

APRIL IS TEACHING CAREER MONTH

April is Teaching Career Month throughout the United States--in the cities, the towns, the villages, and the rural areas, Mr. White announced today.

Teachers and supervisors of Montgomery County schools, along with members of the school board, will take part in the observance, Mr. White said.

These local individuals and groups will join with the National Education Association, which established Teaching Career Month in 1958, to focus public attention on the need for getting and keeping the best possible instructors in elementary and secondary schools and colleges.

The theme this year is "The Teacher Molds the Future"--an educator of our children from kindergarten upwards, as a builder of free and democratic citizens, as an advisor who may guide a student solve a knotty personal problem, or persuade a student not to become a dropout.

The men and women teachers in the teaching profession, including those in colleges, make up a working force of more than two million. They form the largest professional group in the United States, outnumber the Federal Post Office Department about four to one, and just about match the number of civilian employees in the Federal Government.

Even with so large a number, however, more qualified teachers are needed to fill vacancies now and in the future, NEA Research studies show.

In the public elementary

schools, adequately trained instructors are urgently required to handle the increasing number of pupils. These pupils now total nearly 27,000,000. Their teachers, says NEA Research, have the largest class loads, are responsible for the background upon which further education depends, and often lack adequate professional preparation.

In the public high schools, with a current enrollment of nearly 15,000,000, the situation is different. The problem is not the number of teachers available, but one of distribution. There is a shortage in special fields, including science and mathematics, technical and vocational education, English and foreign languages, physical and health education for women, and home economics.

In its campaign for better schooling where needed, the National Education Association is using Teaching Career Month.

1. To show that for our nation's survival, teaching must be the pre-eminent profession in American life.

2. To improve our nation's schools by providing increasing numbers of fine teachers.

3. To do this by encouraging qualified young people to consider teaching as a career.

4. To urge topflight teachers to remain in the profession.

5. To inspire teachers to speak out for their profession and encourage others to enter it.

6. To inform parents and other citizens of the opportunities and rewards the teaching profession offers today's youth.

Valentine King and
Queen Crowned

On Friday, February 14, after the two victorious West vs. Rohanen games, Marie Thompson and Gene Pridgen were crowned Valentine King and Queen. The Monogram Club selected eight girls and eight boys, two from each class, to be voted on by the entire student body for the crowns.

Marie was given a gold charm for the title and Gene, a bottle of English Leather. After being presented with these gifts there was a spotlight dance for the two winners. Later, everyone joined in.

Merit Test

A large number of juniors took the 1964 National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test on Tuesday, March 10. The test was administered by Miss Jane Lewis, Guidance Director. The qualifying test is a three-hour examination of educational development.

The test scores of students examined in March will be reported to their schools before May 15. The scores are used by counselors in many high schools to help students make decisions about college attendance and field of study. Many students who do not expect to win a scholarship takes the test in order to learn more about individual strengths and weaknesses in areas measured by the test.

All errors in this newspaper are April Fool jokes.