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THIS past summer, 170 teachers of the Lincoln, Nebraska, public schools met in workshop sessions to revise or prepare curriculum guidelines in 23 fields. The sessions varied in length but averaged 10 days.

Some of the areas were eighth-grade English, in which the task was to adapt the Nebraska English Curriculum to the needs of the Lincoln schools; elementary science, to make minor revisions in the fifth- and sixth-grade curriculum guide developed last year; health occupations, to develop a guide for the content of such classes offered at Lincoln High School; Initial Teaching Alphabet, to orient new teachers entering the existing program of i/t/a in two elementary schools; media committee, to develop guidelines for teaching library science in the junior highs; and shorthand and stenographic training, to develop instructional tapes and a manual for clerical and stenographic training courses.

New Organizational Structure

"The danger of job descriptions, the inevitable companion of all good orga-

nizational charts," writes Superintendent John Prasch of the Lincoln schools, in commenting on a proposed reorganization designed to reduce levels and promote communication, "is that they may circumscribe the performance, restrict individuality, or cut off creativity."

The Lincoln plan provides for direct access of principals to the superintendent's office, with principals having "primary responsibility for implementing the operational work of the district." The three-level structure provides for a superintendent's cabinet and a council of principals at the first and second levels; teachers presumably are represented by their principals or are left to provide their own extramural organization.

Guidelines on Grooming

Girls in the Springfield, Missouri, schools may wear culottes, culotte dresses, pant skirts, and pant dresses to school this year but not slacks, shorts, or jeans. Boys must wear socks. Both sexes must tuck in their shirts if these are designed to be tucked in.

Hair should be neatly groomed and "styled in a gen-

erally accepted manner so as not to be unusually conspicuous or bring into question the good judgment of the individual."

The new regulations were prepared by a 50-member committee composed of parents, students, and teachers.

The Educator in a Changing America

In his opening message to teachers, via the school bulletin, Superintendent Willard Graff of the Springfield, Missouri, schools called for resolution on the part of the staff "to implement a curriculum and a course of action for instruction which continuously emphasizes values, attitudes, and skills necessary to prepare the individual to participate in and contribute to a free society as a responsible and productive citizen."

State Conservation Study

A state advisory council on conservation has been appointed by Arkansas Commissioner of Education A. W. Ford to assist in the development of courses, guidelines, and materials for use in teaching conservation. Omar Stevens,

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a state supervisor of instruction, has been appointed coordinator of the new effort.

Four-County Cultural Center

The Regional Arts and Crafts Center at Harrison, Arkansas, serving the teachers of four counties, is a Title III project that is aimed at upgrading the art and music programs of the region. The program provides for in-service workshops, supervisory assistance, teaching, exhibits, and attention to community coordination of cultural resources.

Massive Study of Disadvantaged

One of the most promising centers for the generation of genuinely new knowledge about disadvantaged children and ways to succeed in teaching them is the Durham Education Improvement Program (Information Office, Mutual Plaza, Durham, North Carolina 27701).

The concerns there include studies of characteristics of disadvantaged children, in terms of such factors as failure avoidance, social maturity, and gratification patterns; studies of infants, including a longitudinal study of 26 infants (for the first two years); teacher-child transactions, using a highly sophisticated Coping Analysis Schedule for Educational Settings (CASES) as well as the more familiar interaction grids; case studies describing behavior modification by use of reinforcement techniques (problems of aggression, attention-getting behavior, and the like); curriculum studies, including linguistic-

based reading; and evaluation of psycholinguistic abilities.

The Durham program is financed by the Ford Foundation and jointly administered by Duke University, North Carolina College, the Durham city and county schools, and Operation Breakthrough, Inc.

New English in Idaho

Some 400 Idaho secondary school English teachers were enrolled in seven regional workshops on the new English last spring. Twelve weekly sessions were provided at each site. Carrying three semester hours of credit, the course was planned jointly by the Idaho State Department of Education, the Idaho Center for Continuing Education, the University of Idaho, and Idaho State University. The course was underwritten by the U.S. State Department.

Libraries in Tacoma

Last year the school library budget of the Tacoma, Washington, Public Schools, was \$122,959, half of which was matching federal funds. Total budget in 1957 was \$44,666. Books on hand at present number 404,000 as compared with 181,000 in 1956-57.

Work Experience Credit for Teachers

Teachers in the San Diego, California, Public Schools, may receive as much as four to eight salary and "hurdle" credits for approved summer work experience in fields believed to contribute to their teaching effectiveness. Credit is granted after

submission of a satisfactory written report on the experience.

New In-Service Topics

Among the new programs available from Science Research Associates this year in their in-service publication series (eight monthly bulletins per program) are included these topics: behavioral objectives, family life and sex education, reading through the subject matter areas, and teacher self-assessment (259 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611).

Common In-Service Components

In a summer workshop provided in Des Moines, Iowa, by Project IMPACT, a Title III project, three phases were common to all 117 teacher participants: communications training, the nature of instructional objectives, and process groups. The workshop dealt with several subject fields at both elementary and secondary levels.

Summer Adult Education Program

Forty-six adult classes were offered last summer by the Des Moines public schools in vocational, reading, and recreational skills. Housed for the first time in air-conditioned classrooms, the classes attracted far more enrollment than in previous summers.

Adult Education via Television

The Georgia Educational Television Network is carrying a series of 60 half-hour programs this year on its "TV High

School" program, with an estimated audience of 50,000 persons. Telecast on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, the programs appear twice each day at 7 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Five basic subjects (natural sciences, English grammar, social studies, general mathematics, and literature) are covered in the series. Adults can prepare for the General Education Development Examination by following the programs.

Home study kits are available and in some areas industries or service agencies are offering additional class time with a live teacher. All 10 network stations are carrying the courses.

Civil Defense Education

More than 30,000 Pennsylvanians completed Civilian Defense Education courses during the last fiscal year. Courses in personal and family survival led the list, with smaller enrollments in radiological monitor training and shelter management.

Community College Service Areas

The State Board of Education of Pennsylvania, responding to a mandate of the General Assembly, has established 28 community college service areas in the state as a basis for future planning. Community colleges already exist in 12 of the areas.

Summary of First Grade Reading Study

Nita Wyatt presents a useful summary of the first and second years of the na-

tional reading study in the University of Kansas *Bulletin of Education*, Spring 1968 (published by the School of Education, University of Kansas, Lawrence).

Newest Schools in Connecticut

This fall, the fifteenth regional vocational-technical school in Connecticut was opened at Ansonia. The Emmett O'Brien School has 230 students this year and will enroll nearly 500 by 1970-71.

Coventry opened the only brand-new middle school in the state, the Captain Nathan Hale Middle School, with an enrollment of close to 700 children in grades five to eight. It has 36 classrooms, a library-resource center, large-group instruction areas, gym, shop, and music areas, and a combination cafeteria-auditorium.

New Haven opened its Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Elementary School with 200 children, kindergarten through fourth grade. The school is one of two schools stressing community involvement under Ford Foundation sponsorship in cooperation with Yale University and neighborhood groups.

New Board Committee in St. Louis

A Committee for Teacher Concerns has been set up this year by the Board of Education of the St. Louis, Missouri, public schools, charged with meeting monthly or more often if need be "with representatives of teacher organizations and with individual teachers to discuss all problems and matters with which teachers are concerned."

Teacher Education Exchange Program

Undergraduate education students of the University of Connecticut and Keswick Hall College, England, exchanged places this past summer and autumn in an effort to develop useful cross-national insights. The Connecticut students were in England during the early and mid summer, the English students were in the United States during late summer and early fall. In both cases, visitors served as teacher aides as part of their learning experience.

Further Dartmouth Reports

Four new reports derived from the highly influential Anglo-American Seminar on the Teaching of English held at Dartmouth College in 1966 are now available from the National Council of Teachers of English (508 South Sixth Street, Champaign, Illinois 61820): *Creativity in English*, *Response to Literature*, *Drama in the English Classroom*, and *The Uses of Myth*. Each report covers a separate study group at the seminar. The two larger reports, issued in 1967, John Dixon's *Growth Through English* and H. J. Muller's *The Uses of English*, should be at hand for everyone working to develop English programs.

What Parents Want to Know

Robert Shadick reports a study on parents and their reporting wishes ("Do Parents Demand Reporting Practices that Favor Their Own Children?") in *Illinois School Research*, February 1968 (100 E. Edwards Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704). One finding

that merits serious attention is that poorer parents want the truth even if it hurts. This magazine is published by the Illinois ASCD, by the way, and distributed through the state education association.

Recognition of Custodians

Each year the Oklahoma City *School News* publishes a list of citations of its custodial staff for outstanding performance.

Progress in New Orleans

The most recent formal report on the activities of the Orleans Parish Schools, New Orleans, issued triennially, notes these developments as representing progress in their program:

Total of 33 centralized libraries in elementary schools, three of which are housed in separate buildings adjacent to the schools they serve; the board is pledged to provide libraries for all its elementary schools

Nearly 10,000 four-year-olds served by pre-kindergarten Head Start program

Elementary class size now 28.8; secondary, 26

Non-grading in 40 elementary schools

Introduction of algebra in eighth grade, calculus in senior high school

New courses in practical nursing, offset lithography, and data processing in selected high schools

Extension of physical education in the high schools to five days a week instead of the previous three days

Extension of distributive education programs from senior to junior high schools.

Mini Career Clinic

Nineteen career areas were covered in a Mini Career Clinic held in Louisville, Kentucky, for 340 members of the Neighborhood Youth Corps, under the joint sponsorship of the Louisville Urban League Guild and the public schools.

Counseling Teachers

A doctoral study by the director of guidance for the Albuquerque, New Mexico, public schools reveals that a "treatment" program of small group counseling for teachers helps in creating more favorable positive perceptions of student behavior and thus in turn improves the classroom learning environment (study by Robert Patten, completed at Arizona State University, Tempe).

Literature for the Disadvantaged

Seventh- and tenth-grade disadvantaged students in the Los Angeles, California, schools are using books prepared for them from manuscripts solicited from local writers. The program, installed last year, is designed to forward reading development through providing material more directly related to the experiences and needs of such students.

Cows in the Classroom

Geraldine and her calf, Daisy Mae, are on tour in the San Diego, California, school district via a 35-foot mobile dairy unit, equipped with milking apparatus and other dem-

onstration equipment. Sponsored by the Dairy Council of California, the live exhibit is used to supplement elementary school studies in health, science, and social studies.

Arts and the Poor

Reporting a conference on the topic, *The Arts and the Poor: New Challenge for Educators* is now available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office (No. FS 5.237: 37106; Washington, D.C. 20402; 40 cents). One topic of special interest is "cultural imperialism" or "missionary-ism" in the ghetto.

Key Research Center

Another key producer of new knowledge about disadvantaged children and their learning is the Demonstration and Research Center for Early Education (DARCEE) at Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee, headed by Susan W. Gray. A unit of the new Kennedy Center for Research on Education and Human Development as well as a component of the National Laboratory on Early Childhood Education, DARCEE is involved in many studies that deal with the intervention process. Notable concern is the training of mothers of disadvantaged children to teach their own children and to modify the children's behavior in various ways. Follow-up of children under study is planned as they enter and progress through school. □

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