

Three art experts from Portland and Eugene were in Medford Wednesday to judge a regional art exhibit and selected five works to be included in an all-Oregon show in Portland during the summer months. Pictured are (left to right) James McGarrell, artist in residence at Reed college, Portland; Dr. Francis Newton, art historian and curator of the Portland Art museum, and Andrew Vincent, instructor in art at the University of Oregon, Eugene. The

center picture is "Homestead," a work submitted by Mrs. Emmett (Ruth) Tucker Jr., Medford, which was later chosen by the men as one of the five to be included in the Centennial exhibit. The other winning pieces are in the background. At right can be seen "Construction No. 7" by Gordon Kensler, Klamath Falls, and at left "Bean Field" by another Klamath Falls artist, Howard A. Hall.

Judges Praise Southern Oregon Artists

Southern Oregon artists were praised for the "fresh quality" and "objectivity" of their work at a reception given Wednesday night at Girls Community club for judges who earlier that day had selected winning pieces at the southern Oregon regional art exhibit sponsored by the Oregon Centennial commission. The honored men were James McGarrell, artist in residence at Reed college, Portland, and Dr. Francis Newton, art historian and curator of the Portland Art Museum. Andrew Vincent, art instructor at the University of Oregon, helped to judge the show but was indisposed and did not attend the reception.

The five works which the three men chose for the all-Oregon show were "Homestead" by Ruth (Mrs. Emmett Jr.) Tucker, Medford; "Spring Garden," Eugene Bennett, Medford; "Construction No. 7" by Gordon Kensler, Klamath Falls; "Klamath Country No. 2" by Mrs. Kensler; and "Bean Field" by Howard A. Hall. Mrs. Tucker's work is representational, the Bennett and Hall works are abstracts and Mr. Kensler's winning entry is also in the abstract trend.

Mr. McGarrell, speaking at the reception, said he was "impressed with the high quality of the work displayed" and added "Artists of this region are to be congratulated." Mr. McGarrell also said that more abstract art work had been entered in the southern Oregon show than in those already judged. Some were representative, and other work could not properly be called either representative or abstract, he said.

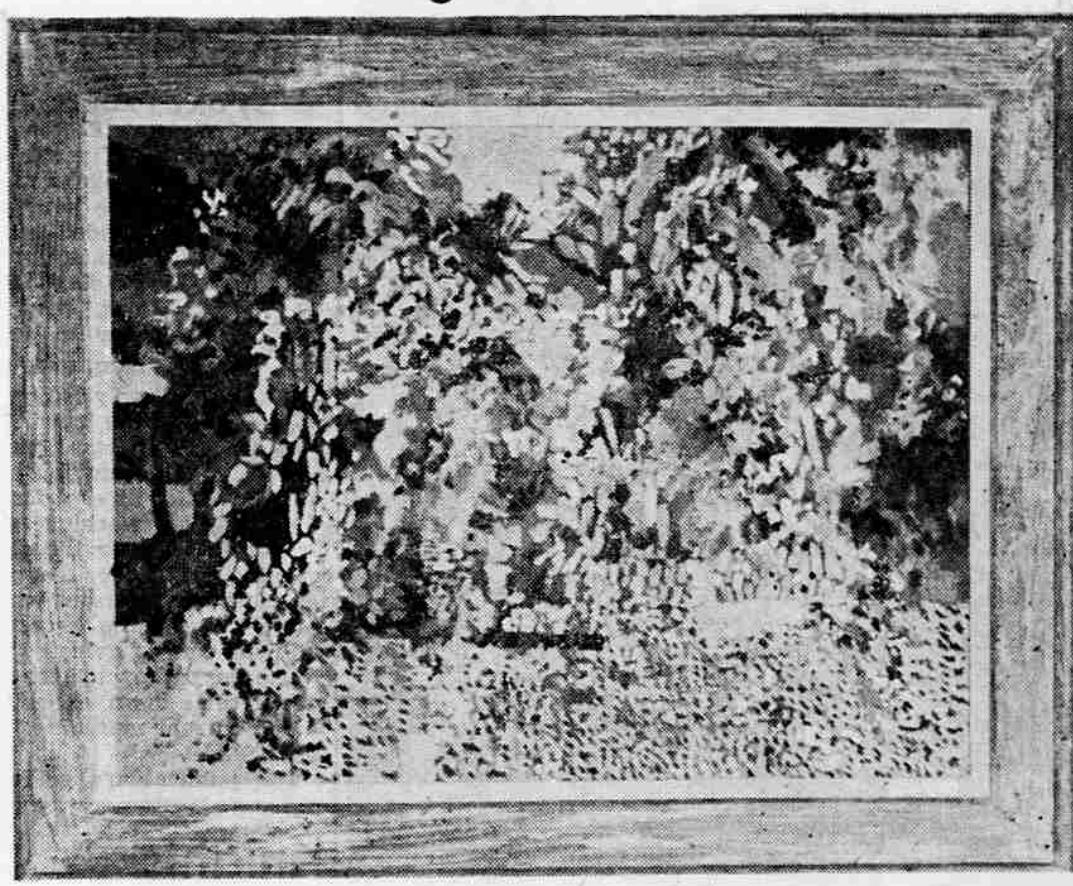
Mr. McGarrell displayed a sketch of the proposed pavilion where the all-Oregon Centennial show will be held near Portland during the 100 days of the celebration.

Dr. Newton also spoke concerning the southern Oregon exhibit, pointing out that the works, when assembled in Portland, are to show the variety of artistic impressions of Oregon. The three men, with two other artists, had already judged shows in the Corvallis, DeLake, and Coos Bay areas. Dr. Newton reported that entries showed impressionistic, and expressionist influences, while some pieces were in the western tradition of Remington and Russell. From Medford the judges were to see works in central Oregon, and later a Portland area show will be judged.

Mr. McGarrell and Dr. Newton answered questions from the assembled artists concerning the coming show in Portland, and at times the discussion veered into talk about art trends in general and Oregon art.

The show will open June 10 in Portland and will continue for the 100 days of the Centennial celebration. Sculpture, not included in the regional exhibit and some will be placed in the Garden of Tomorrow, it was said. Announcement was also made of a Printmakers' Fair for those who wish to display etchings and engravings.

The guests of honor were introduced by Mrs. Leonard Andrews, Gold Hill, president of Southern Oregon Society of Artists which had staged the regional show here under the supervision of the Oregon Centennial commission. Other guests of honor were Miss Marian Ady and Benoyd S. Bayless, both faculty members at Southern Oregon college and members of the Fine Arts committee of the Centennial. Miss Margaret Ossenbruge and Mrs. Fred Rankin took



This abstract oil painting by Eugene Bennett, Medford artist, was one of five chosen by a jury of three art experts who were here Wednesday to select work for an Oregon Centennial art exhibit in Portland. The painting, entitled "Spring Garden" is in pink, orchid and other flower shades. The artist, who re-

cently returned to Medford to live permanently after having spent considerable time in Chicago, has been praised by art critics and experts in both Oregon and Chicago, and his silk screen work has been purchased for the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

Blanks Available For '59ers Plan

Application blanks for membership in the Jackson County '59ers are being mailed with many firms' monthly statements, Dick Woodcock, chairman of the drive, has announced.

Woodcock urged those who have not obtained a '59er badge to return the application blank with the \$1 membership fee to the Centennial association.

Money raised through the '59er campaign will be used to help finance construction of Centennial projects, including the stockade welcome booth at Siskiyou summit.

Woodcock said there are 2,000 memberships now, and the committee hopes to obtain about 5,000 more members from the Jackson county area. Memberships may be obtained by sending \$1 to the Centennial association, 1959 Oregon ave., Medford.

Local Man Attends Training Program

Eugene-Budd Gail, assistant superintendent of mails in the Medford post office, is one of 34 post office officials in the Portland region who attended the second annual executive development training program here last week.

The officials came from Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska. The training program lasted all week.

C. F. Ziebarth, University of Oregon associate professor of business administration, directs the program.

EASTER-EGG TREE

Nashville, Tenn. — Mrs. Charles Rounds and her twin daughters puzzled neighbors for the last six months by collecting more than 700 egg shells. The riddle was solved Friday when the Rounds family unveiled a front-yard Easter egg tree.

'Gifted Pupil' Program Proposed for Students in Medford School System

Medford now in the fourth grade would be the first to benefit under a "gifted pupil" program proposed recently to school officials.

This program is the fruit of a study undertaken by the special committee appointed last spring by Dr. Leonard Mayfield, superintendent of Medford schools. The committee's report has been turned over to Dr. Mayfield and the school board.

The program is an ambitious one. The committee is the first to point out it should not be embarked upon all at once without proper preparation.

Hence, the committee suggests it be started with the fourth grade alone, and be expanded in the years to follow as that class moves ahead.

Cover Four Areas
The committee's recommendations cover four areas; identification of gifted pupils; programming; counseling; and instruction.

The committee reports finding that while present identification procedures are adequate for assigning pupils to major work groups, they are weak in discovering gifted children.

The reports note in this connection the difference between "bright" children—who do well on achievement tests and get high grades—and the subject of its study, the "gifted." A gifted child is defined by the committee as "the child with the imaginative mind, the child capable of creativity, the child who remains unchallenged in our system."

The committee estimates that of every 100 pupils, two to four can be classified as gifted.

Mental Maturity
As identification procedures, the committee recommends that fourth grade pupils with particularly high scores on certain standard mental maturity and achievement tests be selected first.

To this list would be added children given individual tests on the special recommendations of their teachers.

For each grade above the fourth, surveys would be conducted to seek late-developers, or newcomers to the schools, who might qualify for individual testing and inclusion in the program.

Each child classified as gifted would be allotted a special folder in the school files, to be kept up to date by his or her teachers and counselor.

Committee Suggestion
The committee suggests that no attempt be made to segregate gifted children from others assigned to advanced classes in grades four through six.

However, it is recommended that they be exposed to challenges from special types of instruction and a greater variety of experience. As specific examples of these, the committee lists field trips, special science classes meeting once a week, social studies seminars, leadership training clubs and language conversational clubs.

At the junior high school level, the committee recommends special classes in the basic fields of mathematics, science, English and social studies plus elective classes in physical education, art, for-

sign language, music and craft shop. The committee also recommends offering algebra in the eighth grade and biology in the ninth. This would mean adding a fifth year of mathematics for high school seniors.

Recommended Course
Recommended too is a required ancient and medieval history course for gifted ninth graders, and possibly, as the program develops, foreign language.

The committee states that only minor adjustments would be necessary in senior high school, since the basic class structure for educating the gifted has already been established.

The additional year of mathematics and a modern history course would fill out the requirements at this level.

The committee recommends that a full-time counselor be assigned to coordinate the gifted pupil program in the elementary schools and to counsel pupils, parents and teachers. It is suggested that this counselor direct the identification testing program and the follow-up evaluation studies of the program.

Full-Time Counselors
Full-time counselors, the committee believes, are needed in each of the junior high schools and the senior high school. The committee states that coordination of the individual youngster's program as he or she progresses higher in the system will demand much time and careful planning by the counselor, parents and student.

"Failure to closely check on this progress can lead to a breakdown in the total program," the report states.

The committee points out that any extra time these counselors might have could be devoted to counseling other students as well.

The quality of instruction for gifted children is considered the most important element in the proposed program.

Finding Right Teachers
"The problem of finding the right teachers and providing them with the necessary training experiences to do an adequate job is," the committee states, "the key administrative task ahead."

"In the junior high schools and in senior high," it continues, "funds must be provided for gifted classes of 10 to 20 students. At all levels of instruction special books and equipment will have to be supplied."

The committee made these specific recommendations:

Each teacher of the gifted must have a research and planning period for each two classes, to include setting up equipment, organizing projects and working with students who might need direction.

One or More Teachers
Each of the high schools would add an estimated one or more teachers to their staffs for gifted students.

A resource center or centers should be established to provide teachers of the gifted with books and other training materials not otherwise available.

Teachers of gifted children in each of the major academic fields should receive adequate in-service training. This might include summer sessions and

workshops.

Finally, qualified citizens such as doctors or technologists should be encouraged to contribute to the gifted child's classroom experiences and to offer suggestions in the summer teacher training sessions.

Suggest First Step
The committee, recognizing that the total program at all levels could not possibly be implemented at one time, suggests that the first step be the identification of gifted pupils in the present fourth grades.

Those so identified would commence their preliminary training as fifth graders in the advanced classes already established.

The main expenses at this time, the committee indicates, would be to complete individual testing, to furnish special materials for classroom use and to provide the additional counseling.

When the present fourth graders reach junior high, the committee states, more expenditures would be necessary for additional teachers, teaching materials and counseling.

"At the beginning," the committee remarks, "there

was a general feeling that the Medford school system's present grouping system, with its provisions for educating the bright child to the fullest extent of his capabilities, compared favorably with the best in the nation.

Further Substantiated
"Our studies have further substantiated this feeling, and we do not believe that we will be guilty of neglect by moving slowly at this time."

The committee suggests that its studies be continued to bring further improvements and to prevent poorly developed programs from going in to effect.

Its members who participated in the original study this past year include Alex McDonald of Medford High school, chairman; Josephine Kirtley and Grace Berg, also of Medford High; Don Darnelle and Gordon Morris, McLoughlin Junior High; Bruce Nelson and June Wheaton, Hedrick Junior High; Oliver Erickson, Lincoln elementary; Robert Phillips, West Side elementary; Roy Gilbertson, Hoover elementary; and Henry DeVoss, special education.



TRAINED—Sonita, a trained elephant with night club experience will be one of 20 acts in the Elks lodge sponsored circus at Hedrick Junior High school gymnasium on Monday, March 30. The performances will be staged at 4 and 8 p.m. The show is two hours long. Dick Phair is Elks circus chairman. Proceeds from the show will be used for Elks charitable projects.



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