Thursday, December 22, 1955 School Experiment Evaluated: TORRANCE PRESS Page 2



"And on earth peace, good will toward men."

Anyone else react as we did to that propaganda story in a national magazine . . . the one about the fantastic sums being spent this year on Xmas gifts? Seems there are cozy trifles to be bought for "the man who has everything . . . stuff like solid gold belts at \$30 an inch. For "her," in case she's hard to please, a \$10,000 mink coat might help. And charming suits of armor for the kiddies at only \$100 per! What ever happened to the idea that it isn't the cost of the gift that matters, it's the thought behind it?

Could be we're spoiled . . because we've prowled through the Sam Levy Dept. Store for the past couple of weeks and, except for toys for the little ones, we've come up with just about everything to delight hearts and preserve pocketbooks. We're just stubborn enough to think that's important!

Fact is, we issue a guarantee with your shopping at the Store: ... No unnecessary tension, no jangled nerves, no emptied wallets, and everything wrapped in love. So here are your last minute Xmas gift suggestions. After this you're on your own! . . .

Woman Side

Something new in Sweaters! California's answer to that famous Italian make. It's a "Wunda Lam" wool and cashmere, styled either in a longsleeved, full-fashioned cardigan with a soft, high collar; or the handsome V-neck with collar and short sleeves. Unbelievably priced for such a quality article. More sweaters! Jane Irwill does things with sweaters that make each one look custom designed and hand made! Especially stunning . . . her white



May Yours be a Wonderful Holiday! **Torrance Bootery** FA. 8-7809 1333 EL PRADO



WHAT CAN WE EXPECT OF LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE'? By RALPH R. GOMPERTZ

(Editor's note: This is the last in a series of four articles dealing with the little red school house plan being used in several classes at Walteria elementary school.)

a better grouping system for students as well as a better teaching and learning environment, is now being tried at Walteria elementary school.

public school will be evaluated at the end of the school year. program and which will determine the fate of the little red school Results of the experiment studied for the first time in a What benefits have been noted so far and what problems are house plan is parental desire and acceptance. being anticipated? What can parents in the Torrance Unified

School District expect if the results prove to be highly favorable? As was explained in previous articles, seven classes involving

245 students are presently being taught on the "little red school house" principle.

different grades have been placed into one classroom for the new. purpose of instruction (1st, 2nd and 3rd together; 4th, 5th, and 6th together).

The plan was originated and developed by Walter Rehwoldt, director of instruction for the Torrance Unified School District.

teachers, and parents toward the plan indicates a very favorable cantata with scripture text, was TE-48501 THEATRE TE-48501 A Torrance Press survey of the attitudes of school officials, reaction so far.

Higher echelon school officials, naturally cautious, expressed Baptist church, 2118 Carson st., moderate approval of the plan, emphasizing that the plan will be Torrance. The Cantata, directed strictly confined to the classes now involved for the one-year by Ted G. Misenhimer, Choir period

Parents and teachers expressed considerably stronger approval, bordering frequently on outright and unqualified enthusiasm for the program.

Benefits of the Program

Three major benefits of the program were noted and generally agreed upon.

1) Children have a chance to advance at their own speed. If a child is slow in a particular subject, he can be placed in the If a child is slow in a particular subject, he can be placed in the slower group until he has mastered the subject. Or, if he is particularly gifted in some subject, he does not have to wait for the rest of his class but can go ahead with the more advanced R. R. Gompertz, Managing Editor students. This way, slow learners are not left hopelessly behind and fast learners do not become restless and bored.

2) Children, in addition to learning from the teacher, learn from each other. This is so because children, just as individuals, learn more from each other because of their differences than their likenesses. The most common example of this is the family relationship in which there are older and younger children.

- 3) The plan benefits a child's personality and social adjustment. There is less bickering because older children act as a steadying influence on the younger ones. At the same time, older children develop qualities of leadership and responsibility.

No definite weaknesses in the system could be determined at this time. Most of the teachers maintain that it is too early to decide what the shortcomings of the system are, if any.

Their concern was not so much with the merits of the plan itself as with the problem of convincing other teachers and the community of its merits.

Questions Raised

Parents did raise a number of questions, however, all of which could be answered, Rehwoldt said.

Providing enough of a challenge to youngsters in the top groups, Rehwoldt agreed, could be a problem. However, this should not be harder to carry out than the regular policy of providing enough to do for the more gifted children in the single grades, he maintains.

Parents wondered if the teacher has enough time for the individual students. Rehwoldt is sure that he has, inasmuch as it supposedly does not matter whether a teacher has 30 students

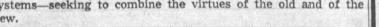
the district or is it possible that the plan may be adopted by all schools in this district?

Top school officials have indicated that the plan is simply experimental at this time.

Other educators and even parents are hopeful that the plan A "little red school house plan," intended to provide will continue and possibly spread. They point to the reporting program presently in use throughout the district, which also had as humble a beginning as "the little red school house plan." The big factor which determined the fate of the reporting

The most definite thing that can be said for the plan at this

time is that it represents basically good teaching practice. It succeeds in making teachers realize and accept the natural range in learning capacity among pupils on any level. It is simply one more brave attempt to arrive at the best of all possible classroom This means that students who would otherwise be in three systems-seeking to combine the virtues of the old and of the





Fish Fanciers Set Meeting

The Harbor Aquarium society will meet Tuesday, December 27, at the Gardena Community Center, 1651 Market st., in Gar dena, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting will be called to order by the president, Charles Wade. There will be films shown and a speaker.

The catfish is the showfish of the month.

Door prizes will be a 5-gallon tank and hood. Refreshments. will be served.

All fish-fanciers are welcome, said Wade

Telephone FAirfax 8-6375

- Also -

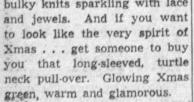
FRIDAY

- And -

Play"

- And -

John Hall. in



Luggage! Bet you didn't know Sam Levy's carries a complete line of Samsonite airplane luggage. Neither did we ... 'til we looked up and there they sat, high and handsome. Nationally advertised, Samsonite "Xmas Jubilee" sets will set his or her heart singing and feet traveling. Marvelous range of colors and sizes. These bags will take your giftees anywhere from Azuza to Afghanistan and back.

* * *_ Children's Side

This section in the rear of the Store is bulging with girls' pretty party dresses, and slips, and jeweled sweaters, and Capri pants, and even umbrellas. ... Everything gay and fresh and delightful. And for the Young Gentleman . . . everything Dad has he can get too. Sport shirts, dress shirts, fies, socks and even McGregor jackets!

Man Side

We say it, and we're glad! We've got the best looking collection of wallets and other leather goods for the best looking men in the whole U.S.A. Ask to see that topgrain cowhide box by Textan, fitted with matching wallet and key case ... all under \$10!

Ever know a man who hasn't secretly longed for a suede See ours in the welljacket? stocked Jacket section! They're zippered, lined, knit cuffs, collars and waist bands, and come in wonderful, strong colors.

Yes, indeed, "the world is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings!" So . . . good shop ping. We know you'll find everything you want right here at home . . . at 1311 Sartori Sam Levy Department Store. Naturally! * * *

Our Side

From the hearts of two of the dearest people we've ever known comes this greeting:

"We have so many nice customers and wonderful good friends that we can't greet them all personally. So to all of you whom we love . " a Merry Christmas!"

Frances and Sam Levy.



manufacture Music is our business

S

Torrance

RAY

1312 Sartori

MUSIC

FA. 8-6247

in a single grade or a mixed grade-the teacher must still meet each individual's need.

Rehwoldt also believes that there will be less demand on the teacher in a mixed class because there exists a better relationship among the youngsters themselves.

As for a timid child, such a pupil has a better chance to overome his timidness as he moves into the upper section of the class, assuming responsibility and leaderhip, the educator stated.

Are there any real weaknesses in the plan or are there only phantom weaknesses? This question appears to be premature and must await, at least, the evaluation of the program next summer.

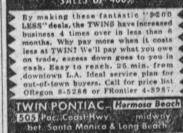
What Lies in Store?

In case the findings prove to be extremely favorable, what may we expect? Will the plan be extended to other schools in



This is possible only at Twin because overhead is lower in Hermosa Beach. We've got west's smallest showroom, tinlest ads. No fancy fixtures, just fantastie deals. \$25 down delivers. Credit ok in 15 min. No gimmicks. No extras Come in & we'll prove it!

SALES UP 400%



DRS.

SOSS

AND

KIIINB

OPTOMETRISTS

The Christmas Story will be presented in unique manner Friday, December 23, at 7:30, at the First Baptist church, 2118 Carson st., according to the pastor, Reverend C. Miles North-Under the direction of Mrs. Nathan Bond, a cast of 130 peo-

ple will present the story of Christmas in song and drama with living scenes portrayed from a giant picture frame constructed in the baptistry.

for PENSIONERS Pensioners! Under the terms of the latest

pension laws, you are probably entitled to a special additional allowance that will pay for your glasses. We'll gladly provide the facts without obligating you in any way. Our COM-PLETE OPTICAL SERVICE Includes expert eyeexamination, LENS GRINDING in our own laboratories, skilled assistance in frame selection, complimentary adjustment of glasses, and friendly consultation after purchase. Your lasting satisfaction is assured.

> * 29 Years in Harbor Area & Open Fridays Unt'l 7:00 All De Liberal Credit Terms Pens. 1268 Sarteri, Terrance Phone FA. 8-6602

810 Avalon, Wilmington Phone TE. 4-5464 37 Pine Ave., Long Beach Phone HE. 5-6219



And, may the wondrous peace and blessed spirit of this Holy Day find that all your fondest dreams have come true in the bounty of your Christmas gifts . . . That you all be gifted with health, happiness and much Yuletime Joy!

Mr Mahan's FURNITURE STORES

FA. 8-1252

Corner Sartori & El Prado