

Future Bright for Gifted Children Despite Past Bungling, Leading Educators Predict

By G. K. HODENFIELD
AP Education Reporter

KANSAS CITY (AP)—Some of the nation's top educators expressed caution optimism Saturday that things are looking up for Amer-

ica's five million exceptional children.

Great strides have been made in the past few years, they said, but there is still much that needs to be done.

Some 1,500 educators, psychologists, clinical therapists, and social workers headed for home with those thoughts after a week-long convention of the Council for Exceptional Children.

In dozens of study groups and open sessions they probed the past, present, and future of the children who vary from the normal—the really bright and the abnormally dull, the crippled, the deaf and the blind, the ill, and the emotionally disturbed.

They have come up with solid proposals:

There must be more research into the problems of the exceptional, and there must be better trained teachers and supervisors to interpret what the research discloses.

There must be earlier spotting of the gifted child so that he may be guided—pushed if necessary—to the full limits of his capabilities.

The nation's thousands of small school districts must consolidate and reorganize so that they can afford to pay the admittedly high costs of educating the exceptional child.

There must be better relations between the school and the parents so that the parents can be made to understand that their child is exceptional and needs special education and treatment.

More than once the educators were told there must be a major breakthrough in the field of training methods.

John Wagner of the University of Texas put it this way: "After a teaching practice has been followed for 20 or 30 years, there is a tendency by teachers to consider it as something written on stone tablets and found on a mountain top. We have to get away from that idea, we have to explore new ways of teaching our children."

Much of the convention was devoted to the problem of the truly gifted child, the near genius who in numbers makes up about two per cent of the nation's school population.

From all sides—including science teachers themselves—came the plea:

"Let's don't make the mistake of pushing every gifted child into science and mathematics. These fields are important in today's world, but let's don't go overboard. The United States needs leaders in other fields, too."

Attack on Two Magazines by Educator Hit

NEW YORK (AP)—Roy E. Larsen, president of Time, Inc., Saturday termed presumptuous, if not insulting, a suggestion by an education official that Time and Life magazines be barred from classrooms.

Paul E. Elicker, executive secretary of the National Assn. of Secondary School Principals, had sent a letter to the organization's 20,000 members suggesting they consider banning the magazines because of an article on education in the March 24 issue of Life.

'Attack Unfair'

In a letter to Elicker, Larsen said:

"The singling out for an attack on a major series of articles appraising education, one fragment of the first article was, I feel, totally unfair because it took one section out of context and distorts Life's general thesis and an editorial position of many years' standing."

The article, by Sloan Wilson, said, in part, that a surprisingly small percentage of high school students is studying what used to be considered basic subjects.

"Only 12 1/2 per cent are taking any mathematics more advanced than algebra, and only 25 per cent are studying physics," the article said.

"A foreign language is studied by fewer than 15 per cent of the students. Ten million Russians are studying English, but only 8,000 Americans are studying Russian."

'Hasty Action'

Larsen, in his letter to Elicker, said:

"I am particularly dismayed by the fact that your action was taken after reading only the first of what was well advertised to be a series of articles in Life on education."

"Would it not have been more in the tradition and spirit of free inquiry to suggest to them that they read the whole series of articles in Life and then let you and me know what they thought of them?"

Larsen has been active in educational fields for several years.

Name Refused

LA SPEZIA (AP)—Giorgio Garbini, a businessman, just happens to like the name Genghis Khan and plans to sue the city for the right to name his new son Genghis Khan Garbini.

The city had refused to register the name under Italian law barring names that are funny or offensive or against national or religious sentiments.

Leopold Aided In Arrest of Wanted Man

CHICAGO (AP)—Authorities said a photo identification made by Nathan Leopold before he was paroled had led to the arrest Friday of a man sought in a North Side robbery.

Miss Cella Miller, 44, told police a man she knew as Jack Keller took \$800 from her home Dec. 7 after binding her hands and mouth with tape.

Miss Miller recalled her assailant had surrendered a chauffeur's license, bearing a photograph of himself, for a traffic violation a few days earlier.

Detectives found the photo under the name of Jack Lavergne. They sent it to Stateville Prison on the hunch that their man might be an ex-convict.

At Stateville, Warden Joseph E. Ragen said Leopold recalled seeing the man at services in the prison chapel. Leopold also recalled that his name was Jack Besmel, 52, a lifer paroled in December 1956.

Police picked Besmel up Friday night at a rooming house where he formerly had lived. Officers said he admitted the holdup.

The check of the photo at the prison was made some time before Leopold was freed on parole March 13.

Yakima City Official Freed In Jury Trial

YAKIMA (AP)—A Superior Court jury which deliberated only one hour today acquitted Kenneth Schutt, city finance commissioner, of grand larceny and corrupt practices charges.

Schutt, whose trial began Monday, was charged with having caused the disappearance of two petitions which sought his recall as finance commissioner. The Citizens Committee for Better Government claimed it filed 116 petitions at the City Hall March 6, 1957, but two were missing in a subsequent check.

The recall petitions were circulated after Schutt had attempted to fire Police Chief Oscar Soderstrom while Schutt was acting mayor.

Billy Graham Prepares for Crusade in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Evangelist Billy Graham opens a six-week crusade in the Cow Palace April 27. Advance preparations already have reached a high pitch throughout the bay area.

Statistically, the San Francisco revival will be overshadowed by Graham's 16-week marathon in New York's Madison Square Garden last year when more than two million persons attended and 56,000 made decisions for Christianity.

The Cow Palace will seat 16,500, about 2,000 fewer than Madison Square Garden, and the crusade can be extended at most to eight weeks. But in other respects the San Francisco effort may surpass the New York crusade.

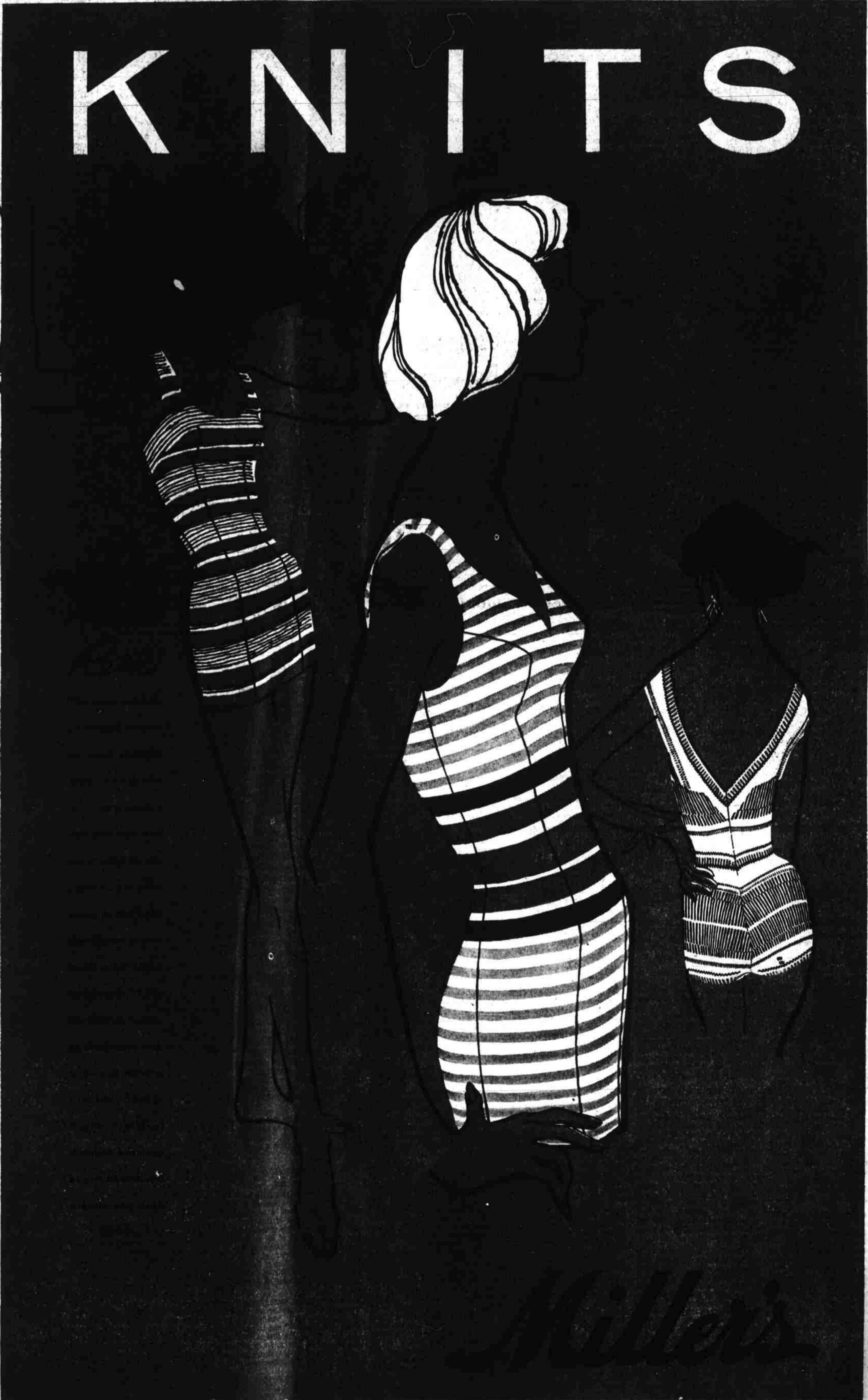
The Rev. Walter Smyth, crusade director, reports that 1,100 churches of many Protestant denominations have promised cooperation, compared with only 900 in New York at this same juncture.

Since March 10, 4,500 persons have been taking counselor training to assist the drive. Charles Riggs, director of training, says this exceeds New York and approaches that in Glasgow, Scotland.

United areawide prayer meetings, aided by radio programs, have been in progress since April 1. Graham leaders list more than 3,000 prayer groups, meeting four times weekly.

Dr. Robert Munger, crusade leader and pastor of Berkeley's First Presbyterian church, says churchmen's interest was sparked by knowledge that only 30 per cent of the population of northern California claims any church affiliation, compared with a national average of 62 per cent.

The services will be televised nationally by ABC each Saturday, starting May 3. Telecasts to the East will be at 10 p.m. EDT, with a rerun for the Pacific Coast at 10 p.m. PDT.



at Wieders . . .

Sensational
Comfort-Collar
Shirt Finishing

Each Shirt Packaged
in a Useful
Transparent Bag

More Shirts in a Grip

More Shirts in a
Drawer

Call EM 3-9125

- Satin-smooth Inner Collar
- No "Buckles" or "Bulges"
- Shirt Bosom Smooth Silk
- Easy Tie-slip
- Collar Looks Like New
- Low in Front for Greater Neck Freedom

Sta-Nu Dry Cleaning Will Amaze You!

Wieders SALEM LAUNDRY CO.
263 High St. South