

Salem Schools Rate Highly in State Educational System

TECHNIQUE FOR TEACHERS HIGH

Profound Improvement Constant Goal; Junior High's Reorganized

Special emphasis is being placed this year on two things which stand at the extreme ends of the Salem public school system, but both of which contribute fundamentally to the education of the several thousand boys and girls enrolled in the nine grade schools, two junior highs and one senior high.

One of the items on which stress is being made is beautification of the school buildings and premises; the other is professional advancement of the teacher, of whom there are 199 in the system.

The teacher-improvement program was started three years ago and is now reaching its height. Teaching standards have been raised considerably in the period, and upon a recent visit to Salem, Ida May Smith, state superintendent of schools, said that Salem schools were leading the state in purposeful work and education methods, except for a few places where very special emphasis is being placed on such work.

Fine Improvement Made
The beautification program was put under way last summer with the improvements made in the old Grant school building, in past years one of the most unattractive school houses in the city. Now, Grant pupils and teachers bow to no one when it comes to neat, pretty classrooms and halls.

At the suggestion of Supt. George Hug, who brought the idea from the east bright colored paint has been substituted for the old school room colors, and now the classrooms look more like one's own home. The hallways and basements were also painted, colors throughout the building harmonizing.

Added attractiveness was painted into the primary rooms. Teachers and pupils have added other little touches of hominess to the rooms.

As finances permit, it is hoped this idea can be carried to other buildings, the older ones to be so treated first.

In the past few years, greater attention also has been given to school grounds, until now more than half the building have attractive lawns. The most noticeable improvement along this line in the past 12 months has been at Park school.

Award Scholarships Sought
In connection with the studies being conducted by the teachers to further their value to the school system, Superintendent Hug holds the idea, as yet untried, that the district should provide scholarships to the teachers who do the most outstanding work in the classroom over a given period of time.

This year, teachers are enrolled in a number of special study courses, including the public relations class taught by the superintendent in connection with the University of Oregon extension classes; class for elementary principals taught by Miss Carlotta Crowley, elementary supervisor; class for supervisors and heads of departments taught by R. W. Weaver, secondary supervisor and methods of higher mathematics, taught by Miss Beryl Holt, head of the mathematics department. Other teachers are enrolled in extension classes. Other classes will be added as the year progresses.

Another method by which teachers are voluntarily improving themselves as instructors is through visiting other schools in the city system. Many new ideas are gained in this way.

Last spring several teachers made visits to schools out of the state at their own expense in order that they might see what is being done elsewhere.

Evidence of the advancement in teaching is seen in the fact that teachers not infrequently ask to be permitted to consider certain problems in their own classroom or building.

More and more of the teachers are using the purposeful activity project method for class instruction, and in every case the teacher declares the pupils advance more quickly under this method of teaching. The project idea was first introduced in the Washington school three years ago, and now has spread until it is in use part of the time in some classroom in every one of the buildings in the city, even including the senior high school.

Filberts, Flax Unique Crops in This Territory

"When you want to talk about the Salem district and tell some one what a wonderful country it is, just mention the fact that the only place in the United States where a fine quality of fiber flax can be grown is in the Willamette river valley," says C. E. Wilson, of the Salem chamber of commerce manager.

RURAL SCHOOL IS FUN!



So say these children who are pupils at the McKee school, one of the two experimental one-room rural schools in the county. They are grouped about the flower of Mrs. Mary Fulkerson, county school superintendent, and it they aren't getting a kick out of the picture, no one is. The teacher, Mrs. Lillian Shaner, is at the extreme right.

VISITORS FIND ONE-ROOM SCHOOL PLAN INTERESTING

McKee Students Allowed to Advance far Beyond Study Course Outlined for Grades

You folks who used to go to the rural schools where the teacher ruled with an iron hand, and learning was the traditional three R's with a little language, history and geography thrown in, should visit the McKee school, one of the schools in Marion county which Superintendent Fulkerson last fall designated as an experimental one-room building.

Another experimental school is at Fairfield, where Mrs. Grace Sehon is teacher. At McKee, in the north end of the county, Mrs. Lillian Shaner is the teacher. Incidentally, both teachers and the superintendent worked out the experimental plan on paper as thoroughly as possible before it was put into effect.

The reporter made the trip to McKee with Superintendent Fulkerson shortly before Christmas. Plan Christmas Program

Walking in, unheralded, it was immediately apparent that preparations were being made for a Christmas program. Some of the older children were busy in the front of the room setting the stage, one of them actually hammering. And believe it or not, while such preparations were under way, there were boys and girls seated quietly at their desks studying lessons.

The teacher was directing activities, but taking as little hand as possible in them; and that is exactly what she aims to do.

Children had put up curtains, made a good looking imitation fireplace, sketched and colored a border for the walls, hung about the room other Christmas decorations. And as the teacher expressed it, they felt a genuine pride in something that was actually theirs, and not the handiwork of the teacher.

All 18 of the children, including those in the first, second, third, fifth and seventh grades, participated. So do they in all special programs.

But programs and making ready for them constitute only a small part of the work. Four first graders rose to their feet and read; not from the book that the course of study said they should be completing in another week or two, but from books advanced beyond the course of study. Under the plan of the school work, children are allowed to advance as their ability will permit them, and the child is encouraged to go beyond the prescribed lesson.

Additional or supplementary books are provided, and the child is at liberty to read them as he or she wants to do so.

That is how the four primary tots were reading books beyond their prescribed studies.

The same idea is carried through the other grades, thus encouraging further development and original work. A so-called recitation period is held regularly, in which all the grades take part and which brings all the children to the platform before the others, creating self-confidence and poise. Even in the short time since fall, when the work was started, the teacher can notice a marked development and freedom from unnatural constraint in several of her pupils who before were extremely bashful.

Patrons Give Consent

In the afternoon, after the lower grades are dismissed, the remaining grades spend the rest of the day studying history.

4891 Enrollment in Public Schools in December, Says Hug

Enrollment in the Salem public schools for the year ending December 26, when the last count was taken, reached 4891, which is slightly more than at the same period a year ago. The registration in each building follows:

Garfield	381
Highland	351
Park	326
Washington	330
Richmond	349
Englewood	353
Lincoln	305
McKinley	198
Grant	279
Leslie Jr. high	430
Parrish Jr. high	444
Senior high	1245
Total	4891

SCHOOLS FIND PLAN FEASIBLE

Principal Commends Home Room Units Used in Salem System

By GENEVIEVE MORGAN
Reorganization, attempted in the Salem high school and junior high schools last fall and at mid-year is working to full advantage this year, with principals, teacher and students pleased with the home room arrangement.

The home room, as it is called, establishes a center for a limited number of students over an indefinite period of time, which may be a year or the entire life of the student in that building. Through it, small groups of from 20 to 35 are placed in the hands of each teacher, except department heads.

Fred Wolf, principal of the high school, believes a great deal already has been accomplished through this plan, and is of the opinion that it is here to stay.

At Parrish and Leslie junior high schools, reorganization to six period days was made at mid year a year ago, and is proving a distinct advantage over the old arrangement. The new plan gives time for supervised study.

Last spring, at the same time, Leslie formed a student body association.

A department of the Salem school system of which little is said but which functions along quietly each year is that of research and guidance. These rooms, of which there are now three in the system, are maintained for the boys and girls who cannot be fitted readily into the regular classes.

E. A. Miller, principal of the Grant school, is in charge of this phase of education. At the close of last year, a sufficient number of these pupils had brought their class work to a high enough level that it was possible to do away with one of the rooms.

This year, the special rooms are in the Parrish, Grant and Richmond schools.

HE'S LEADER



George W. Hug, superintendent of schools for Salem who takes the lead in the progressive administration of the city system. Proper education in health is a Hug hobby.

The Salem schools provide approximately a third of the financial assistance to the health unit, and in return more attention is paid to the physical well-being of school children than in virtually any other school in the state.

Many Clinics Held
Dental clinics, physical examinations, immunization clinics and vaccination clinics are held regularly for the school children, and in addition, at the health unit center, there is a regular Saturday morning immunization and vaccination clinic to which all may go free of charge.

The nurses make periodical inspections of the schools, thus holding to a minimum contagious disease through almost immediate apprehension of any cases that might appear.

Since greater emphasis has been placed on health work—for hand in hand with the work of the nurses and school doctor the elementary teachers devote time regularly to health education of their pupils—not a single school room in the city has had to be closed for so much as a day on account of contagion.

A few cases of the more severe communicable diseases have broken out in the school room, but because of the immunization programs, more healthy condition generally and prompt discovery, spread among the pupils has been prevented.

Big Increase in Cherry Cars to Go to East Mart
Carload shipments of cherries through the Railway Express Agency here have grown from four in 1921 to nearly 100 annually going to eastern markets. It was revealed in a report issued this week by W. F. Hickey of the express company.

"The canneries business, has shown a tremendous increase, and is still growing," Mr. Hickey declared.

Scores of show horses for the state fair also are shipped via express, and are coming in greater numbers each year, he said.

MIDWEST TO SEE OREGON DISPLAY

\$38,000 Asked of State as Part of Western Exhibit At World's Fair

Members of the Western States Exposition, comprising 11 Rocky mountain and Pacific coast states will be asked to appropriate a total of more than \$400,000 for the exhibit of their combined displays at the Chicago World's Fair in 1933.

Announcement to that effect was made this week by D. M. Love of Ashland, president of the western exposition, who gave as Oregon's approximate budget \$38,000, California's \$100,000; and Washington's \$45,000.

"Appropriations from the various states would care for the cost of the building, and the collecting and handling of the exhibits during the period of the show. Should the states be willing to thus combine their displays, we believe the cost will be less than one half of the total amount necessary to expend for advertising the states singly," Mr. Love declared.

Plan New Building
Other appropriations for the 1933 fair in Chicago will be suggested as follows: Utah, \$40,000; Nevada, \$16,000; New Mexico, \$16,000; Arizona, \$20,000; Montana, \$35,000; Wyoming, \$35,000; and Colorado, \$45,000.

The building as now planned would be 128 by 140 feet, and would cost approximately \$100,000 to \$112,000, Mr. Love revealed.

Salem is to host to the Western States Exposition next fall in connection with the Oregon State fair, when more than 100,000 people never before in Oregon are expected to visit this city. A new building to house the exhibits is to be asked of the legislature.

In 1932 it is planned to hold the exposition at Los Angeles as a supplement to the Olympic games, Mr. Love declared.

STAYTON SHOWS MARKED GROWTH
STAYTON, Dec. 31—Stayton has an active post of the American Legion, I. O. O. F., Rebekah, Masonic, Eastern Star, Forester, Lady Forester, Knights of Columbus lodges.

These lodges own their own hall as does the grange, which also has a large membership. It has a chamber of commerce, Women's Community club and Lions club; Boy Scouts and Campfire girls.

The Stayton Mutual telephone company covers a territory of approximately 100 square miles.

Scores of show horses for the state fair also are shipped via express, and are coming in greater numbers each year, he said.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING IS GIVEN IN SEVEN COURSES

T. T. Mackenzie, Formerly of Roseburg, now In Charge of all Branches

Seven departments of vocational training are offered to junior high and high school students in Salem through the Smith-Hughes work in cooperation with the school board. For the first time this year, all vocational work is under one local head, T. T. Mackenzie, who came here from Roseburg assuming the directorship last fall.

The seven departments functioning regularly are: Part time general continuation school, located in the basement of the senior high school building and which this year has one of the largest consistent enrollments in its five-year history. Miss Gertrude Anderson is director of the school.

Vocational machine shop, course of which is given in connection with the regular high school work. C. J. Guderman is head of the shop for the first time this year.

Auto mechanics shop, work in which also is open to high school boys. Tom Wolgamott is instructor of the shop, which is now in its third year. Both the machine shop and auto mechanics courses are crowded.

Related mathematics and drawing, high school studies taught by Floyd Stegmann.

Junior high school industrial arts, taught at both Parrish and Leslie schools.

Junior high school mechanical drawing.

Part time and evening courses open to adults. These include typing, interior decorating, painting and paper hanging.

It is the policy of the vocational education department to add more courses as demand is evident.

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Rigid Health Tests Given To Teachers

Even the teacher does not escape the concentrated health program followed in Salem schools.

Every member of the faculty is required to have a physical examination every two years before a contract is given, and in cases of teachers who are apparently not too healthy, an examination may be requested often.

Of course, every teacher who is new to the system must have the required physical check before he or she secures a contract.

This rule has been in effect three years now, and has been rigidly enforced, according to the city superintendent, George Hug, who first advocated the idea. It is working satisfactorily, and the wisdom of the move is evident in the improved health of teachers and the manner in which each watches to keep himself or herself up to the best physical condition.

While teachers from time to time have expressed themselves

GRADE TEACHERS IN ORGANIZATION

Salem primary teachers in December organized a Primary Teachers' council, affiliated with the state and national organizations of its kind.

The council promotes study and growth among the primary teachers, encouraging them to investigate and become acquainted with better plans and methods for work with the youngest pupils in school.

The movement is purely professional, and is open to all primary teachers, though membership is not compulsory. At the preliminary session, Mrs. Sadie Grant was named Salem chairman; Mrs. Rose Gibson, vice chairman; and Mrs. Dorothy Daugherty, secretary-treasurer.

The first meeting will be held January 8 at the Park school.

Mrs. Ida May Smith of Monmouth, state chairman of the primary teachers, advised that the organization, as did Miss Carlotta Crowley, elementary supervisor in the Salem schools.

is club. These scholarships were won by Theresa Baetz of Butteville on her sewing exhibit; by Franklin Gooding of Four Corners on his exhibit of cookies, and by Russell Bardsley for his exhibit of woodwork. All first prize winners, exhibited their projects on display by the J. C. Penney company, and received many favorable comments.

The exhibitors of first prize winning exhibits and the champion demonstration teams were guests of the Kiwanis club at a luncheon soon after the county fair.

Just 135 Marion county 4-H club members exhibited at the state fair and won over \$250 in cash prizes. The Marion county rabbit judging team tied for third place in the state contest. One of the members, Helen Mae Thompson, a sheep club member for the past six years, won the special \$25 prize of \$15 offered by the Salem Kiwanis club for the champion Shropshire ewe at the state fair. Other prizes to numerous to list were also won by Marion county 4-H club members.

The success of the past year has been due largely to the splendid efforts, cooperation and interest of the teachers, parents, community organizations and service clubs.

4-H Boys and Girls Make Excellent Record in 1930 In Work in Marion County

By W. W. FOX
County Club Leader
The year 1930 has been one of the most successful 4-H club years in the history of Marion county. During the year, 1269 members were actively engaged in the work, 1212 completing their projects. This gives the county a completion record of 95.5 per cent, the highest to date.

The first Marion county 4-H club fair was held at the Salem chamber of commerce April 25-26, with 337 members exhibiting and 16 demonstration teams competing for the championship of Marion county and the right to represent the county in the state contest held in conjunction with the state fair.

The team from McLaughlin, composed of James Sjovangen and Garnet Downs won the cookery contest in the county and they placed third in the state contest. The Mt. Angel sewing demonstration team won first place in the county contest and fourth in the state competition. The sewing team was awarded a silver thimble and the cookery demonstration team a cooking dish by the Marion county P. T. A.

Three scholarships were offered to the outstanding member in sewing, cookery and handicraft (woodwork) by the Salem Kiwanis club.