

IN THE STATE



Textbooks

RALEIGH (AP) — State education officials have developed new textbook selection standards that give more weight to content than features such as a book's cover and graphics.

The new standards, reviewed Wednesday by the State Board of Education's program committee, also would eliminate criteria for new copyright dates and precise reading levels. Critics say these criteria have damaged the quality of textbooks by forcing publishers to revise books in a hurry and to write stilted, choppy prose to meet readability formulas.

Forecast

CHARLOTTE (AP) — A revival of manufacturing will mean more job growth in rural areas and small cities as North Carolina's economy continues to grow over the next two years, an economic forecast says.

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte-First Union Economic Forecast reported a 5.6 percent state economic growth rate for 1987. It also projected 3.4 percent growth in 1988 and 2.4 percent in 1989.

"In terms of full production and low unemployment, the North Carolina economy is operating at a level we've not seen since 1977," said John Connaughton, UNCC associate professor of economics and director of the forecast program.

CP&L Defense

RALEIGH (AP) — Carolina Power & Light Co. has paid \$4.6 million to consultants to help prove that it didn't spend too much money building the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant.

The consultants's fees will ultimately be paid by CP&L customers in their monthly power bills, but those costs represent only part of the expenses accumulated by the utility as it attempts to refute contentions that mismanagement drove up the costs of the \$3.9 billion plant.

Mitsubishi

DURHAM (AP) — Mitsubishi Semiconductor America says it will soon begin producing one megabit chips at its plant in Durham.

Byron Lynch, with the business planning department of Mitsubishi, said Wednesday the one megabit chip — with four times more memory than the industry standard — currently accounts for 20 percent of memory chip sales worldwide and will likely grow to 50 percent of sales next year and 70 percent in 1990.

By year's end, Mitsubishi's Durham plant will produce 500,000 of the one megabit chips each month, according to Tadaaki Mizoguchi, president of Mitsubishi Semiconductor.

Hired Murder

WILMINGTON (AP) — A Wilmington teen-ager, who said the victim paid for his own murder, pleaded guilty to second-degree murder Wednesday in New Hanover County Superior Court and was sentenced to life in prison as part of a plea bargain.

James Ellis Daniels, 19, told police that his 19-year-old friend, Ravenelle Hemingway, wanted to commit suicide but didn't have the nerve, said Assistant District Attorney John Smith. Hemingway, who apparently was upset over a girlfriend, paid Daniels \$50 last January and later began making funeral arrangements, Smith said.

Daniels told police that Hemingway gave him a knife and said, "James, go ahead and do it," according to a statement Daniels gave to police that Smith read in open court.

"He could not do it himself because he didn't have the guts to do it," according to the statement.

School Buses

RALEIGH (AP) — The State Board of Education may seek emergency funds from the General Assembly to speed replacement of 2,647 school buses that do not meet federal safety standards, board Chairman Howard Haworth said Wednesday.

Haworth said the board was considering whether it could seek emergency funds from the legislature early in the 1989 regular session. That would allow the board to replace the buses by late 1989 or early 1990 rather than in the fall of 1990 as is now planned, Haworth told the News and Observer of Raleigh.

Prison Fire

RALEIGH (AP) — A fire in a ventilation system at Central Prison in Raleigh forced the evacuation of about 70 inmates early Wednesday morning, destroying several air conditioning units, prison officials said.

No one was injured.

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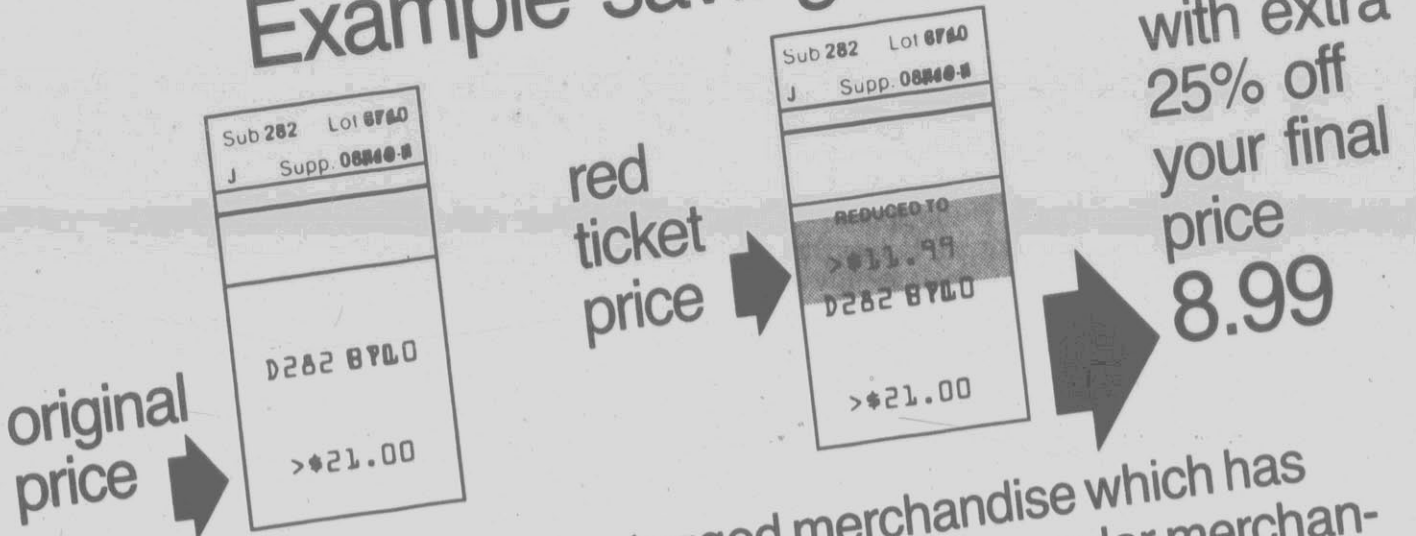
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McCarthy To Make New Effort For White House

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Eugene McCarthy, whose presidential candidacy two decades ago helped galvanize opposition to the Vietnam War, has placed himself in the running again this year at the age of 72.

"This year the one thing we have to do is shake up the two-party system, and that's what I hope to do," the silver-haired McCarthy told reporters and onlookers Wednesday near Independence Hall. "There is no real choice between Democrats and Republicans."

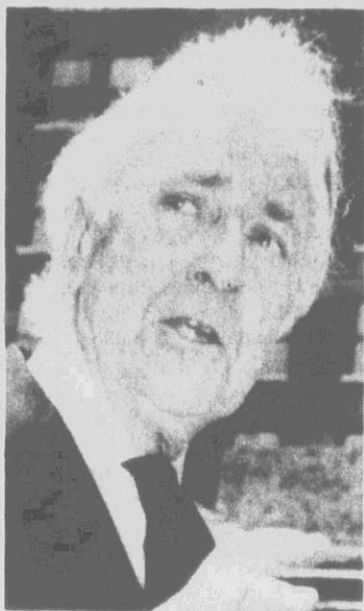
McCarthy dismissed the expected Republican nominee, Vice President George Bush, and his likely Democratic opponent, Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis.

"There are two kinds of people who don't make good presidents," he said, "vice presidents and governors."

The former senator, whose anti-war campaign in 1968 helped bring down President Lyndon B. Johnson, is running this year on the Consumer Party ticket.

In McCarthy's first campaign, fellow Minnesotan Hubert Humphrey won the Democratic nomination and Republican Richard Nixon won the election.

McCarthy also tried for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1972 and ran as an independent in 1976. This time he hopes to be on the ballot in at least 30 states.



EUGENE MCCARTHY

McCarthy said his latest candidacy was not a futile gesture.

"Sure I've lost before, but I didn't feel I wasted my time, and I expect to have a significant impact," McCarthy said.

Max Weiner, who founded the Consumer Party in 1967 in Philadelphia, said: "We think both the Democrats and Republicans have failed the country, and that we are an alternative, not a spoiler. We'll give the

voters an alternative. Millions don't want to vote for anyone, and we think that McCarthy will attract them."

The party has about 4,000 members, almost all in Pennsylvania. Its platform calls for guaranteed jobs for all Americans, sharp reductions in the military budget, passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and provision of affordable housing for everyone.

The party's most successful candidate to date has been Weiner, a 1987 candidate for Philadelphia City Council. Weiner won 21 percent of the vote, which was not enough for a seat.

The party affiliated itself with the campaigns of Citizens Party candidates Barry Commoner and Sonia Johnson in the 1980 and 1984 presidential campaigns.

Lance Haver, chairman of the Pennsylvania Consumer Party, said McCarthy would be formally nominated at a convention in Philadelphia late this summer. No date was announced.

Haver said that he expected Florence Rice, who founded the Harlem Consumer Education Council based in New York City, to be the party's vice presidential nominee. But McCarthy, who says the vice presidency should be abolished, said he expected there would be different running mates in different states.

Farm Exports Still Rising

WASHINGTON (AP) — Farm exports posted their highest levels in more than three years in March as the U.S. agricultural trade balance ran in the black for a fifth straight month, USDA economists say.

"Agriculture is making an important contribution to the trade balance of the United States," Agriculture Secretary Richard E. Lyng said Wednesday in a speech to the National Press Club before the figures were released.

He predicted export sales this year of around \$33 billion and a farm trade surplus of perhaps \$12 billion.

Exports in March soared to 14.8 million tons valued at \$3.3 billion, compared with 11.4 million tons valued at \$2.4 billion the same month a year earlier. It was the best monthly performance since December 1984.

The nation's agricultural trade surplus in March was \$1.38 billion, also the largest since December 1984. It was the fifth straight month that the nation has posted a surplus of \$1 billion or more.

USDA said fiscal 1988 agricultural exports through March totaled 77.3 million tons valued at \$17.8 billion. It

said that represented an increase of 13.6 million tons and \$3.3 billion from the same period last year.

Soviet purchases have accounted for 68 percent of the volume increase this year.

Department economists are forecasting fiscal 1988 exports totaling 145.5 million tons and valued at \$33.5 billion. That represents an increase over initial estimates. The higher forecasts are due to additional sales of animal products, as well as wheat, feeds and fodders and soybeans.

Navy Expects Shipyard Job Cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Navy is forecasting new job reductions at its eight public shipyards, where employment already has dropped 9 percent since 1985.

An unpublished naval planning document shows that the Navy is projecting a 21 percent cutback in employment at the yards between now and the end of fiscal 1991.

The job figures are only estimates, and are subject to change because of schedule shifts, new work or other factors.

The May 11 document, obtained this week from congressional

sources, projects employment requirements based on ship repair and modernization assignments for the 1989, 1990 and 1991 fiscal years. The Naval Sea Systems Command document resulted from a recent ship scheduling conference sponsored by the systems command, which oversees the eight yards.

Overall, employment in the yards would shrink from about 71,100 now to 64,050 in the fall of 1989. The workforce then would shrink further to 57,150 the next year and 56,400 the year after that. The current 71,100 figure includes about 4,000 tem-

porary and part-time employees.

The systems command, in a statement in response to a reporter's query, said the Navy has neither published employment projections nor announced layoffs.

"However, shipyard employment figures are routinely reviewed and working documents are prepared to determine what employment levels are necessary to meet fleet operational requirements," the statement said.

Some yards would see their workforce dip and then swell again.

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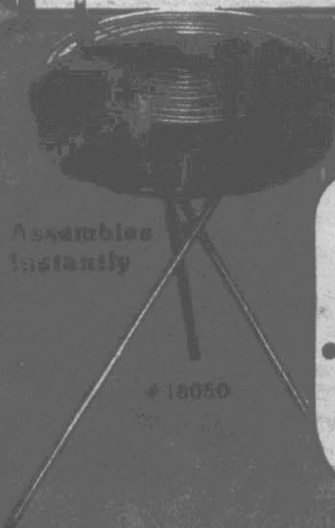
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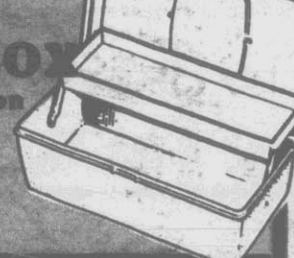
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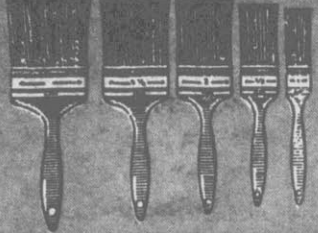


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