

ALEXANDER FRAZIER*

THE redevelopment of the elementary school science program in the Madison, Wisconsin, Public Schools, calls this year for the preparation and transmission of 14 half-hour television programs for the intermediate grades. The program will also include an increased number of workshops to provide for "teacher involvement and materials familiarization," and the planned testing out of commercial science kits and materials in six schools.

Last year teacher evaluation of an after-school television program on primary level science revealed satisfaction with this method of promoting concern but also led to proposals that meetings be held with teachers in the buildings. Chief needs for improving the program were identified as more equipment and materials for children to work with and more time for teacher planning and follow-through.

Reading Resource Teachers

Reading improvement in the Madison schools is being approached through an effort to work with all teachers in the elementary schools on the needs of the total reading pro-

gram. Resource teachers in the elementary schools are freed from some teaching duties to assume responsibility for working with other teachers toward this end and to relate the local program to resources available from the central office.

Bornoff Approach to String Teaching

The teaching of stringed instruments in the elementary and junior highs of Madison is now being based on the method of George Bornoff. This method emphasizes presenting the total instrument from the onset, with all the basic left and right hand techniques treated within the first month of study. At a culminating concert last spring, more than 500 fifth- and sixth-grade pupils and 140 from the junior highs performed with their 16 teachers and the members of the Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra. The new program has been under development for two years, involving a summer extension program from the University of Wisconsin with Dr. Bornoff two years ago and the continuing support of Professor Marvin Rabin of the university.

Federal Aid to Las Vegas

A year-end report by John Pastre, Director of Educational Research and Development for the Clark County schools, Las Vegas, Nevada, indicates that 11 percent of the system's expenditures were supplied by federal sources. Mr. Pastre points out that the funds are used

... to purchase audio-visual and library materials, develop innovative projects, strengthen and improve adult and basic educational programs, on-the-job training, provide for a reimbursement in federally supported milk and hot lunch programs, provide money for special Indian education, and recognize the impact that federal employees have upon a local district.

New School in Tulsa

Among the newly constructed schools of Tulsa, Oklahoma, is the Walt Disney Elementary School.

Race in the Drop-Out Syndrome

When the other factors related to dropouts are taken into account, according to a study completed in the Tulsa schools, race becomes insignifi-

*Alexander Frazier, Professor of Education, The Ohio State University, Columbus

cant. In fact, Negro students are more likely than white to stay in schools when such factors as these are equalized: intelligence quotient, parents' educational level, family organization, socioeconomic level, grade point average, attendance, and non-promotion.

A longitudinal study of drop-out predictability on the class of 1966, begun when the students were in the sixth grade, reveals a close to 80 percent certainty with the use of these factors. However, Paul I. McCloud, Director of Research, in reporting this finding warns against assuming certainty in prediction. Intervention to halt the likelihood of dropping out, he indicates, needs to come early. And school personnel need to beware of the self-fulfilling prophecy that may begin to operate when pre-diagnosis of dropout occurs.

Resource Centers in Iowa

Sixteen centers for the distribution of printed and non-printed materials have been organized in Iowa to receive ESEA Title II funds. These centers, first set up in 1966, are bound by new state regulations that set a limit of a 75-25 percent ratio between the two types of materials; predominance might run either way but both kinds must be provided. At present, book collections range in size among the centers from 7,000 to 50,000 volumes, film holdings from 200 to 1,400 prints.

New Board in Kansas City

The Board of Education of the Kansas City, Missouri, Public Schools, will be composed of six members elected

from sub-districts and three elected at large.

Tide Pool Collection Out of Hand

Depletion of tide pool specimens by student collectors is causing concern to the staff of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, which is suggesting that only teachers should collect starfish, urchins, and the like. Students and other observers are urged to replace stones overturned in their study and to otherwise assist in maintaining the sites of study in good shape for use by the next visitors to the shore.

Community-Centered Education Complexes

Two education "complexes," each to be comprised of a senior high, a junior high, and feeder elementary schools, are being set up this year in the Los Angeles, California, City Schools. Community-centered, the complexes will provide adult education programs as well as programs for students developed to meet specific needs as identified by parents, other community members, teachers, and administrators. One of the new complexes is located in the Watts area, the other in East Los Angeles.

TV Network in Florida

GENESYS TV Network (representing Graduate Engineering Education System) has been inaugurated in Florida to link the University of Florida, Gainesville, with Daytona Beach, Orlando, and Port Canaveral installations. Two-way communication by tele-

phone is provided for students, who observe lectures or demonstrations in groups of six at sets provided in classrooms or receiving rooms.

Adult Education Centers

Five learning centers for adult education have been set up under the guidance of the Arizona State Department of Instruction in as many different locations in Arizona. The centers, to be open day and evening, will place emphasis on individualized programmed instruction.

Eight-State Conference via Telephone

The Eight-State Project on Designing Education for the Future held a half-day telephone conference last spring that hooked up 25 stations in the member states, with the point of origination in Denver. The decentralized conference used coordinated visual presentations to supplement the amplified telephone messages.

Demonstration Libraries in Florida

Four school libraries have been designated by the Florida State Department of Education as demonstration centers to which visitors will be referred for observation of exemplary programs. Each center has received a special grant to improve existing collections. The centers are located in Fort Lauderdale, Gainesville, Marianna, and Lakeland.

Honors Program in Junior High

Honors courses in English are being taught in five junior high schools in Fort

Worth, Texas, this year. Tried out last year, the new sequence leads to a twelfth-grade course designed to prepare students for advanced placement college credit.

93,000 Passengers

Estimated number of passengers carried last year on the Austin, Texas, schools' three study trip buses was 93,000. The total number of study trips was about 1,700.

One Thousand in Seminars

More than 1,000 certified personnel of the Corpus Christi, Texas, Public Schools, attended seminars organized for in-service credit last summer. Thirty-seven different seminars were offered, covering 11 subject areas and such fields as cooperative teaching, learning problems, and discipline.

Variety in Enrichment

Last summer's enrichment program in Fort Worth provided courses in computer mathematics, creative writing, Spanish, physical fitness for boys, and gymnastics for girls.

"Zoofaris" in Cincinnati

Zoo trips for pupils of the Cincinnati, Ohio, Public Schools, are now called "zoofaris." Incorporated in the trips are opportunities for contact with animals, such as feeding the lambs and petting the llamas, and having a close but safe look at porcupines and other non-domestic animals.

Destiny in Pittsburgh

English students in a twelfth-grade class taught by

Mrs. A. L. Barrett at the Oliver High School in Pittsburgh wrote, produced, acted, and filmed a 15-minute film entitled "Destiny" as an activity in connection with a unit on man and his fate.

Institute for Latin Teachers

Twenty-five Latin teachers participated in an institute last summer at Indiana University, Bloomington. The two-week course included pronunciation and oral use of Latin as well as attention to structural approaches to teaching, evaluation and adaptation of materials, and culture and civilization.

Unifon in Indianapolis

The 40-character Unifon alphabet has been taught to selected pupils in the Indianapolis, Indiana, Public Schools, since 1964. Beginning in kindergarten, the first group is now in the fourth grade. Close track is being kept of the problems of adjustment as well as for evidence of superior attainment in reading, writing, and spelling.

Accidents in Albuquerque

A report on student accidents for last year in the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Public Schools, shows boys ahead of girls, 493 to 281. Fifth and ninth grades had most accidents. Top rank went to bruises, sprains, cuts, and fractures. Also reported were 13 bites.

Senior Citizens as Teacher Aides

The University of Montana, Missoula, conducted a training program last spring

for 65 senior citizens to prepare them to serve as teacher aides.

"Succeed in School" Series: Cleveland

A series of eight-page brochures for parents has been prepared to inform the parents of pupils in the Cleveland, Ohio, elementary schools about the content of the curriculum at each grade level, K-6, and to suggest parent activities that may help the child toward greater success. Each brochure also carries a postcard for parents to use if they wish to enroll in basic education programs to learn English or improve their use of it. The invitation to take advantage of the adult education opportunities is printed in Romanian, Hungarian, Italian, Spanish, Czech, Slovak, and Ukrainian.

Other Publications of Interest

Innovation in Education: New Directions for the American School (Committee on Economic Development, 477 Madison Avenue, New York City 10022). A statement on national policy, by the Research and Policy Committee of the organization, calls for creation of federally sponsored Commission on Research, Innovation, and Evaluation in Education with independent status.

Requirements of Educational Information Systems: The Next Two Decades (John W. Loughary, School of Education, University of Oregon, Eugene 97403). A collection of papers from a conference held at the university.

Social Studies in Indiana

Elementary Schools (Curriculum Research and Development Center, School of Education, Indiana State University, Terre Haute). A report of a survey of the nature and adequacy of programs in Indiana schools.

Negroes in the United States (Office of the Director of Libraries, Pattee Library, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park 16801). A 62-page buying guide of reading material for schools.

The Journal of Aesthetic Education (University of Illinois Press, Urbana 61801). A new magazine that proposes to combine theoretical and applied approaches to education in the arts.

New Course on Drugs and Narcotics

El Paso, Texas, high schools are offering this year a new course in drugs and narcotics that was developed last year at Coronado High School. General practitioners, psychiatrists, youth groups, parents, and police have cooperated in developing the content and reviewing teaching materials which include a film on the effects of LSD.

School Lunches in St. Louis

This year for the first time all St. Louis, Missouri, Public Schools, offer a school lunch program. At the close of school last year, the number of

free and partial paid lunches had increased from the previous year by nearly 100 percent for a total of 5,900 daily.

Wise, Wiser, Wisest

At the Stix School in St. Louis, a vocabulary improvement contest is conducted for pupils of grades four through eight. Each day a word, with its definition, syllabication, and identification as a part of speech, is posted on a bulletin board. Pupils using the word correctly during the day are given a check mark by teachers. Winners are those who secure the most marks. The contest carries the name "Word Wise, Wiser, Wisest." □

Index to Advertisers

American Book Company	218	Lyons & Carnahan	190
Appleton-Century-Crofts	134	The Macmillan Company	192
Associated Educational Services Corporation	198	A. J. Nystrom & Co.	214
Benefic Press	204	Prentice-Hall, Inc.	196-97
The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc.	178	Rand McNally & Company	202, 212
Dymedia, Inc.	216	Random House School & Library Service, Inc.	186-88
Faculty-Student Association at Albany, N.Y.	205	Science Research Associates	208
Great Plains National Instructional Television Library	150	Scott, Foresman and Company	206
Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc.	200, 220	Society for Visual Education, Inc.	194
Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc.	210	Southern Illinois University Press	209
Houghton Mifflin Company	184	Steck-Vaughn Company	182
		Study Abroad	180
		Teaching Technology Corporation..	2nd Cover

Copyright © 1968 by the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. All rights reserved.