Park Elementary School In San Mateo Pioneers New Educational System

SAN MATEO, Calif. (UPI) — On the surface, Park Elementary School in this quiet San Francisco suburb looks and runs like almost any other school in the country.

In actual fact, it ranks among the pioneers in a trial-blazing experiment that may have a far-reaching impact on the educational system of the United States.

As at any other school, freshly-scrubbed youngsters file into their classrooms every morning at nine o'clock. They listen to their teachers translate the intricacies of human knowledge into the simple terms of readin', 'ritin' and 'rithmetic.'

Most of the students break into a dead run for the schoolyard at the sound of the recess bell while others chatter with their friends in the corridors.

At the end of the day, as at any other school, the chalky smell of blackboard dust hangs heavy in the classrooms.

The difference between Park Elementary and almost every other school in the country is that there is no first, second, third or fourth grade. And — there are no such things as report cards, no such thing as passing or failing.

Park, together with several other selected educational institutions in the country, is putting into day-to-day practice a bold concept in modern teaching: The non-graded **school.**

Last year, the first three grades were eliminated. As a measure of the project's success, the fourth grade will be dropped this fall when school reopens.

The experiment breaks some of the most hallowed traditions of American education for the sake of one idea: To let the student advance in knowledge at his own rate of speed. It brings to an end the age-old concept that a student must complete a specified amount of work within a specified time.

The system at Park works like this:

In place of grades, there are 14 "levels of accomplishment." To progress through a level, a student must complete a specified amount of work — but he can do this as fast or as slowly as his learning capacity permits.

The teachers emphasize that there is no pressure on the student to finish a level by a certain time.

The youngster who moves slowly may skip some of the levels. The youngster who shows an unusually fast rate of progression is placed in levels where the subject matter is more specialized, more enriched, but not considered necessary for the so-called average student.

EXPERIMENTAL SCHOOL — Children work with blocks and numerals during a class at Park Elementary School in San Mateo, Calif. The school is pioneering a new educational idea. — UPI Telephoto

'Idiot' Happy Over Idea

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (UPI) — Morris Mashburn, a 45-year-old former boxer, watched his wife wrap packages one evening at home. She had trouble making ribbon bows.

"Must be an easier way to make bows," Mashburn said.

He picked up his wife's lipstick shell. He cut notches in it with his son's woodburning tool. From his shirt, he took a collar pin. He fitted the pin in the notch.

"Are you crazy?" his wife asked.

"Maybe," Mashburn said. "But I've invented a bow-maker."

Next morning, Mashburn quit his job. The home-made bow-maker became his prototype. In a few weeks, he was making notched spools and plastic pins by the thousands. He started selling his product — which he had dubbed the Miracle Bow-Maker—for 98 cents. Women bought out the supply wherever it appeared.

Many Uses Found For Old Trolleys

WASHINGTON (UPI) — What has wheels, runs on tracks and can be used as a church, school, hunting lodge or even an object of international commerce?

The streetcar, of course.

Threatened with the fate of horse-drawn carriages, knickers and ankle-laced shoes, the trolley is finding a new place in U.S. society, thanks to American ingenuity.

In Omaha, Neb., several old trolleys have been converted into modern hunting and fishing lodges; in Lanham, Md., a minister recently transformed a street car into the town's First Baptist Church; and, in Fort Worth, Tex., a department store is using streetcars to transport employes and customers through an underground tunnel from parking lots to the store.

In other cities, local transit firms may soon re-examine the potential market value of trolleys now sitting idly in company storage yards.

A local company here has been supplying the demand for unused streetcars which it sells, depending on condition and serviceability, for anywhere from a few hundred dollars to $2,000.

Like most cities, Washington's streetcars recently gave way to modern, air - conditioned buses. Since then, the company has been steadily selling its stock of trolleys to individuals and groups in the United States and Europe.

The Yugoslav city of Serejavo recently purchased 75 of the company's streetcars for its municipal system. Barcelona, Spain, bought 28 trolleys and is considering buying 60 to 70 more.

From its initial stock of 405 streetcars in 1962, the company's supply has dwindled to about 75 cars.

Unserviceable streetcars, which are cheaper, are being sold for unusual and often ingenious uses.

Milton Q. Ford, a local radio personality, recently bought 200 of the less useful streetcars which he is transforming into playrooms, workshops, clubrooms, baby-sitting facilities, children's movie theaters and parking lot rooms.

Ford said plans also are underway to design cars as stationary or mobile art studios, display vehicles for home and restaurant equipment, and coin - operated laundries.

Family Homes

DESIGN 231
House 1,134 Sq. Ft.
16,857 Cu. Ft.

Home Combines Tri-Level And Colonial Architecture

Here is a popular tri-level featuring the spaciousness of colonial architecture without the inconvenience of long flights of stairs!

Construction is mainly wood siding with field stone trim. The cantilevered front bedrooms, overhanging roof plus a wide picture window add charm to the exterior.

Its three levels are divided into work, living and sleeping areas with emphasis on easy access and step-saving housekeeping.

First level entry hall serves as "buffer" giving privacy and good traffic circulation to all parts of the house. A large guest closet here features built-in shelves on either side—ideal for books and plants or a telephone.

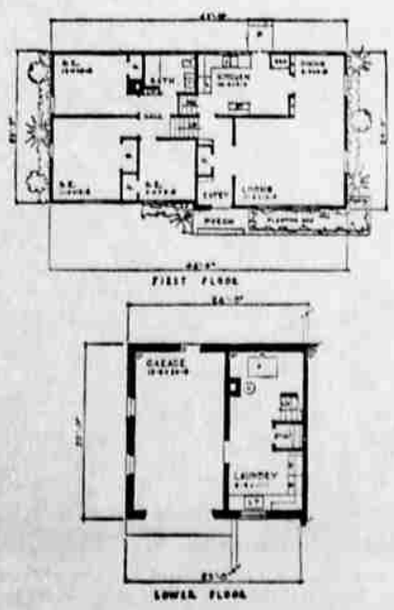
Living room has a large picture window and wide wall areas for furniture placement. Dining ell is well lighted and convenient for formal dining.

Kitchen adjoins the dining room and has a door leading to rear porch convenient for those meals outdoors. This area is large enough to allow eating space in kitchen. Windows over the sink permits plenty of light as well as allowing Mom to keep an eye on the children at play. Plenty of cabinet and counter space here and truly designed to save steps for the homemaker.

Garage and laundry-utility room are located a few steps below the main level. Laundry has front window with furnace and water heater at the rear. A door leads into the garage, which in turn has a rear door to the yard.

Above this area is the sleeping wing. Three spacious bedrooms with ample closets and good ventilation. Bath has built-in vanity and services all three bedrooms as well as the main level of the home. A linen closet is located in the hallway.

This plan conforms to general FHA, VA and Building Code requirements. You can obtain building plans with specifications and material list - see order coupon.



BUILDING PLANS • PLAN BOOKS • ORDER FORM
Herald and News Plan Dept.
FAMILY HOMES
2900 Alpha St.,
Lansing, Mich.

I want items checked: Design No:

..... 4 sets of Building Plans & Specifications, with Material List $20.75
..... 1 set of Building Plans & Specifications, with Material List 17.95
..... Family Homes Plan Book, postpaid ..... .75

Enclosed find $..... for items checked.

NAME .....
ADDRESS .....
CITY ..... STATE .....

Hay Fever Is Nation's Top Allergy

NEW YORK (UPI) — With the peak of the annual hay fever season now here, it may be of some comfort for the sufferer to know he has lots of company in his misery.

Hay fever is the nation's top allergy, affecting about one in every 22 Americans, according to Schering Corp., a drug firm engaged in allergy research.

Hay fever sniffles become noticeable in early spring. The season begins in earnest about mid-August, continuing to the first frost — usually in mid-November. The peak is usually the last two weeks in September.

The reason why so many people are teary-eyed and sneezing then, according to Schering, is that at this period a constant 500 million pounds of pollen grains are floating around in a massive search for female plants to fertilize.

The victim inhales an irritating substance, usually ragweed pollen. To fight this off, the body produces a chemical called histamine. The histamine causes hay fever's miserable symptoms. Greatest pollen-producing culprits are weeds, mainly ragweed. Others are grass, trees and molds.

What to do? The sufferer can move to a lower pollen - count area or get help medically by any of three treatment methods.

Preventive treatment by way of "antigens" is administered by injection. The irritant substance is injected in doses small enough for the body to overcome. These doses are gradually increased until the greatest degree of resistance is reached.

There are two remaining categories of allergy drugs. First is the anti-histamine family. These are drugs which ride into battle against the misery-producing histamines and put them in line.

The other category is steroids, or hormone compounds.

Puerto Ricans Struggle Over Status Of Island

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Puerto Rico, with its major economic problems finally under control, is today torn between political forces trying to erase the colonial blot from its image.

Pulling at one end in the bitter tug of war is Gov. Luis Munoz Marin. He wants to redefine the island's status and remove any tinge of colonialism that critics claim it retains.

Opposing him is a growing statehood movement that points at making Puerto Rico the 51st state of the Union. There has been a strong wave of pro-statehood sentiment since Hawaii and Alaska joined the Union.

Caught in the middle of what would be a strictly internal political matter if Puerto Rico were self - governing is the U.S. Congress. After 63 years of erratic control of Puerto Rico's ties to the Union, Congress still regulates many of its insular affairs.

No longer an important element in internal Puerto Rican politics, contrary to Communist and Puerto Rican nationalist propaganda, is the military anti-American Independence party.

New agitation over the status issue, which has been a dominant factor in island politics for nearly a century, was touched off by Gov. Munoz himself when he raised the matter last year in a letter to President Kennedy.

The governor, who once called for Puerto Rico's complete separation from the Union, is now the staunchest opponent of statehood. He asserts that statehood would wreck the island's economy which was built through "Operation Bootstrap."

He and the President now appear in agreement that the time has come to redefine the present "commonwealth" status of the island which has been under U.S. jurisdiction since the end of the Spanish-American War in 1898.

To Study Future

A congressional subcommittee has called for a 13-man mixed commission to study the island's future political status. And any discussion of Puerto Rico's status, whether in Congress or the United Nations, raises touchy questions in view of worldwide reaction against all forms of colonialism.

Puerto Rico is no longer a colony, Communist arguments to the contrary. But neither can it claim to be an independent state or a state of the Union.

When Congress paved the way through Public Law 600 to set up the "commonwealth" and let Puerto Ricans draft their own constitution, Gov. Munoz and his strong Popular Democratic Party (PPD) proclaimed that the last vestige of colonialism had been swept away.

But now the governor feels differently. As he told Congress recently: "Doubt prevails that Public Law 600, under which the present status of Puerto Rico was established, did away with colonialism."

Statehood backers claim that the governor himself has been responsible for the colonial blot which they claim still soils Puerto Rico's image abroad. And it is generally accepted that if the voting sector of Puerto Rico's 2.5 million people could vote for statehood or independence, more than 90 per cent would favor statehood.

Referendum Improbable

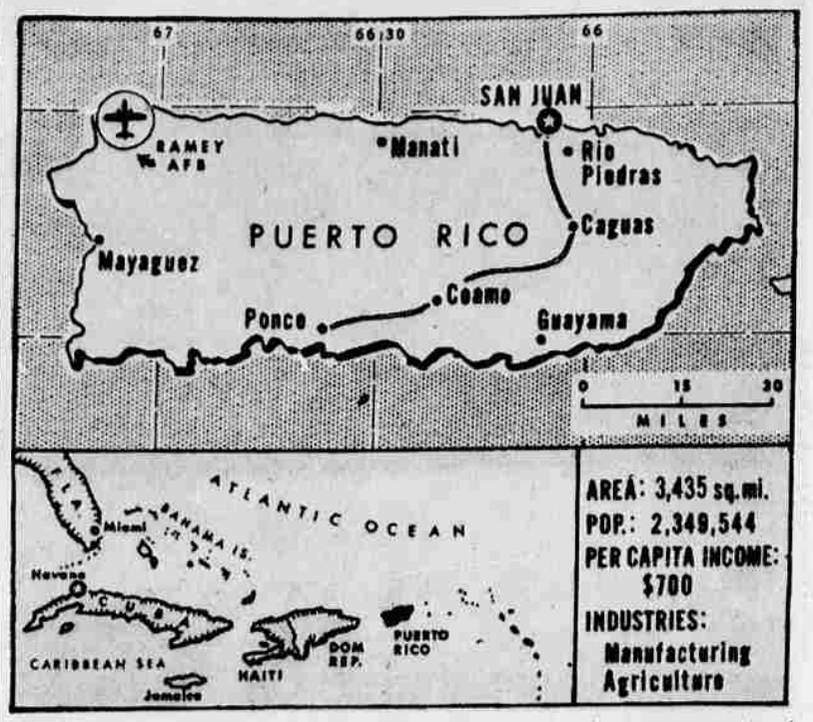
But in an island where political choices do not come in twos, such a statehood - independence referendum is improbable—if not impossible—as long as Gov. Munoz is in power.

Complicating the problem is the fact that the U.S. Constitution has no provision for giving "permanency" to the island's present status. The Constitution merely says:

"Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States."

Congress has jealously guarded ultimate federal congrol over the island's military, legal, postal, security, shipping and external matters.

Despite these withheld powers, the present commonwealth status has given the insular government enough flexibility to deal effectively with the island's economic problems.



PUERTO RICO — Newsmap (top) shows principal cities of the commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Left bottom portion shows Puerto Rico's physical relationship to other islands in the Caribbean, and at right, statistical data on Puerto Rico.—UPI Telephoto

Trek Took Less Than Four Hours

(Continued from Page 1)

meadowland near where it intersects the Skyline Trail. The latter trail bares south to Puck Lakes while the one to the basin resumes west, up a gentle rolling spur and across a ridge where Big Bunchgrass Mountain (el: 6,631) and Bareface Butte (el: 6,427) come into view.

About a half mile north of the trail flows Ranger Springs, the true source of the Middle Fork of the Rogue.

The spring drains due West; several miles down the canyon it is joined by the spill of Honeymoon Creek; farther on, the river swells even greater as it receives the drainage from Grass Lake and the deposits of other creeks and springs tumbling into the Rogue River gorge.

Looking west from the trail, the terrain seems to flatten out across the timbered horizon. Peering into its depth, one would doubt, indeed, that such a basin containing the seven lakes could be concealed within that spanse of timber.

The trek into Grass Lake was over in less than four hours; we set up camp in the U.S. Forest shelter as thunderclouds sped past overhead.

The next day was bright and balmy as we skirted the north end of Grass Lake and followed its narrow outlet down a steep canyon. Brook trout hid under snags and behind rocks in the calmer currents of swift water. The low overhanging brush made it no place for casting a dry fly, so we lured a few brook trout out of their holes by drifting hooks baited with worms beneath sunken logs and into backwater.

A half mile north of the lake, the stream spilled down a steep wall of rock and we left the creek to descend the slope of a less steep hill. At the bottom, the stream crashed out, from a waterfall and swung violently under an overhanging bush. I dropped a baited hook into the upper current and watched it disappear below the depths of a submerged log — then Wham — the line shuddered and whipped across to the opposite bank.

Five minutes later a 15-inch brook trout, considerably exhausted, was eased limply into the landing net and then transferred carefully to our creel. Less than 10 minutes later, two 13-inch members of the same species were added to the game bag.

The stream, sometimes not more than six feet wide, whipped under cut banks and through driftwood and snags for another half mile before disbursing into a swampy area.

With limitless space to cast, I changed from bait to a dry fly and began whipping an Adams fly along the tiny avenues of water that interlaced the swampland. Brook trout crashed through the water's surface to take the fly and within minutes 11 of the battlers had been eased into the net. Many of them we released to test the mettle of an angler on another day.

At the end of the grassy swamp the water collected into one channel and formed the most attractive stretch of trout water north of the lake. But time had suddenly run out and we started back, unable to try what appeared to be the most productive water we had seen on the trip.

The sojourn had yielded two limits of trout and there was left for another summer the prospect of working another part of the water which appeared to be even more tantalizing than the first.

House Protects Dog From Drafts

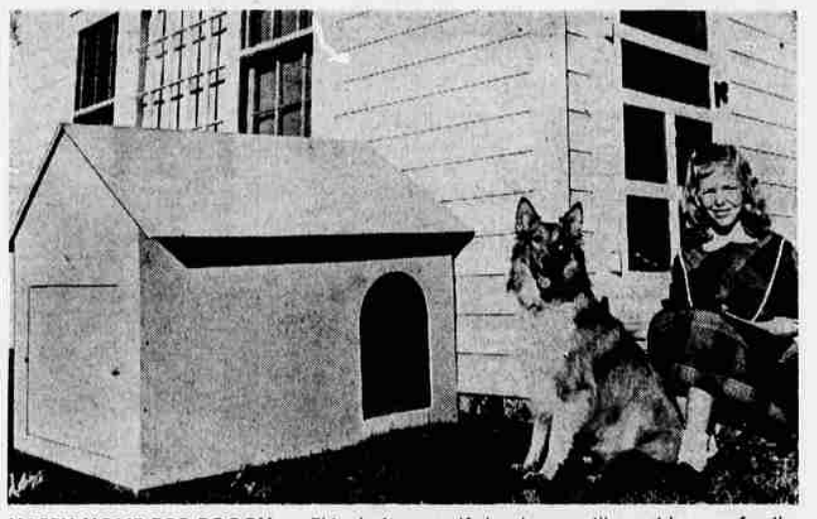
While animal lovers frequently question the pros and cons of permitting a dog to live outdoors all year round, most veterinarians agree it's important to protect dogs from drafts.

The pattern offered simplifies building a dog house that provides necessary protection the year round. An interior partition is placed at right angles to front opening to keep wind and rain from blowing into sleeping compartment. Body heat keeps sleeping area comfortable even in bad weather while a removable end panel not only simplifies cleaning, but also permits a free flow of air during hot days.

Directions also suggest building and installing a screen. The front entry was designed to accommodate a German shepherd, collie or Doberman, but it can be cut to size required.

If you get your youngster to help build this house, it will not only stimulate interest in woodworking, but also provides a practical approach to house construction. Since the pattern tells what materials to buy, where and when to use each board, size of nails, etc., no carpentry experience is required. Directions are written in language everyone can understand, while assembly illustrations simplify visualization of each step.

Send 50 cents in coin or money order for Dog House Pattern No. 28 to Herald and News, P.O. Box 215, Briarcliff Manor, New York. Send additional 50 cents for new catalog illustrating 300 build-it-yourself projects and home improvement books. Add 25 cents per pattern if you want special handling.



HAPPY HOME FOR POOCH — This do-it-yourself dog house will provide your family pet with a clean, draft-free home that can be easily ventilated in hot weather. Youngsters will enjoy helping construct the dog house, too.

Cars Should Be Checked Periodically

By MR. FIX
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Today's modern autos need less service. Self - adjusting brakes, self lubrication and fewer oil changes present fewer opportunities for a trained mechanic to spot trouble before it starts.

Get in the habit, however, of having brake linings inspected when you have your car in for other servicing.

While regular inspection by a professional is important, there are also items which you can check yourself and which you should check often.

Cooling Move

Lift the hood occasionally and check the condition of the fan belt. A loose belt means faulty generator operation and inefficient cooling. There should be play of half-an-inch but be sure to read your operator's guide for complete instructions.

Make certain that belt is not frayed or showing signs of breaking.

Check the radiator. Water that is rusty or coated with scum should be flushed out and replaced. An accumulation of dirt can cause overheating.

The air passages in the radiator core should be kept clean. Chances are the passages are covered with leaves, dead bugs and dirt, unless radiator has been cleaned recently.

Washing Tip

When you wash the car, direct a stream of water through the radiator core from inside, if possible, so that the water and dirt that come out are not sprayed over the engine.

Do not overfill radiator, battery or gas tank in hot weather. An overflowing radiator adds to the loss brought on by evaporation.

Though water evaporates faster from a battery during hot weather, overfilling can also cause trouble. Spilling - over brings on loss of the electrolyte and causes corrosion.

Save Gas

If you've ever parked your car in the hot sun after getting the tank filled, you've probably come back to find gasoline on the pavement. Fill the tank while you still have some driving ahead of you so that you can lower the level of the fuel without waste.

When you check tire pressure, do it while the tires are cool. If you've been driving, let the car stand a few hours. Heat builds up pressure inside tires.

Resist the temptation to bleed some of the air out when tires are hot. Better stop and let them cool off, then check the pressure. Releasing air while tires are hot may leave them dangerously underinflated when they cool.

After a long, hot drive, give your engine a chance to cool off by idling it a little before turning it off. This draws off some of the heat, and helps prevent vapor lock and damage to engine parts.

'RASHOMON.'

HOLLYWOOD (UPI) — American movie-goers soon will be seeing an English language version of the famed Japanese hit "Rashomon."

Producer A. Ronald Lubin will make the film, bringing it up to date and putting the story in a modern setting.

ERNIE PREPARES

HOLLYWOOD (UPI) — Tennessee Ernie Ford is wasting no time getting ready for the Christmas Holiday Season.

Ford, a regular on daytime television, is preparing "The Story of Christmas" which he plans to do on night time video.

HOME WORKSHOP
DRESS UP YOUR MAILBOX
METAL WEATHERVANE
OLD PORCH COLUMN OR NEWEL POST
4&10
WELD CROSS-PIECE
EXTERIOR PLY-WOOD ENCLOSURE PROVIDES SPACE FOR NEWSPAPERS
2x4 LEGS
SECTION OF ORNAMENTAL WROUGHT-IRON COLUMN. SET LEGS IN CONCRETE
Jim Newhall
CLIP AND SAVE

Be modern with MOEN
IN YOUR KITCHEN
Only faucet with Dialcet Cartridge!
STITES
Plumbing & Heating
2011 Oregon Ave.
Ph. TU 4-6798

CARPETING HOST-CLEANED
Do it yourself OR we do it for you
RENT the HOST Electric Brush
When cleaned by you . . . your carpeting should be HOST - CLEANED. Safe! won't burn; dustless. Removes dirt instead of shampooing it in. No shrinkage; raises nap; saves texture. Before entertaining . . .
Ph. 4-3111 or 2-2531 for Complete Information
CASCADE
LAUNDRY & CLEANERS