What'll We Do?

The pre-service education of teachers for today's schools is a tremendous challenge. The formal, academic approach can never accomplish the job. In fact such a program is certain to eliminate the creative person with a sensitive social conscience, for the creative, personal, potentialities of education will never become apparent. Thus, schools will be staffed principally with the dull, uncreative, individuals who lack social vision. Teacher education must be designed to reveal by experience the tremendous possibilities of education as a shaper of society. Only then, will education attract the caliber of person commensurate with the task involved.

Adventures in Pre-Service

That all individuals teaching boys and girls for the first time in the fall of 1946 can look back to experiences such as those described herein, is a claim which never could be substantiated. That not only they, but all teachers, should have such experiences, or ones similar to them, is a claim which can be justified. Those few who have had them will, we believe, be better teachers. In-service education programs can help in many ways to overcome the lacks. But even the best of in-service efforts can never compensate for inadequate pre-service preparation. The accounts of experiments which give emphasis to the importance of human relations, child development, community activities, and socio-economic problems illustrate, in part, how such lacks can be eliminated.

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