"WHAT is the biggest problem facing elementary and secondary schools in your community?" A national Gallup survey obtained these answers from the public in order of mention: (a) discipline, (b) integration-segregation, (c) financial support, (d) "good" teachers, (e) buildings and facilities, and (f) drugs.

When asked specifically about discipline, a majority said that discipline is "not strict enough," while only 2 percent felt that discipline is "too strict." The opinion that discipline "is not strict enough" was shared by 52 percent of whites, in comparison to 62 percent of nonwhites in the survey.

"Who should assume more responsibility for correcting this situation?" Of those who indicated that discipline is "not strict enough," 30 percent said that parents should assume more responsibility, while 16 percent identified administrators, and 16 percent pointed to teachers.

Surprisingly, only 15 percent of high school juniors and seniors felt that discipline is "too strict," while 23 percent were of the opinion that it is "not strict enough."

Although a clear majority of parents said that the curriculum is all right as it is, most high school juniors and seniors indicated that the curriculum needs to be changed. And while a majority of parents felt that high school students should not have more say on matters of curriculum, teachers, and rules, most high school juniors and seniors were of the opposite opinion.

Approximately two-thirds of the parents favored sex education in the curriculum as compared with 89 percent of high school juniors and seniors. Most parents and high school juniors and seniors approved the discussion of birth control in sex education courses.

On the question of increasing taxes for the support of the public schools, 36 percent of Protestants and 36 percent of Roman Catholics favored such measures, in comparison with 59 percent of Jewish respondents.

The Gallup survey was supported by CFK Ltd., a Denver-based foundation headed by Charles F. Kettering II. Copies of the survey are available for $1 each from I/D/E/A, Information and Services Division, P.O. Box 628, Far Hills Branch, Dayton, Ohio 45419.

Nation's Priorities

The Foreign Policy Association has developed a new paperback, Foreign Policy Priorities 1970-1971, to be used by social studies classes in secondary schools to challenge students to analyze our nation's priorities on issues relating to Vietnam, the Middle East, the Soviet bloc, Communist China, Western Europe, Latin America, arms limitation, trade, foreign aid, the military-industrial complex, and the environment.

Each issue is introduced through key questions followed by background facts, current U.S. policy, pro and con arguments on alternatives to our
current policy, and a select bibliography. The appendix contains an opinionnaire which can be used as a pre- and post-test to ascertain changes in student views and to stimulate further discussion. The paperback also is useful for panel discussions, theme writing, and other classroom activities.

Copies of the paperback are available at 95¢ each from The Macmillan Company. For 10 or more copies, special discounts are available through the Foreign Policy Association, 345 East 46th Street, New York, New York 10017.

Grants for Teachers

Ohio teachers who want to develop a new course or give a new idea a try in their classrooms can apply for a grant of up to $4,000 from the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation, a philanthropic organization working solely in Ohio. Last year the foundation distributed nearly $700,000 in the grants-to-teachers program.

Education News

Seventy-four Ohio radio stations are broadcasting the Ohio Education Association’s daily three-minute show designed to provide Ohio’s citizens with news and features about education.

Resource for Block-Time and Core Teachers

Revised August 1970, A Bibliography of Research on the Effectiveness of Block-Time Programs by Gordon F. Vars is available without charge. Those interested should send a large self-addressed stamped envelope to National Association for Core Curriculum, Inc., 404F Education Building, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio 44240. This new edition lists 41 comparative studies, 15 normative studies, and 8 summaries.

A Head Start for All?

The director of New York City’s Human Resources Administration, Jule Sugarman, has recommended that Head Start be made available to a larger proportion of the total child population. In New York City, only 8 percent of Head Starters are white children. Nationally, about 25 percent of Head Starters are white.

“Area School” for Career Study

A new vocational education program is being initiated this year by the New York City school system. The program will bring non-college bound high school students from their home schools to a central specialized school for advanced training in a particular field. Three career areas will be involved—health, business, and industry. Eight of the high schools which will serve as area schools currently offer full four-year programs in these fields. Jane Addams Vocational High School in the Bronx prepares students for the practical nurse license issued by the New York State Education Department. The course includes hospital training for students in the senior year.

Juvenocracy in Higher Education

Samuel B. Gould, who recently retired as Chancellor of the State University of New York, is quoted as follows in a recent issue of Inside Education—a publication of the New York State Education Department:

At a time when the nation is becoming a juvenocracy, a contradiction is occurring. Many young men and women bitterly complain about being neglected, misunderstood, and even forgotten as a generation.

Colleges and universities that are open to new ideas and are relatively defenseless seem an ideal launching pad for the assaults on society and upon reason itself.

The American university will continue to exist if it insists upon the central role of thought and reason. Ecstasy, sensitivity, pleasure, political debate, and emotional exercise can be gained from numerous other activities and institutions in society.

Reason, like colleges and universities that seek to foster it, is a fragile sword, sharp but slender, and double edged. But it is still man’s best weapon.

School Spirit

An increasing number of student handbooks contain specific statements of college and university policies and regulations governing campus dissent. A survey by the American Council on Education finds that most colleges and universities have issued specific policy guidelines.

For example, the latest Yale handbook of undergraduate regulations warns that the faculty has affirmed by formal vote that certain actions “will ordinarily result in temporary or permanent separation from the College.” Such actions include “physical restriction, coercion, or intimidation of any member of the (University) community . . . participation in
or encouragement of any effort to disrupt a class or other University function or seize or occupy any University building ... participation in or attendance at riots or mass disturbances ... defiance or belligerence toward a University police officer, faculty member, or other University official who, in the line of duty, issues an order or asks for information ... possession or use of explosives, incendiary materials, or weapons on University property."

From Nursery School to College

1970 census data reveal that a higher proportion of black children in the 3-4 age group are attending nursery school than white children. While 21 percent of black children in this age group are in nursery school, the figure for white children is 15 percent.

The census data also show that while only 13 percent of blacks in the 18-19 age group attended college in 1964, the proportion rose to 23 percent in 1969. However, over 41 percent of whites in this age group were attending college in 1969.

Children's Centers

The Sacramento City Unified School District operates three children's centers for youngsters who cannot be supervised at home because of the employment of their parents. The program operates without any support from local district taxes. Three-fourths of the cost is met by state support and one-fourth by parent fees. The children's centers are open five days per week from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., 12 months of the year.

Although the learning situations in the children's centers are less formalized than in the regular school program, there are opportunities for many types of instruction. The preschool experience includes language development and number concepts as well as finger painting and easel painting. Supervised study and reading are encouraged for the school age child in addition to programs of creative arts and recreation.

Centers are located at the Sierra, El Dorado, and Elder Creek Elementary Schools. In the planning stage is a fourth center to be located at the Collis P. Huntington Elementary School.

Head Start Test Collection

A new project has been established at Educational Testing Service to provide information to professional workers concerning assessment instruments for use in early childhood education projects.

Funded by the Office of Child Development of HEW, the new service utilizes the facilities of three existing organizations: the ERIC Clearinghouse on Tests, Measurement, and Evaluation, conducted by ETS in association with Rutgers University Graduate School of Education; the ERIC Clearinghouse on Early Childhood Education, sponsored by the University of Illinois College of Education; and the ETS Test Collection.

Qualified persons will have on-site access to extensive files on published and unpublished instruments, and specific problems may be directed to the project by mail or telephone.

Requests for inclusion on the project's mailing list and other inquiries should be directed to: Head Start Test Collection, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey 08540.

Successful Rejections

According to recent Army studies, the rate of medical disqualifications goes up in direct proportion to the education level of prospective inductees. A New York Times survey finds that a high proportion of college students are successful in their efforts to seek military rejection for physical and psychiatric reasons. While 45.7 percent of the potential draftees in Massachusetts were rejected in 1969, only 17.9 percent of the prospective draftees in South Carolina were disqualified during the same year.

Free Occupational Literature

A recent publication of the B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, A "Starter" File of Free Occupational Literature, lists 103 free pamphlets from various sources describing 500 careers. The publication can be used by teachers and counselors in developing a complete file of free materials for career exploration by junior and senior high school students. It contains a selective listing of materials which can be used at the desk of the teacher or counselor, rather than requiring the student to seek out the information in the library. Copies may be ordered at $1.25 each from the National Office,
Self-Instructional Kit on Classroom Verbal Behavior

A kit has been developed by the Appalachia Educational Laboratory of Charleston, West Virginia, to enable the teacher to analyze verbal behavior in his own classroom. Although the instrument is intended to be used as part of a formal preservice or in-service education program, the materials are so designed that an individual teacher may develop the same knowledge and skills.

The self-instructional kit is based on the Flanders system of interaction analysis. A monograph, Rationale, Development, and Validation of a Series of Self-Instructional Modules in Interaction Analysis, describes the entire project and presents teachers with the techniques for recording and analyzing teacher-pupil verbal behavior. For a copy of the monograph, write to: Appalachia Educational Laboratory, Inc., Charleston, West Virginia.

Education for the 21st Century

What sort of education is required for the rising generation which will spend much of its adulthood in the 21st century?

Through the support of the U.S. Office of Education, the Foreign Policy Association has produced an 84-page booklet designed to be used by elementary and secondary teachers in helping students attain a more realistic world perspective. Entitled International Education for Spaceship Earth, the booklet develops the theme that our schools must help students understand the meaning of the world as a single system and mankind as a single species.

In addition to examining educational needs and obstacles to change, the booklet reviews several interdisciplinary curriculum projects, discusses a variety of innovations in teaching methods, describes various teaching resources and approaches including simulation games, and presents sample units for elementary and secondary classes.

Copies of the booklet are available for $1 from the Foreign Policy Association, 345 East 46th Street, New York, New York 10017.

Multi-Media "Art and Man" Program

A new multi-media program in the humanities has been developed by the National Gallery of Art and published by Scholastic Magazines. The program, "Art and Man," is being published in eight monthly packages during the current school year.

Each "Art and Man" package consists of a 16-page magazine for each pupil containing color illustrations of noted art works, a teaching guide, and a multi-media element—such as a filmstrip, recording, poster, or color reproductions. Some of the themes of the packages are "The American Wilderness," "African Heritage," "Art and the Machine," "Cities To Live In," and "The First Americans" (the American Indians).

The cost of the program is $2 per student for a year's subscription. For further information, write to Scholastic Magazines, or to Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. 20565.

Parent-Teacher-Pupil Conferences

At the Erickson Elementary School in Tucson, at least two parent-teacher-child conferences are held during the school year—one eight-to-ten weeks after school starts and the other after the second semester begins. Teachers frequently schedule additional conferences and parents may request one at any time.

Children share samples of work at the conference as well as their feelings about self, peers, and school. Information is gathered for the conference by means of anecdotal records kept by teachers, aides, and, in some cases, by the children themselves.

At the end of the school year a narrative report card goes home to the parent. The goal of all reporting activities is to give pertinent information to parents, with a positive effect on the child.

Health Careers Training Program

The School District of Philadelphia and the United Health Services are cooperatively sponsoring a Saturday morning program for tenth, eleventh, and twelfth graders interested in health careers.

Included in the program are instruction in basic science and chemistry, upgrading of reading and mathematical skills, and guidance to inform students about career opportunities in the health field and financial assistance available.
The program is being financed by a grant from the United Fund.

Why Adults Go Back to School

A recent survey of the student body of the Knoxville, Tennessee, Evening High School indicates that the major reason that adults return to high school is "to prepare for a better status in life." More than 79 percent of those surveyed gave this as their major purpose, while only 8 percent said that they were returning "for the love of learning."

Education and Income

According to a recent Harris Poll, two out of three Americans wish they had gone further in school. The poll showed that only 33 percent of the respondents were satisfied with the amount of education they received.

The survey also documented the correlation between education and income. Sixty-three percent of those with some college education have incomes of $10,000 or more. On the other hand, 70 percent of those who never went beyond the eighth grade earn less than $5,000 per year.

Improvement Found in Writing Skills

English professors at the University of Oregon have unanimously recommended that course credits in composition required for the bachelor's degree be reduced from nine to six. Their explanation:

Although reliable objective methods have not yet been devised to measure accurately so complex and relativistic an activity as "writing," what evidence we have indicates that Oregon students today, by and large, are more capable writers than they have been in the past and that this improvement has taken place over a period of years.

Pupils Study Environment

The Portland, Oregon, School District has received a grant of $135,000 from the Ford Foundation to involve pupils at the Boise Elementary School in studying their environment and taking an active part in its improvement. The program began this fall for approximately 650 children at Boise Elementary School and 50 students at Jefferson High School.

One feature of the program is the renovation by students of a substandard house near the school. Renovation work is being supervised by shop instructors, classroom teachers, and resource persons from the community. Classes are being conducted on the problems of renovation as they relate to the science, mathematics, and social studies program. Several small passenger vans have been leased to transport pupils to and from the house and to agencies throughout the city in connection with their investigation of environmental problems.

Regional Facility for the Deaf

A new nine-classroom center for the deaf opened this year at Kelly Elementary School in Portland. The center features a kindergarten that integrates deaf children with children in the regular school program. The school library has also been equipped to handle the needs of deaf children so that children at the Kelly Center and those in the Kelly School program can work together.

The new center is part of a regional facility which serves nearly 200 deaf children through high school age in Portland and school districts within a 30-mile radius of Portland.

Electives Chosen over Study Halls

Cahokia, Illinois, High School seniors have been given the option to choose a fifth-course elective rather than study hall. Only 10 of the more than 300 students in this fall's senior class chose study halls over the fifth-course elective. Studies are in progress to determine whether the plan can also be adopted in grades 9 through 11.

Trimester Program in Four Fort Worth Schools

A pilot trimester program began this year in one high school and three middle schools in Fort Worth, Texas. The program involves longer class periods and fewer classes, with each half-credit course in high school being completed in one trimester. The fall, winter, and spring trimesters average 60 days each.

The high school day consists of six 80-minute periods, and the middle school day has five 65-minute periods along with a brief homeroom. Advantages of the program mentioned by participants include more time for supervised study, teacher-student interaction, and group work. Since teachers teach only four classes,
they can have a closer association with their students. According to John Sharp, principal of Arlington Heights High School, "Students have the opportunity to enroll for extra electives and thus broaden their educational background." The middle schools in the program are W. A. Meacham, William James, and Rosemont.

San Antonio Vocational Cooperative Program Expands

All eight San Antonio high schools now offer work-study courses. Students enrolled in the cooperative program attend regular classes each morning and work every afternoon in cooperating businesses, receiving training in their field of interest.

Courses are available for eleventh- and twelfth-grade students and include distributive education, office education, industrial training, health occupations, and agriculture. A new course at Edison High School also offers students the opportunity to learn service station management, auto and engine mechanics, engine tune-up and lubrication—and how to deal with the public.

A unique feature of the office education program at Lanier High School is that it is part of the district's bilingual education project. Students learn stenography, typing, filing, and other clerical functions in both English and Spanish, preparing for careers as bilingual secretaries.

Kindergarten in Texas

A new Texas law requires that, beginning with the 1977-78 school year, kindergarten be available to all Texas children who are at least five years old. The state kindergarten program began this year for disadvantaged children only. Beginning in the school year 1973-74, all other children who are at least five years, seven months old on September 1 will be provided the program. Children three months younger will be added in 1975-76.

The kindergarten program operates on a full-day basis. School districts receive funds from the state for the program on the same basis as for first-grade pupils.

Afro-Americans in Western United States

Afro-Americans in the Far West, a 112-page handbook for teachers, has just come off the press and is available at 60¢ per copy. Reference is made to national developments where pertinent. The focus, however, is on the Far West, particularly California. Orders may be sent to: Superintendent of Public Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

New Voices

The Executive Board of the John Dewey Society has joined with the Society of Professors of Education and the University of Florida in sponsoring a new quarterly journal, New Voices in Education. This journal is intended to serve as a national forum for the views of graduate students in education and is being edited by a board of graduate students from universities across the nation. Information about requirements for submitting articles may be obtained by writing to: Content Editor, New Voices, Box 2456, Normal Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32601.

School Breakfast Program

According to faculty, administration, and staff in 11 Montgomery County, Maryland, schools where a breakfast program has been initiated, the children seem to be learning better, their attitude toward school has improved, their attention span seems to have increased, and the reduction in discipline problems is "unbelievable."

"There was a need for children to have something to eat in the morning," explains Mrs. Maria Monisera, principal of New Hampshire Estates Elementary School. Prior to the breakfast program, "teachers were reporting problems with children suffering from lack of nourishment," recalls a principal.

The breakfast program is a pilot project developed by the school lunch division. Children who receive a free lunch do not pay for the breakfast. More younger children seem to take advantage of the program. This is attributed to the fact that older children are better able to "fix something for themselves" if no family breakfast is prepared.

Outdoor Education

"Look at that beautiful hunk of mud just filled with fossils. Put it in a bag. Don't break it. Use both hands."

"That's not a fossil; that's a live crab."

These are snatches of conversation from 250 seventh graders from Julius West

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Junior High School in Montgomery County, who, with their teachers, braved icy waves and winter winds to collect fossils of animals on the Calvert Cliffs of Chesapeake Bay. The three-day trip, part of a fossil study unit, was planned and undertaken by life science teachers Raymond Kent and Bruce Lube. As they explained to parents at a PTA meeting featuring a tape-slide show of the trip: “The fields of science are no more than extensions of our natural childhood curiosity about the things and events which surround us. . . . Science in school should be as real and touchable as the world is for the toddler.”

Public Library Offers New Service

How can interested citizens without school age children be kept informed about the school program? Atlanta citizens can obtain copies of Your Schools, a monthly publication of the Board of Education, in all branches of the Atlanta Public Library.

New Curriculum Committees in Newark

In action in the Newark, New Jersey, school system are ten new curriculum committees: English, Health, Humanities, Secondary Mathematics, Music Foundations, Newark for Grade Three, School Bus Education, Selective Service Education, Foreign Languages, and Elementary Social Studies. Parents and other Newark residents are being involved in curriculum improvement.

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Readers are invited to submit items for the NEWS NOTES column to: Professor Laurel N. Tanner, College of Education, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19122. Of particular interest to our readers are items concerning innovative programs and research.

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