Elson Explains High School Guidance Work

SEES WASH PROWLER

M. E. Odum, of the Cravens apartments, told police he saw a prowler in the rear yard Wednesday night. He believes the trespasser was the person who mutilated a quantity of family washing hung out on the line Tuesday night.

Modern Concepts of Education Provide for Personal Studies

(EDITOR'S NOTE: In the last issue of the Los Angeles School Journal there appeared an article by Principal Thomas Elson of Torrance high school which contained a statement of principles regarding education as practiced in the local school. With Principal Elson's permission, this article is hereby reproduced in The Herald to acquaint parents with some little-known facts about "guidance work," an integral part of education today).

By THOMAS H. ELSON

As we view it, under modern concepts of education, the guidance function of the classroom teacher is inseparable from that of instruction.

The function of the classroom teacher under modern concepts of education is essentially guidance.

Curriculum making, the planning and carrying on of classroom activities are joint pupil-teacher enterprises. Growth and guidance are co-partners.

The teacher so directs the program that the needs of the individual are served.

In order to realize this purpose he secures all possible information concerning the individual.

The attitude of the teacher is that of a friendly guide who invites and keeps confidences and studies his pupils to discover needs.

The classroom teacher in his guidance work has access to the following sources of information: his own pupil interest index: his own pupil record including reading habits, test records, personality trait chart, autobiographical sketches and study habits.

The teacher may also consult the cumulative record in the counselor's office; adjustment committee data (case studies on social maladjustment); vocational guidance conference reports and Junior High school orientation data.

The guidance program of a classroom teacher is carried out through the following activities:

1. Pupil-Teacher Conferences. Conferences on personal problems is one of the most effective means of guidance available to the classroom teacher.

The pupil-sought conference arises out of the learning situation as an anticipated outcome of the planning of the teacher.

The teacher-sought conference is arranged to meet a need revealed by the pupil in the learning situation.

Conferences are held during teacher free time, during class time, or are pre-arranged outside of school schedule.

2. Group Activities. Group guidance includes: special sessions of the class on topics which promote vocational, educational and social guidance.

3. Class Organization. The organization scheme of the class promotes guidance objectives, as for example, class committee assignments include committees whose purpose is to evaluate class activities as to the furtherance of educational, vocational and social ends.

4. Outside Reports. The appearance before the class of graduates and upper class students for the purpose of giving counsel based upon their own experiences. The need arises out of class discussions.

5. Classroom Libraries. Classroom deposits of inspirational reading material having guidance values are available, under regulation, during class sessions.

6. Explanatory Features. Each class is conducted with the exploratory idea in mind.

7. Special Subjects. In various special subject classes as shop, home economics, commerce, art, music, guidance is an organic part of the instructional program, generally this is vocational guidance, but, to a lesser degree, is social and educational guidance.

8. Vocational Conferences are arranged for all expressed group interests, the leader brought in from the community.

9. Occupational Orientation. Students are "farmed out" to business and industrial organizations to secure first hand experience, or, are assigned to simple research problems in the fields of business, industry, and professions. Their reports make part of the vocational conference records.

10. Excursions. In response to group interests discovered in the classroom, field excursions and visitations are arranged.

Plan Special May 30 Rite for Children

Superior Judge Henry M. Willis has been appointed chairman of a special Youth attendance committee of the 1938 Memorial Day exercises in Los Angeles to be held May 30, in which veteran organizations of all American wars will take part. The committee will undertake the task of promoting the attendance of school-age children at the memorial spectacle to be staged in the Los Angeles Coliseum.

WILLIS

In co-operation with the Los Angeles Board of Education, the committee will stress the importance of youth attendance as a study in history, in view of the fact that the few remaining veterans of the Civil War are expected to make their final appearance as a body at the exercises.

STUDENTS ON AIR

Dick Miller and his student orchestra of this city will broadcast over KGER Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

HOME RANSACKED

Altho nearly every bureau drawer was emptied into a pile at the Don Miller home, 2356 Maricopa, yesterday afternoon while the occupants were away, nothing was taken, police said.

Seduction Suit

Two hundred thousand dollars is what Gaye Melton, above, is seeking in a suit filed against William Koenig, motion picture executive. Miss Melton charges she was seduced numerous times under promise of Koenig to marry her.

Three Patients Enter Hospital

Three new patients were received at Torrance Memorial hospital during the past week. Dr. Max A. Dorland of Redondo Beach entered Saturday for medical treatment; Mrs. Mary Goodwin, also of Redondo, on Friday for surgery, and Jack Horan, Redondo Beach service station attendant, entered Friday for treatment of a foot injury. He returned home Monday.

VOTE RE-STRIPING

Hawthorne avenue from Redondo Beach boulevard to Highway 101 will be re-striped by the city at a cost of $150, it was decided by the city council Tuesday night.

Gas Company to Improve Facilities

Supplementing the extensive betterment program completed in this district last year, Southern California Gas company will spend in excess of $250,000 for additional improvements and extensions to its natural gas system in the Compton-Redondo area during 1938, according to J. F. Murray, gas company division manager.

Increase in population in this area during the year will require the installation of 1,900 new gas services, Murray estimates, and the cost of laying piping and setting meters for this number of new homes will aggregate over $150,000. The expenditures in the Southern district are part of a general betterment program which the company plans for this year.

Meat Publicist Kiwanis Speaker

In a rapid-fire address on various little-known aspects of the meat industry, liberally sprinkled with humor, L. O. Burkholder, public relations counselor for the Cudahy Packing company in the western states, gave members of the Kiwanis club and many guests an enjoyable half-hour Monday night. Burkholder was presented by L. J. Gilmeister for Henry Grubb, who was program chairman.

BUY OFFICE EQUIPMENT

An appropriation of $275 for equipment for City Attorney John E. McCall's office in the city hall was approved by the city council Tuesday night.

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