

Many Schools in America Still 'Run To Tune of Hickory Stick'

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press Correspondent
Washington—(U.P.)—The 3 R's can still be taught to the tune of a hickory stick in three-fourths of the nation's schools.
That is the surprise finding of a nationwide survey of school discipline just completed by the National Education Association.
The survey also showed teachers generally are far less disturbed about the behavior of today's school children than some outsiders who think juvenile delinquency runs rampant in the classroom. More than 90 per cent of the teachers covered rated their students "well-behaved."
Questionnaires Sent
The NEA's research division sent questionnaires to 10,000 teachers. They were selected by

the "random sample" method to provide a representative cross-section of the nation's more than one million public school teachers.
Dr. A. M. Lamber, head of the research division, said the replies repudiated a popular idea that corporal punishment is a vanishing feature of American school life.
Nearly half the teachers said they personally had authority to administer whippings to unruly pupils if they considered it necessary. And 75 per cent said the principal of their school had such authority.

The NEA did not ask right out how extensively corporal punishment is actually used. But it learned through a roundabout question that most teachers consider "spanking rights" a necessary feature of running an orderly classroom.

Punishment Needed
To the question, "Do you think classroom teachers should be allowed to administer corporal punishment to pupils in elementary-school grades," 77 per cent of the teachers replied yes. Two-thirds also held out for spanking rights to junior high school while 37 per cent said whipping should be permitted even in high school.

Taking these replies as a gauge of teacher sentiment toward actual use of corporal punishment, Lambert said:
"It is evident that boys and girls are still getting lickings in a great many schools in the United States."

Seeking to find out whether "blackboard jungle" conditions prevail in many schools, the questionnaire asked whether teachers had been subjected during the past year to any "act of physical violence" by a student.
Sixteen teachers out of every 1,000 said they personally had experienced such an attack. Another 11 per cent said they knew of a violent attack on another teacher in their school.

Another question was whether juvenile delinquency in the neighborhood served by the school was "as bad as has been portrayed throughout the country by press, movies and radio?"
Seventy per cent replied it was "not nearly so bad" and another 23 per cent said "not quite so bad." The rest said it was as bad or worse.

Teachers were given four choices of rating the "overall behavior" of their students.
"Exceptionally well behaved," said 34 per cent; "reasonably well behaved but difficult to handle on occasions," said 61 per cent; "misbehave frequently," reported four per cent; and "almost always difficult to handle," said one per cent.

Congested Areas Cited
Analysis of replies by type of school district showed the highest incidence of serious misbehavior, including attacks on teachers, listed as main causes of pupil misbehavior "irresponsible parents," "broken homes" and "inadequate parental supervision" due to mothers with jobs keeping them away from home.

Carpenters Union Meets at Ontario

Ontario — (U.P.) — About 300 carpenters from Idaho and Oregon have opened a three-day meeting of the Oregon State Carpenters Union and the Rocky Mountain District Council Carpenters Union of Idaho.

The convention agenda included a discussion of an effort to bring Idaho carpenter wages up to the level prevailing in Oregon. A union official maintained that Idaho wages for carpenters were about 30 cents an hour below those of Oregon and the Idaho carpenters had no health or welfare fund.



SELECTING SIX-FOOT show girl, Pat Gaston, 27, from San Antonio, Tex., Tommy Manville, 63, asbestos heir, announces she will become bride within week at his New Rochelle, N. Y., home. (International Soundphoto)

Hal Gardner Named Jaycee President

Hal Gardner, 28, 145 North 1st st., was elected president of the Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce Tuesday.

Gardner is employed by the California Oregon Power company in the auditing department and has been active in the Medford Jaycees for the past three years.

Silverton Man Hurt In Helicopter Crash

Tokyo—(U.P.)—Sgt. Dennis Fountain of Silverton, Ore., has a "good chance" to recover from major burns received in the crash of a rescue helicopter, a doctor at Tachikawa Air Base hospital said today.

Fountain was aboard an H-19 helicopter sent from Ashiya air base to the wreckage of a downed C-119 flying boxcar in southern Japan. It crashed in bad weather.

All four men aboard the C-119 and one helicopter crewman were killed in the two accidents. A spokesman for the U.S. Far East Air Forces said Fountain suffered burns over 50 per cent of his body and was in critical condition. His wife, who has been living with him in Japan, has remained at his bedside almost constantly, the spokesman said.

TIGHTER SQUEEZE SEEN
Washington—(U.P.)—An Agriculture department report indicates the cost-price "squeeze" on the nation's farmer may tighten some time during 1957.

Oil Prosecutor's Resignation Probed

Washington—(U.P.)—Two congressional committees today showed interest in investigating the angry resignation of the Justice Department's oil anti-trust prosecutor.

Anti-trust Prosecutor Horace L. Flurry said he resigned after a row with his superiors over the department's handling of a federal Grand Jury investigation of possible anti-trust violations by major oil companies.

He charged "clique control" in the Anti-trust Division forced him to quit after 15 years in the division.

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