

Salem Schools Prepare to Celebrate Education Week

TRADE TRAINING OFFERED AT H. S.

Hundreds Take Courses in Department of Vocational Training

By T. T. MacKENZIE
Head of Vocational Education Department

More than 500 junior high school pupils, 175 senior high school students, 35 adults and 45 special part time pupils of various ages are now receiving useful and practical training under the various branches of the department of vocational training in the Salem public schools. Much of this training is intended to fit the learner for participation in specific occupations. Other units teach habits and skills that will help every child to adjust himself to conditions in our modern industrial civilization.

Shop work is offered first in the seventh grade, to boys in the two junior high schools, as "general mechanics." Other units, however, each boy obtains a limited experience in mechanical drawing, woodwork, simple electrical and sheet metal work, finishing and refinishing, and similar activities. From this, each gains much that will be useful to him either at home or on a job, and at the same time he is helped to determine the field toward which his future will lead.

Choice of Trades Offered
A choice of auto mechanics, vocational machine shop, mechanical drawing, or a supervised apprenticeship in some trade with a local employer, is open to the boy in the senior high school. If he does become an apprentice under the plan initiated this year, he remains under the supervision of the high school and is aided in his advancement by special class work in the school.

Boys and girls who are forced by circumstance to drop out of school to work may attend part time classes at the opportunity school. This department is designed principally to meet the needs of those who have not completed the work of the first eight grades, but worthy cases of any type have been accepted with a view to doing the maximum of real good. Part time classes in typing; specialized training for house maids; and the teaching of our language to foreign born children are examples of specialized activities of the opportunity school.

Part Time Classes
Part time and evening classes for adults are organized by the department of vocational training, and may offer training in almost any field of endeavor. At present more than 30 women are receiving instruction in household sewing in three night classes. Units in auto mechanics, bookbinding, child care, welding, and salesmanship have been proposed as part of this year's work.

Since a productive citizen is a good citizen and as more than 90 percent of us must earn our living either wholly or in part working with our hands, such training needs no further justification in our schools. Patrons visiting Salem schools will find the shops to be among the most interesting departments, and should not miss seeing this interesting and valuable work in progress.

POINT SYSTEM FIXES LIMITS

By LAURA HALE
Salem High School

In the high school are groups of students interested in many extra-curricular activities connected with dramatics, art, languages, science, commerce, debate, home economics, etc., besides the regular class organizations, the rifle league and the associated student body.

Each of these groups elects its own officers, plans its activities and conducts its meetings in a manner which would do credit to a group of older people. With each organization is a faculty member who serves as advisor.

Besides gaining the benefits for which the group is organized, the members gain a self-confidence and assurance which is useful in later years.

In order, however, that students may not speculate in extra-curricular activities and in order to encourage all students to enter into a reasonable amount of such work a "point system" has been worked out and followed for the last two years.

The main points of this system are as follows: a student may carry a maximum of 25 points, a B student, a maximum of 20 points, a C student, a maximum of 15 points, a D student a maximum of 10 points, a U student a maximum of 5 points.

Points are given for the various activities according to their importance and the time required for their performance. For example: student body president, 10 points; athletic manager, 15 points; Clarion editor, 15 points; annual, 15 points; football captain, 5 points; members of team, 4 points; class presidents, 10 points; club presidents, 5 points; club members, 1 point.

LEASE BIDS OPENED
KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Nov. 7.—(AP)—B. E. Hayden, superintendent of reclamation service, announced today bids for leases of 55,000 acres on Lake lake will be opened here November 19.

Schools Will Hold Open House This Week

The doors of 9 of the 12 Salem public schools will be thrown open to the public on one of the evenings this week for National Education week programs. All of the schools except the senior high school will receive visitors on at least one day of the week to see how classes are operated and get acquainted with the instructors. During the week special stress will be placed in the classes on educational objectives and school betterment.

The plans for the observance of the week in the various schools are announced by Miss Ann E. Boentje, Parrish junior high school teacher and vice-president of the Salem Teachers' association, who has charge of the week's activities, as follows:

Senior High School—Open house program on Thursday night: inspection of classes, visiting with teachers, auditorium entertainment by the band, boys' quartet, boys' and girls' physical education classes. Attendance in charge of four teachers: Mrs. Ellen Fisher, Miss Mildred Christensen, Miss Ola Clark and Merritt Davis.

Leslie Junior High—Open house on Thursday evening of Tuesday night, as previously announced. Attendance in charge of four teachers: Mrs. Ellen Fisher, Miss Mildred Christensen, Miss Ola Clark and Merritt Davis.

Highland—Open house Monday night from 7:30 to 9 o'clock, series of talks: J. Lyman Steed, representing the home; Rev. Hugh B. Fouke, Jr., representing the church; Frank E. Neer, representing the school board; Miss Carlotta Crowley, representing the administration; Miss Grace Allen, representing the faculty, and Elizabeth Steed and Clayton Anderson, representing the pupils. School open daily to the patrons.

Parrish Junior High—Parents and friends invited to visit classes on Tuesday.

Outlines Three Reasons For Junior High Schools

By H. F. DURHAM
Parrish Jr. High Principal

The functions of the junior high school—reasons for this new institution:

First among these reasons was the demands made upon the school system by society which could not be realized under the 8-4 plan of organization. There are four of these demands which deserve special mention.

The first demand made by society was that the enormous leakage from school in the seventh, eighth and ninth grades cease. The second demand was that a positive effort be made to guide young men and young women into occupations that were worthy and suitable for them and for which they were adapted. Third that the period of preparation for skilled vocations be lengthened but a way found to shorten this period so that men will earlier become self supporting and society supporting. Finally that the evils physical, mental and moral that accompany and grow out of adolescence be checked by the school system.

Let us now discuss briefly each of these demands. Take the first, that of dropping out of school: There are several reasons why pupils drop out of school in seventh and eighth grades of which the dislike for school under the old plan of organization is the principal one.

Then larger boys and girls object to being housed with the smaller children. They also can see no sense in going over again and again, the same subjects. In junior high schools we promote by subjects and not by grade or class.

Opportunities are also offered whereby a pupil may go ahead in some subjects. We also believe teaching to be better and more interesting because each teacher teaches the subject for which she is best prepared.

Stops Leak in Upper Grades
This leaking in the old seventh, eighth and ninth grades, the junior high schools were organized to check.

They plan to reduce the dropping out of school by keeping children interested in school work. There is no doubt that the great need for careful vocational and educational guidance, the second demand made upon the schools by society, no one can question.

There is no better time for this guidance than during the period of adolescence just before the child enters high school. It is in this new institution, the junior high school, where the best opportunities for such a study are to be found.

It is here where the boy or the girl comes in contact with those things which will cause him or her to react favorably or unfavorably. It is here that the pupil is saved for the high school. It is in the junior high school that the pupil awakens to the fact that he himself is of importance in the progress of civilization. Here also he finds or should find that society's interests are worthy of his consideration and meditation.

Vocational Guidance
Then in the high school the pupil can and should with proper guidance select the course which will best fit him for the service to society. The subjects in the high school are to be grouped about the main purpose of his education. The junior high school has undertaken the task of saving time but to discuss this point would make this article too long for publication so now let us pass to the last of these four demands of society.

NEW METHODS USED, READING

Children Taught Reading by Phrases Rather Than Words

By STEPHEN C. MERGLER
Reading, famous partner in Three R's & Co., has undergone almost unbelievable changes within the last few years in the Salem schools. A visit in the grade schools during the Education week open house periods will reveal to the person whose first grade days are long past, a study atmosphere which has no comparison with that which he experienced.

No longer is the schoolroom a drab, stuffy place over which a stern teacher rules with commanding voice and sometimes an equally commanding switch, paddle or ruler. The scene has changed.

A visitor to the first and second grade classes at Lincoln school last week noted the children studying away in an atmosphere that makes play of work. Instead of being a drab brown, the room was finished in a pleasing gray tone. In place of being confined to closely quartered desks, the children were gathered around brightly colored little tables, several groups in the room. Around the room were delightful pictures of boys, girls, babies, dogs, birds, trees, all bearing simple reading lessons, printed by the teacher. Pretty curtains hung on the windows.

When recitation time came, the beginning pupils gathered in a semi-circle around their teacher. "Johnny do this, do that," "Why didn't you learn your lessons, Mary?" and other harsh commands and inquiries are of the past. Now the teacher asks Johnny if he would like to do this or that, explains to Mary in kindly fashion the meaning of the phrase she does not know. It like a game on the playfield, in which Johnny is asked if he would like to throw the ball, Mary is asked if she would like to learn how to skip rope.

The teaching of reading in 1931 is by phrases rather than by words. The pupils are not made to learn a host of single, isolated words, which they cannot use in sentences. They are taught the meanings of phrases—what the cat does, where the baby plays, how the fire looks.

When the pupils have reached the second grade, they are able to make their own reading lessons from items they have read or heard about. This class at the Lincoln school last week had posters of an elephant, with sentences about Tusko; of Hallowe'en, with sentences about what was done to the schoolgrounds on that night; of the bear cub which last week scampered through the Marion hotel lobby.

Appreciation of and joy in reading now are the objectives in the grade schools. The children enjoy their lessons.

This change in teaching methods has made the work of teachers much more laborious. They must work after school and in the evenings preparing the simple lessons about events with which the pupils are acquainted, put a new spirit into their work in the classroom.

But the teachers in the Salem schools are undertaking their tasks willingly and making a success of it, according to Miss Carlotta Crowley, elementary school supervisor. She maintains that the Salem schools are far ahead of those of many other cities in employing new methods and new physical arrangements in the classroom.

PASTURE NOW
NORTH POWDER — Last spring W. O. Christenson had 10 acres of swamp land on his farm near North Powder. With the help of Arthur King, extension specialist in soils at Oregon State college, Mr. Christenson blasted a drainage ditch a quarter of a mile long through this field, and now has 10 acres of profitable pasture land.

SWEGLE — Frank McCarthy found a 20-row ear of corn while harvesting his corn and he states that he has several with 18 rows.

RIFLE CLUB HEARS NOTED MARKSMAN
Salem leaders in gun club activities this week instructed members of the newly organized Y. M. C. A. boys' rifle club concerning construction of guns and the requirements for entrance to the junior branch of the American Rifle association.

Donegan R. Williams of Salem, nationally known revolver marksman and trick shot told the boys about the guns and D. H. Mosher, president of the Salem Rifle club explained the nature of the national organization. They brought with them Captain Harris of Portland, instructor for the national guard there, I. N. Bacon, secretary of the Salem club also attended.

The local rifle club has taken the new group under its wing and has promised to give the boys all the instruction they want. At the meeting next Wednesday night, they will be shown the use and manner of handling guns. Each boy will bring his own rifle.

TURKEY WARNING
CORVALLIS—Turkey growers of Benton county have been warned by County Agent C. R. Briggs, to be on their guard against persons bent on cheating them out of their hard earned money. It is nearly turkey selling time again, Mr. Briggs says, and it will be surprising if some sort of swindling operation isn't attempted again this year in the key buying operations. Worthless checks were used in such deals here in the past.

Parents Ride Free Thursday Night For 'Open House'

Parents desiring to attend the Education week open house program at the senior high school next Thursday night will be offered a taxi service with their cars for parents residing within the city and school buses will provide the transportation for parents of rural students.

The same service will be given to parents of rural students who attend Leslie junior high school. The Leslie open house program date has been changed to Thursday night.

STRENGTH OF BODY IS SCHOOL AIM

Classes in Gymnasium Reach Pupils not in Athletics

By VERNON GILMOURE
Instructor Physical Education
Physical education in the high school plays a very important part in the activities of the students. It affords an outlet for surplus energy as well as developing the bodies of the growing children and also, tends to break the monotony of the class room work.

The divisions of competition for athletics are inter-scholastic and inter-mural, including inter gym class and interclass. In basketball the school is represented by two teams one in Class A and the other in Class B.

The general work of the year consisting of calisthenics, drills, marching, apparatus work and tumbling. Every student is given this work. It is supplemented with team games which are carried on with the regular gymnasium program. The program this year consists of indoor soccer, basketball, volleyball, foul throwing, bowling, track, wrestling and swimming.

Every class is divided into teams and every boy is placed on a squad which gives him the opportunity to play the games and learn them as well. This encourages the students to engage in all lines of athletics until they find some one sport desirable for their own recreation.

The intra-mural plan is used in the gym classes which makes the competition more complete because the winners from each class meet in a play off series. The objective is to have every boy in some form of athletic competition.

The two divisions of the physical education program are regular and corrective gymnastics. The students are examined by the county health unit when they enter the high school. Those having physical defects are placed in the corrective classes where they are given exercises to correct their ailments. The students having no defects are assigned to regular gym classes.

All these are given special attention and exercises a prescription.

Don't Experiment with Your Eyes
They are too precious.
You can't win.
Better see an Optometrist.
May we examine your eyes to-day?

THOMPSON-GLUTCH OPTOMETRIST
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