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ALL 2400 children in the 1967 Springfield, Massachusetts, elementary school summer program participated in the study of a common social studies unit, "Springfield in the Twenty-first Century." A unifying emphasis that ran through all subject fields was use of the imagination.

The summer classes served for demonstration of and experimentation with materials and methods being developed in the system's program for the disadvantaged. In preparation for the summer, teachers came together in April for a week of planning and curriculum development; they also spent a week at work in June prior to the opening of summer school.

**New Publication on
Instructional Materials**

The EPIE Forum, to be issued nine times a year, began publication in September. Devoted to the description and analysis of new materials and reporting research about them, the magazine is being published by the Institute for Educational Development (52 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York, New York 10017; \$25 per year).

APEX Program in Los Angeles

The Area Program for Enrichment Exchange (APEX) opened in September in five mid-city Los Angeles high schools to offer new opportunities arising from cooperation of the University of Southern California with the public schools. Among the five schools and open to students in all five are special "center" programs in aeronautics, agriculture, art, business education, English, foreign language, mathematics, music, science and social studies.

The range of new subject offerings is illustrated by the social studies center at Manual Arts. New subjects include introductory courses in anthropology, psychology and sociology and one entitled "The Supreme Court and the Laws." The foreign language center at Fairfax will offer Chinese, Hebrew and Russian as well as the regular French, German, Latin and Spanish.

Serving all the schools will be a Guidance Center, through which Professor J. P. Guilford is offering the resources of his Aptitude Research Project. The enterprise as a whole, to serve 14,000 students in the five schools, is a Title III project.

Research Center in Wisconsin

The Wisconsin State Department of Public Instruction has established a new Center for Research and Program Development to provide "leadership and counsel" to the state's schools and to coordinate research and program planning within the department itself.

Study of Computerized Instruction

The Wisconsin State Department is also studying the prospects for computerized instruction. The study will look at the strengths and weaknesses of computerized teaching, explore its implications for all subject fields, set priorities for use of federal funds on computerized instruction, develop machinery to disseminate information about it, and get the staff ready to assist school districts in the design of computerized instruction projects. "The computer," declares a recent *Newsletter* from the State Department, "promises to be the device which will contribute most effectively in the future to the establishment of truly individual instruction."

Computer Instruction from Coast to Coast

The Program for Learning in Accordance with Needs (Project PLAN) has been inaugurated this year to link 12 school districts in five states (California, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia) with a computer located in Palo Alto, California. The project, providing individualized instruction in grades 1, 5 and 9, is an outgrowth of Project Talent. Financed by the American Institutes for Research in the Behavioral Sciences, the Westinghouse Corporation and the individual school districts, the plan is to extend by

three grades per year until it covers all grades by September 1970.

Materials on Economic Education

From the Minneapolis Public Schools comes news about the range of supplementary bulletins for secondary social studies that have been completed by their Economic Education Project. The bulletins include these: *Minneapolis Trades with Japan* (Grade 7), *U.S. Economic Growth to 1865* (Grade 8), *Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the Upper Midwest* (Grade 9), *The Industrial Revolution* (Grade 10) and *The Coming of the Great Depression* (Grade 11).

Emphasis on Audio-visual Learning

At Marshall High School, Portland, Oregon, one of the most interesting projects for the educationally disadvantaged last year was an English-social studies project for 130 freshman slow learners that emphasized audio-visual instruction. Filmstrips, slides and sound films were heavily employed in an effort to create interest in learning, develop self-confidence and teach the basic skills. Extra credit was offered for out-of-school television viewing of selected programs.

Heterogeneous Grouping for Human Relations

One of the New York City Schools projects in integration, funded under the state program handling problems of racial imbalance, involves the introduction of heterogeneous grouping in the primary grades of eight Manhattan schools, the goal being, according to the *Staff Bulletin* of the New York Public Schools, to produce a "climate of wholesome intergroup relations."

New Apprentice Teacher Program

New York City is inaugurating a program of apprentice teaching that will involve about 300 liberal arts college graduates and college seniors planning on teaching careers. They will be employed in elementary schools in disadvantaged neighborhoods to supplement existing programs.

The apprentices will serve for from one term to a year, observing, providing small group instruction and finally teaching an entire class; they will assist with non-teaching as well as teaching responsibilities.

The program is not intended to interfere with the regular student teacher program. Apprentices and student teachers will be assigned to different schools.

National Laboratory on Early Childhood

The first national educational laboratory under Title IV, ESEA, has been established. With a grant of \$1.5 million, the National Laboratory in Early Childhood Education will have the University of Illinois as its headquarters, with the following institutions as participants in its program: University of Arizona, University of Chicago, Cornell University, New York University, Peabody College and Syracuse University.

Great Plains Organization Study

With headquarters in Lincoln, Nebraska, the Great Plains School District Organization is a cooperative venture of Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and South Dakota that is planning a series of conferences and publications dealing with such common concerns as the intermedi-

ate unit, research and development activities of local school districts, programs of adult, special and vocational education. Ralph Purdy is director of the project.

New English in California

The California elementary schools will be using "new English" textbooks beginning in the school year 1968-69 (Ginn for grades 1-2; the Roberts series, grades 3-6). "As soon as the kid learns how to read," the State Superintendent is quoted as saying, "he will be exposed directly to English in the form of organized and systematic text material."

Summer Programs in New York City

Seven hundred schools, 700,000 pupils and \$22 million in federal and city funds were involved in the 1967 summer program of the New York City Public Schools. Featured this summer was a broadened program of recreation developed by the Bureau of Community Education, involving 644 vacation day camps, 77 weekend vacation day camps, 28 fee-supported day camps, 46 teenage centers, 35 play schools, 37 athletic fields, 44 swimming pools and 131 evening community centers.

Comparative Education Note

Seventy percent of the elementary school teachers of Japan are men; 85 percent of the secondary teachers are, too.

Largest Junior College Enrollment

With an enrollment of nearly 78,000 students, the Los Angeles Junior College District is the fifth largest collegiate institution in the United States, the biggest junior college district.

Prepacked Lunches in Toledo

Close to 1200 lunches each school day are being served to pupils in six Toledo, Ohio, schools in a tryout of prepackaged meals. The receiving schools are equipped with sinks, refrigerators and an oven to take care of the food until served. Hot foods are packaged in aluminum foil.

Inventory of Florida Innovations

Available from the Florida State Department of Education, Tallahassee, is *Report on Strategies for Curriculum Change* which lists innovative programs and practices from more than 700 Florida schools. Language arts heads the list, with reports of more than 400 programs.

Study of Technology in Education

The Division of Curriculum and Instruction of the Florida State Department of Education has begun a year-long staff study of the effects and uses of educational technology.

Guidelines to Mathematics

A new bulletin entitled *Guidelines to Mathematics, K-6* is available from the Wisconsin State Department of Education (Madison). The bulletin identifies 15 main strands of mathematics and follows these through, indicating grade by grade the behavioral objectives for the suggested program.

Growth in Circulation of Childhood Education

As compared with a 1965 circulation of 18,000, the 1967 circulation of *Childhood Education*, journal of the Association for Childhood Education International, has reached 60,000.

Iowa School District Enrollments

In 1900, Iowa had more than 14,000 legally constituted school districts. This past year the number totaled 455 (with 45 more in process of attaching themselves to the others). The top 88 districts enrolled 61 percent of the state's school population.

Sample Summer Institutes

The NDEA institutes for secondary teachers at Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, for the summer of 1967 included "Urban History," "World Communism," "Creativity in Industrial Arts," "Guidance and Counseling" and "Advanced Study in English: American Romanticism."

Education of Instructional Materials Aides

At the end of the summer, Portland Community College graduated its second group of instructional materials aides prepared in a year-long training program that combines on-the-job experience with classroom and laboratory experience. ☛



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