The Advertiser will publish all non-libelous letters of reasonable length from readers expressing their views for the Public Forum. Letters must be signed, and, in keeping with Louisiana statutes, the name of the writer will be printed whenever the letter mentions another individual or individuals in any way that could be considered derogatory. Otherwise, the name of the writer will be withheld from print upon request. The views expressed may reflect any side of an issue, but are not necessarily the opinions of the Advertiser.

Head Start Not Tongue In Cheek
211 Cherry St.
Lafayette, La.
June 6, 1966

Public Forum
Daily Advertiser

Dear Sir:

Was the editorial Operation Head Start Covers Lafayette Parish in the Sunday Advertiser written with tongue in cheek? It hardly seems possible that a responsible newspaper man would not check the facts and interview the teachers in the program before committing himself to print.

Maybe you could re-interview the teachers and ask them a few provocative questions. Ask them: have they been paid yet? Who provides lunch for the volunteers? How do they reply to the director who says that the children should be bringing some little project to school (obviously the director isn't quite sure what poverty means)? Who provides the school supplies needed for the teaching program?

Are the poor receiving the money allotted to the program by the federal government or is Acadiana Neuf still wielding the stick? Could it still be a case as in the days of the depression — remember the song?

"The rich get rich and the poor get poorer. In the meantime, in between time Ain't we got Fun".

Awaiting publication,

Signed —

Mrs. Richard T. Wagner
(Administrator: Southern Consumers Cooperative, sponsors of Lafayette's Head Start program through Acadiana Neuf, attributes the delay in paying teachers to governmental red tape. The checks have not arrived. They say that school supplies are plentiful now, although there may have been a shortage the first day or so. They point out that work of volunteers (usually parents of the children or other interested persons) is appreciated, but the Office of Economic Opportunity can provide no lunches for them, as all money must be used for the children and staff members.)