

The Gate City Journal
TED M. BRAMMER, Editor and Publisher

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TEACHER-RATING PLAN!

"Wouldn't This Be Something?"

BY MERELICE KUNDRATIS
STAFF WRITER OF THE CHRISTIANSCIENCE MONITOR

The recommendation that teacher certification in Massachusetts be based on classroom performance instead of college credits now faces the arduous road to implementation.

Though it has impressive support, the suggested policy change is a drastic one, and it will have to go through the legislative process.

The Massachusetts Teachers Association; Sen. Kevin B. Harrington (D) of Salem, majority leader of the State Senate; and Commissioner Owen B. Kiernan of the Department of Education are among key supporters of the suggested change.

No state to date has adopted such an approach. Nor does any state require regular evaluation of teacher performances to maintain standards--another of the suggestions made in a study released recently by the Massachusetts Advisory Council on Education.

The council, mindful of the crisis in education across the nation, wanted to know where Massachusetts stands. Its study, "Teacher Certification and Preparation in Massachusetts," was conducted by Dr. J. Lindley Stiles, professor at Northwestern University and former dean of the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin. His findings indicate that drastic changes are needed.

SHORTAGE SEEN

Indictments focus mainly on the lack of quality education in the state's schools. Massachusetts does not have enough teachers.

The commonwealth has many unqualified personnel manning classrooms.

Too few teachers in the state have had special training to fit them for teaching posts in urban areas.

The finger of guilt is pointed at teacher preparation. As stated in the report:

"Of all teachers employed -- both new and experienced -- 36 percent were reported poorly prepared to deal effectively with

great untapped labor force in women if they could just be coaxed out of the house. And they were right. There was. And this labor force is now a real factor in our economy. And we are reaping the benefits. We are turning out a great national product. And we are also turning out confused, insecure kids. We are still being told about the "unfulfilled woman," the "Feminine Mystique," etc. And we are still being told how much of the work in Russia is being done by women. Since when do we have to pattern ourselves after Russia? I couldn't care less if Russian women have to sweep the streets. I just feel sorry for them. Surely we can do better. If I were going to give one piece of advice to a young girl getting married today, it would be to stay home and raise the family. How long does it take to raise a family? I suppose 20 years would cover the raising of the average family. With a life expectancy of 72 or more, surely you can give 20 years to raising your children. If you can't, surely you can at least stay home until they have finished grade school. And don't just have your children. Raise them. Turn them into law abiding, respectful, responsible citizens. We have tried the "great experiment" and it just didn't work. This is the richest country on earth. There is really something wrong with our society if we can't afford to have our mothers stay home and take care of their families. - KIS (Ed's Note: KIS is "Katie" Simpson, wife of Weiser American publisher James Simpson, and the editorial was carried in the Monday, August 12, edition of the paper.)

It's Your Law! MARRIAGE AND YOUR OLD WILL

When Smith's wife died, he made a new will in which he left all of his property to his children in equal shares.

A year later he remarried. Rather than make a new will he decided to wait and see how this new marriage worked out. Unfortunately, it failed and John and his new wife separated without any divorce proceedings being instituted.

Since Smith believed the will he had made prior to this marriage was still valid, he did nothing about making a new one.

A short time later he died. His children offered his will to probate, but when his separated widow objected, the will was rejected.

The Oregon statute provides that "a will made by any person is deemed revoked by his or her subsequent marriage, divorce, or annulment of marriage, unless the will expressly declares intention of the testator that the will shall not be revoked by such action."

Because Smith's will did not specifically say a later marriage would not revoke it,

the cultural and psychological differences of various types of students."

The accusation is made in the study that new teachers are prepared to work only with suburban children, with all the implied cultural advantages, and not with rural or inner-city children.

INTERNSHIPS URGED

To improve teacher preparation and certification, Dr. Stiles recommends the following:

A teaching staff which would include professionals in allied fields, interns in training, and "para-professionals" as well as educational specialists and fully qualified teaching personnel. Certification based on the quality of demonstrated performance rather than on the quantity of course credits. It is even conceivable that noncollege graduates could thus qualify to teach. Standards developed by teachers themselves to test continuing competence, to place teachers at different levels of performance, and to protect against experienced teachers' losing touch with new methods and materials.

Alternate ways to qualify for certification. These could include approved ways for training institutions to judge a student's knowledge of subject matter and ability to perform; or examinations including performance tests which would be administered either by institutions or state credential committees; or evaluation by a team of teachers and educators.

Four levels of licenses to be regularly renewed: internship licenses for trainees, renewed annually; associate-teacher licenses for beginning or returning teachers, renewed every three years; professional licenses for those able to handle an assignment without supervision; and specialists' licenses, both to be renewed every seven years.

Cost of the proposed commission's activities and staff is estimated at \$44,000 and should be requested in the state board's September 15, 1968, budget to become effective January 1, 1969, the study suggests.

the will was deemed revoked by the marriage. His second wife shared in the estate under the distribution laws. The law allows her to share because of the over-riding-public policy directing that widows shall be provided for.

Any time a person marries he should no longer rely on a prior will. It is wise to check with the lawyer who drew the first will. A new will may be necessary.

(Oregon lawyers offer this column as a public service. No person should apply or interpret any law without the aid of an attorney who is completely advised of the facts involved. Even a slight variance in fact may change the application of the law.)

PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. McCrady, Janice and Mrs. Don Bullard and children were Aug. 4 overnight visitors in the home of Mrs. McCrady's sister, Mr. and Mrs. Del Bloedel at Milwaukie, Ore. A family picnic was held, with the Bloedel's daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Allan Johnson; Mr. and Mrs. Herb Gascon and their families present.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Fallon, Nevada
August 8, 1968
Editor of
The Gate City Journal

Dear Mr. Brammer,

We are renewing our subscription to your very splendid paper, "The Gate City Journal."

We do appreciate your forthright Editorials and pass them on to our friends, so that they may enjoy them too.

We hope to return to Nyssa for your "Thunderegg Days", perhaps next year.

The pictures of Succor Creek Canyon and Leslie Gulch are so outstanding, in your July 25th and August 1st issues - Sincerely, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Leveaux.



AUGUST 9 - To Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Rivera of Nyssa, a girl, born in Holy Rosary hospital at Ontario.

AUGUST 11 - To Mr. and Mrs. Carlos DeValle, Jr., of Adrian, a five-pound girl, Norma, born at Malheur Memorial hospital.

AUGUST 11 - To Mr. and Mrs. Rodolfo Hernandez of Nyssa, a seven-pound, twelve-ounce girl, Rosalinda, born at Malheur Memorial hospital.

Lance Anthony, a five-pound, 13-ounce son was born August 6, 1968 to Charles F. and Sharon Binder at Holy Rosary hospital in Ontario.

The infant joins a 2 1/2-year-old sister, Michelle. His grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John S. (Stan) Newman of Nyssa, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Binder, of Oregon Slope.

IS MOTHER THE FAULT?

The learned people, government officials, elected officials, doctors, sociologists, physiologists, psychologists, psychiatrists, and most everyone else have had their say on hipsters, beatniks, draft card burners, rioters, criminals, and every other element of the "younger generation."

So far I haven't read or heard anyone really say out loud at whom they were really pointing their finger. It seems to me the whole conversation, written and oral, is one big whammy at "Mother." After all, she raised, or as it apparently turns out, didn't raise, this generation that is coming in for all the criticism. And since it is the Mothers of my generation that seem to be at fault for this colossal catastrophe, I feel I am entitled to my crack at analyzing the situation.

For one thing, this is the first grown generation that is the product of the so-called "working mother." And therein very possibly, lies a good deal of the fault. I have been a working wife and a non-working wife, and a working mother and non-working mother, and believe me, any woman who looks you in the eye and says with a straight face that she is as good a mother working as if she were not working, is either lying or should be ashamed of herself. Any woman who admits she couldn't be a better mother if she had more time to spend at it, is more to be pitied, I guess, than condemned. We hear a great deal about the "communications gap" and it is said, usually, as if it were the fault of the youngsters, instead of the older generation. It is my personal opinion that the communication gap actually begins very early in a youngster's life. I think the most important minutes in a school child's life, for instance, are the first 15 minutes he is home from school. That is when he bursts into the house ready to tell Mother everything that has happened to him that day. If she is not there, he doesn't tell her. And unless it was truly traumatic or of very special importance, he doesn't remember it by the time she comes home from work at 5:00 or 6:00 and even if he does remember, she is probably so busy getting dinner she hasn't the time or energy to listen. And this is when the communication gap begins. If you have not been there for him to tell you things when he was five or 10, what makes you think he will suddenly start making a big point of telling you everything when he is 15?

I don't know where one would really place the blame for this problem. During World War II, great effort was made to get Mom to leave the house and enter war production work. Some of the great minds of this country, either government or industry and more probably both, figured out that there was a

COMING EVENTS

TODAY - and August 16 - 17 Malheur fair at county fair grounds in Ontario.

AUGUST 18 - 2 p.m. Adrian high school 1967-68 picnic party at the school park.

AUGUST 19 - 9:30 a.m. PTA School of Information at Weese building on Treasure Valley Community college campus.

AUGUST 20 through 22 - Nyssa high school registration

AUGUST 22 - 10:30 a.m. Senior Citizens' meeting at Dr. John E. Long home.

SEPT. 1 - 12:30 p.m. Owyhee Pioneer picnic in Nyssa South Park.

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IN APPRECIATION

We take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown at the time of death of our loved one. - The family of Guy Ocamica.

IT'LL SOON BE TIME FOR
Returning to Learning
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BEGINS SEPT. 3



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