advantage at the polls."

One political approach to these problems is found in the bill which would give federally-paid medical care to social security beneficiaries. This approach ignores the fact that needs vary from individual to individual and from community to community, and can be met satisfactorily only on the community level. Such a national program — entirely aside from the huge tax costs that would be an inevitable part of it — would regiment medical care for the age groups concerned, and turn the elderly people into so-many-million faceless, voiceless statistics.

The progress so far made by private medicine, aided by the spectacular growth and expansion of voluntary health insurance plans, is certainly proof that the remaining problems can be met and most certainly solved by maintaining the free system. That applies not only for the aged, but for all others. Meanwhile, to quote Dr. Orr again, "There is no one in this nation who needs to go without proper medical care for any reason." The doors to doctor's offices are always open to the indigent.

### A WARNING LOAN PROGRAM

Neither the veterans nor the building industry seem to be exerting themselves in favor of extending the GI home loan program which is scheduled to expire in July. And the government's position is that this last of the GI "readjustment" programs has long since served its purpose.

With the maximum interest rate on GI loans set at 5 1/4%, most lenders prefer to put their money into the higher yield conventional loans. It would be next to impossible to obtain a GI loan today except one discounted 8 to 10% to make the actual interest rate 6 1/2% or more.

Even so, it is erroneous to think that the GI loan program is completely dead. The regional VA office in Montgomery had 564 requests for appraisals in March and guaranteed 269 loans, the month before, it had 441 appraisal requests and guaranteed 219. While this is nothing compared to the hectic days after the war, it is impressive.

But the question is whether, in view of the difficulty of obtaining a GI loan without the heavy discount, the program is worth continuing. With a few exceptions — Montgomery possibly among them — VA loans are down 60 to 90% over the country, according to one survey. Is the government justified in maintaining an elaborate administrative apparatus to make the relatively few loans which might have been available elsewhere all along?

The GI home loan program was one of the most beneficial of all the GI programs in its day, approving more than \$5,500,000 loans, only about 1% of which proved bad. But 15 years after the war, it is reasonable to assume that the ordinary lending processes are as adequate for the ex-GI as they are for those who never saw a uniform — Montgomery Advertiser.

## Economic Advance of Local Region Shown

Economic advances made by the Tennessee Valley region during the decade 1950-1960 are described in a new booklet just published by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

During the "dynamic decade" — TVA in the Nineteen-Fifties, it carries a foreword by TVA's Board of Directors, General Herbert D. Vogel, Chairman, A. J. Jones and Brooks Hayes. "In this booklet," the directors wrote, "TVA looks at the past in terms of accomplishment. The decade is a convenient period for taking measurements of this kind."

"The measure of TVA's tasks, however requires a look to the future, an assessment of the problems we can foresee and of the resources at hand to meet them."

"The Tennessee Valley has serious problems which it must meet if it is to lend its full vigor to the Nation's advancing economy. Industry, through making rapid strides, still is inadequate to absorb the underemployed in the rural areas. Agriculture still is called upon to support a disproportionate share of the population. Incomes still are only two-thirds of the national average. In short, the transition from an agrarian to an urban society, so far advanced in many sections of the country, is here only well begun."

## Southern Bell Customers Pay Millions In Federal Taxes

Southern Bell customers in Alabama paid more than \$6,500,000 in luxury federal excise taxes on telephone service in 1959.

The average payment per customer amounted to nearly \$14.00 said W. L. Ferguson, Southern Bell Manager here.

The tax amounts to 10 per cent on both local and long distance telephone service and is added to customers' telephone bills each month. The Congress has now voted to let tax on local telephone service expire at the end of June, 1960 but took no action on the long distance levy. "The federal excise tax on telephone service was originally enacted many years ago as an emergency measure and was to be temporary," Ferguson said. "However, it is still in effect and telephone service is the only household utility so taxed for this purpose. It is included right along with luxury items such as jewelry trays, liquor and club dues."

Telephone customers consider the tax equitable and unfair because it applies to one segment — telephone users want the whole tax to be dropped, Mr. Ferguson said.

The repeal of the tax would directly benefit all telephone customers as the 59 telephone companies in Alabama would be required to turn it over to the U. S. Government.

## You Are Advised To Get S. S. Card Now

"Get your Social Security Card now," is the advice of Mrs. Mary King Temple, Manager of the Sheffield Social Security District Office, to June Graduates and students who plan to start working this summer. "One of the first things your employer will ask to see is your social security card," she added. "Get off to a good start on your very first job by having your card ready."

The social security number is the key to protection under the Social Security Program. The employer must have a record of each employee's number in order to file proper tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service. This in turn enables the Social Security Administration to give proper credit to each employee's account. Benefits for employees and their families are based upon these credits.

Social security cards are issued only by the Social Security Offices. However, application forms can be obtained at any post office. Those who have had cards but lost them should request a duplicate card. June Brides, and others who have changed their names after obtaining a card, should complete a special form to obtain a duplicate card bearing their present name.

"Your social security account number is as individual as your finger print, and if you use it properly your Social Security Account will be credited with all your earnings," Mrs. Temple concluded.

## Your Physician: A Man of Character In The Community

Perhaps no subject is more widely discussed in conversation, newspaper and magazine articles, books, pamphlets, radio programs and television, than health. It is used as an advertising appeal to go somewhere for advantageous climate, to do something or use something for better health, to cease doing something, to buy a product or a service, to eat or refrain from eating things — in short, to do or not to do.

Out of all the exhortation it is difficult sometimes for even the trained scientist to separate the legitimate from the spurious, the essential from the redundant, the sensible from the superfluous.

One thing is certain, health does not fall like the gentle rain from heaven — not in our complex civilization of speeding motors, invisible viruses and other germs, and disordered body chemistry. When to these ingredients you add poor food, poor housing, dull and degrading occupations, you arrive at a recipe for disease and poor health that is universal.

People Can Be Thankful But from an over-all health standpoint, the American people can be thankful.

Perhaps even the loudest complainers might be a little happier if they read the words of Dr. Peter Comanduras, the Secretary General of the Medical International Cooperation, MEDICO, a national group of American physicians who organized themselves in February 1958.

Dr. Comanduras states that "over half of the world — over one billion people — from the moment they are born until they die have no access to medical care at all."

Contrast this with the United States where this ratio of physician to population is 1:700. Perhaps the most impressive statement of Dr. Comanduras is the following: "More than three-fourths of the people of the world, with the exception of Western Europe, the North American continent, and Australia, are born in poverty and misery, eke out an existence during the greater part of their lifetime in semi-starvation and semi-pollution, and if not crippled, blinded, or deformed during infancy and adolescence by diseases, long and preventable, die prematurely from illnesses which are curable in other more fortunate parts of the world."

All this points up one important fact you, as a patient, are lucky to have your American doctor, though you sometimes grumble about his failings.

Doctors, individually, and as a group, are forever trying to deliver the best medical care possible. Jealousies, distrusts and hatreds, sometimes leveled at the doctor, can never play a part in alleviating distress, preserving life, or postponing death. "Doctors should not be classed as a heavenly host of angels. They are neither angels nor devils. They are human beings, with human needs, aspirations, appetites, and fears."

## Fertilize Gardens And Lawns After Soil Test

AUBURN, Ala. — It's time to fertilize gardens, flower beds, lawns and shrubbery.

But before using any fertilizer, you should first know what plant food your particular soil needs, says Auburn Extension Agronomist J. C. Low-Comanduras. "An S.S. soil test determines what kind and how much fertilizer to use," says Lowery. "Have your soil tested now. County agents have the supplies and instructions for taking soil samples."

If skirts show a crease where the hem has been let out, take a cloth and rub it over a piece of soap. Then rub the cloth along the crease in the skirt, wipe off excess soap, and press with a warm iron.

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