

# Trip To Marshall School Reveals Vast Improvements In 1963-64

## Visual Education Equipment, Modern Methods Thrill Writer

Principal Whitt, Boosters Club, PTA, Others To Be Commended

By JIM STORY

Those of you who, like the writer, seldom visit the Marshall school, would hardly recognize the buildings, the rooms, and the modern methods now being used. It's amazing what the students of today have to assist them in "book larnin'." There's a vast difference from the methods I was exposed to and what the current student is exposed to. Frankly, I could hardly believe what I saw and I still am almost speechless after visiting the school on the Island Tuesday of last week.

As president of the Marshall Boosters Club, I was aware that our members had sponsored numerous projects which would aid the school and the pupils and I was also aware that the Parent-Teacher's Association, and others, had shown great interest in the welfare and improvement of the school. Since it had been years since I had toured the entire school, I decided it was about time for me to get a "first hand" view of my alma mater.

I phoned Principal Clive Whitt Tuesday and asked him if I could come over for a visit and tour of the school. The personable principal said he'd be delighted if I would wait about 15 minutes until he could "get the classes changed and let some of the students start eating dinner."

About 11:00 o'clock I drove over to the Island and went to Mr. Whitt's office. He welcomed me most graciously and then, after

disposing of a few pressing duties, took me on a complete tour of the main building, the home economics department and the agricultural department.

To say I enjoyed every minute of it would be putting it quite mildly. Whenever I'm around Mr. Whitt, I like him more and more. He's the type of fellow who is pleasant, patient, full of humor, and completely devoted to the school, the teachers and pupils.

Although modest, Mr. Whitt's eyes would sparkle as he pointed out the many improvements which have been made during the 1963-64 school year. He would praise the Boosters Club, the PTA, the board of education, the superintendent, the local school committee, teachers and students and remarked, "special tribute should be paid the Boosters and PTA. The Boosters Club members have contributed more than a thousand dollars toward the improvement of the school. The PTA has contributed \$100 for a trophy case and \$116 for 16 new chalkboards for the primary building next year" but I knew it was through his efforts that a great share of the improvements were made possible.

Mr. Whitt, when talking of the many improvements, also stated that all records of expenditures are available to the public. "I would appreciate anyone showing enough interest to look at the records and judge for themselves what has been done."

As we went from room to room, he would ask the various teachers to tell me if any improvements had been made.

At this point, I would like to

express my appreciation to all the teachers—and students—for the courteous and informative attention I received on this tour. The conduct of all classes was superb. The students, themselves, seemed to realize the value of the latest equipment and some even helped their teachers explain the operation of such machines as the overhead projector which reflects on a large screen back of the teacher as he faces the class. There are three such projectors now in use and being a "has-been" when blackboards were used to write tests on, I was awed at this modern "thing." I urge you to visit the school and see it for yourself. I cannot describe the many benefits of these overhead projectors.

Mr. Whitt said a Thermo-Fax Transparency Maker for overhead projectors, valued at \$371.42, has been ordered. I'm anxious to see that contraption when it arrives. Filmstrips, neatly stored in attractive cases, could be seen in many rooms. Visual education is here in a big way and I almost wish I could start back to school. Instead of uninteresting lectures film strips now flash up pictures showing what fractions actually are—other than hard work in trying to solve. Various filmstrips on mathematics, for example, the practically any subject desired are available in seconds to the students.

New bulletin boards in every room "dress up" the appearance and gives the students up-to-minute information as well as using them for display purposes.

Modern charts in bookkeeping, attractively displayed in curtain-like rolls, fascinated me as I went in the Business Education Department. Mr. James Allen told me about many modern methods of teaching business education that I never dreamed of.

Mr. Whitt seemed quite pleased with the music room and its im-

provements. And well he might be pleased. Instead of a drab, piled-up conglomeration of instruments, new shelves have been built for both instruments and uniforms. In addition to these, a band stand has been constructed and the music room is most adequate although Mr. Whitt says there's still much to be done.

On my visit to the Home Economics Department, I found the girls busy but willing to slow down so I might tour the room. Mrs. Latrelle Robinson, Home Ec. teacher, was most cordial and proudly pointed out the recently painted walls, tables, shelves and even the stools. Lighting fixtures make the room attractive and I was gratified to see a new washing machine, two new stoves, new cabinets, sewing machines and modern storage facilities for clothes and dresses the students make. I almost wished I could take Home Economics with all this equipment and the fine instruction Latrelle could give me.

Next to the Home Ec. Department is the Agricultural Department, of which Jack Cole is teacher, instructor and worker. Among the latest additions to this department is a new skill saw, vacuum cleaner, new tools and a projector with films explaining care of livestock, growing of crops, etc.

I almost fainted when Mr. Cole showed me a 50'X9' tomato bed. I mean an actual tomato bed on the outside of the building. Hundreds of tomato plants are also on display in milk containers which I thought was quite practical and unique. Study in mass tomato growing and care coincides with the current plans of a tomato grading shed in Marshall and the students are learning all they can. This is truly a valuable addition to the curriculum.

In addition to the many valuable studies in growing, planting and machinery repair, the members of FFA have recently repair-

ed a pick-up truck. "It's all great," I told Mr. Cole as we headed back to the main building for more sight-seeing.

In the Elementary library, I found the room with filmstrips and projectors. Even a record player. New shelves all over the place with hundreds of books. A visit to the high school library also revealed vast improvements since I was a student way back in the early 30's. A full-time library, if you please, and attractive round tables—ten of them—for the students to sit and read. Class, you'll bet.

The auditorium will seat about 800. There's no balcony seats as of old, but it still looks much as it used to except for a nice projector and screen which aids in visual education.

Mr. Whitt then said he wanted me to see Lawrence Ponder's "pet project"—a weight-lifting course. In the old dressing room are all sorts of weight-lifting devices which interest many of the boys. This makes for better physical improvement and muscle building, Mr. Whitt pointed out.

My last visit was to the Biology Class. Miss Jessie Mae Ramsey was busy teaching but she took time out to show me some real live frogs. One of the students even "dissected" a model frog while I was there. I asked Miss Ramsey if she had any snakes, and when she turned as if to get one, I backed toward the door. She, however, brought out some other types of reptiles and thinking she might have a copperhead or rattlesnake slithered away. I excused myself and told her I enjoyed being in the biology class. I did enjoy it, really, but I'm not too fond of dissecting any animal or fowl.

On the way out, Miss Eloise Ward stopped me and told me how much the teachers appreciated the fine work of the Boosters Club, the PTA and others. She also highly commended Principal Whitt on the interest he had shown during his first year as principal of the Marshall School. The other teachers were also "high" in praise for Mr. Whitt's efforts.

As I returned from our exciting and informative visit to the Marshall school, I, too, thought how grateful we should be for such a fine school, fine faculty, fine students and a dedicated principal.

Even though I saw a great deal and learned a great deal, I still want to go back to the school more often and keep up with more improvements which are constantly being made.

Before concluding my trip, I asked Mr. Whitt to give me a breakdown of major improvements made in the three sections of the school during the past year and below are published some of them:

**Primary Building—Grades 1-3:** Two sets of supplementary readers per grade; one set of childcraft; supplementary charts and materials to go with 1st and 2nd grade readers; outdoor fountain built at end of primary building; filmstrips and record valued at over \$200; projection table; library books; filmstrip cabinet; overhead projector; first aid kit; trophy case.

**Elementary — Grades 4-6:** Bulletin boards and chalkboards; some new globes and maps; record player and records; new record cabinet; roll around projection table; filmstrip cabinet; filmstrips, valued at \$400; set of world book encyclopedias; world atlas with stand; two sets of supplementary readers per grade; new library books; setting up of elementary library; new filmstrip projector; set of tools for special education class.

**High School Grades 9-12:** Bulletin boards and chalkboards; materials for biology-slide rules for math; charts for business dept; purchase of calculator; painting of high school library; painting of office and tiling of office floor; cleaning up downstairs and introduction of weight lifting; world atlas and stand for high school library; filmstrips for math, science, biology, social studies, and guidance of more than \$400; filmstrips projector; overhead projector; opaque projector; painting home economic dept. new cabinets, two new stoves, new washing machine, storage for pupils work and clothing; Some new equipment in agricultural dept; building of band stand in band room with storage for instruments and uniforms; some new equipment for football, baseball, and basketball; purchase of activity bus; new bleachers; new press box (dedicated to "Pop" Story); first aid kit; records for english dept; new 16 mm. film projector; new covers for typewriters; plastic magazine binders; 1964 Forney arc welder with accessories (no-ag-



Horace D. Godfrey Receives Highest USDA Award

Washington, D. C. — A North Carolina native with more than a quarter-century as an agricultural leader in this State has received the highest award which can be given by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in ceremonies held in Washington, Tuesday, May 19.

He is Horace D. Godfrey, Administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service since January, 1961. Presentation of the USDA Distinguished Service Award was by Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman, at the special event held at the foot of the Washington Monument.

The citation accompanying the Award reads:

"For distinctive leadership in the development and operation of major programs affecting farm income and conservation, and for outstanding skill in administration resulting in increased efficiency and economy."

Mr. Godfrey directs administration of farm action programs such as price supports, feed grain, cotton, wheat and agricultural conservation programs, allotments and marketing quotas and farm storage facility loans.

He also is Executive Vice-President and a member of the Board of Directors of Commodity Credit Corporation which manages the price support programs. In addition he is chairman of the Advisory Committee on Cotton, National Tobacco Industry Advisory Committee and Stabilization Advisory Committee on Peanuts.

From these vantage points, Mr. Godfrey has had a major influence in shaping programs which have increased farm income and brought wider participation in conservation of land and water resources on individual farms. These results have been accomplished with smaller expenditures of man-power and cost.

A native of Waxhaw, North Carolina, Mr. Godfrey has been engaged in farm program administration for almost 30 years. For 12 years prior to his appointment to the ASCS post in 1961 he served as State Administrative Officer for the State ASC Committee in North Carolina.

Mr. Godfrey attended Charlotte Business College and North Carolina State College at Raleigh.

### Seniors To Present "The Angell Brats" Friday, May 22

Shirley Roberts as Ruth Alden and Stanley Ward as Dr. Wylie Angell have the leading roles in "The Angell Brats," a three-act play to be presented by the Marshall seniors Friday night at 7:30 o'clock in the school auditorium.

The plot involves Dr. Angell's three children who are trying to get themselves a mother. It seems that they all want a different one which results in a very comical situation.

Other members of the cast are Gail Fisher as Hydraangea Iodine Jimpson; Ronnie Haynie as Epidemic Peters; Carolyn Howell as Venetia Van Arlen; Mike Ledford as Billy Angell; Patsy Hale as Grandma Angell; Ronnie Gladden as Azarias Peabody; Ronnie Johnson as Orley Van Arlen; Yvonne Wallin as Winnie Oliphant; Lloyd Wayne Slagle as Don Daggett; Patsy Conner as Twila Twitchell; Doris Ward as Dodo Angell; and Ronnie Buckner as Pat Angell.

Miss Jessie Mae Ramsey, sophomore sponsor, is director of the play.

The total value of improvements is estimated at from \$8,000.00 to \$10,000.00.

I think improvements made in the past school year clearly attest to whether Mr. Whitt is a good principal or not. As for me, he's "tops" in my opinion.



### ANNOUNCEMENT

—FOR— Tax Collector

Having filed with the County Board of Elections following many requests and assurance of many of my Democratic friends in Madison County, I hereby respectfully solicit the support of all Democrats in Madison County for renomination as Tax Collector in the Democratic Primary, May 30, 1964.

I wish to state that all past support was sincerely appreciated and all support in the future will also be appreciated very much.

If nominated and elected I will continue to serve in this capacity to the best of my ability.

Byard Ray

—Political Advt.

### Singing Convention

The regular fourth Saturday night singing will be held at the Caney Fork Baptist Church Saturday, May 23.

Mr. McKinley Redmon will be in charge.

All singers and the public are invited to attend.

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