

Preparation For Teachers Proves Hard But Satisfying And How Do Your Teachers Grow?



Dr. Elizabeth Welch, Head of the Education Department

Practice Teaching Reveals Value Of Teaching Methods

Second semester of Education is your main method semester. And what a semester! This is when the elementary and secondary teachers separate. Elementary teachers take Education 224—this gives you the techniques for teaching readin', writin', and 'rithmetic. It shows the materials used in teaching, the curriculum for each grade, and organization of the classroom.

The big project in this course is the keeping of a **Diary**—an organized collection of all materials given you. Another part of this course is observing two hours every week the aspect of education you are studying. Another course is children's literature, which includes study of books and poetry and choric speaking.

Physical Education is another methods course taken your junior year. You really let yourself go in this course—acting like any age child you want to. All the girls teach games and rhythms on their grade level and we really have fun being elephants and airplanes.

Then there is a methods course in health. This includes principles and procedures in health at the elementary level. Doing units and

bulletin boards are the main projects in this course.

Now you've been through all the education courses. When you've had them you'll feel "all through." You may say "all to no avail," but it's not, for now you are prepared to practice teach.

The first week of practice teaching during your senior year you observe and slowly you begin to take over the classroom and the actual teaching. This is where your methods courses prove their worth. This is where you gain most of your experience in teaching, and this is where you see the great responsibility of a teacher. This is where you gain your confidence as a teacher.

Time! Time! Cry the girls in education. When can I find time? How do they expect me to take four method courses at a time and keep up with my major?

Yes, sometimes I thought I'd never live through it, but that's the amazing part about Salem's education department—you do.

It all begins your sophomore year when you take general and child psychology. As future teachers and parents, this is a most essential course, for it includes a study of human activity—personality, intelligence, social develop-

ment, and process of learning, and the development of the child from conception through adolescence.

During the second semester of every year you will see girls walking past the infirmary down to Central Elementary School. They go once a week for seven weeks to observe a child in his social group. You'll see the girls carrying a tiny pad to take notes on—for the child must not see you writing. You must be very inconspicuous. You then write a report on this child. So we see in this course the beginning of your ob-

servations. Observing is one phase of Salem's Education Department that makes it so outstanding. In most of these education courses you observe, teach various aspects, and therefore get direct application of what you are learning about in the classroom.

Then comes that fabulous junior year—the year of all years at Salem (if you're in education)—the year of **METHODS**. This year you take as many courses in methods as you can, so that you will be well-prepared to do your practice

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but without hands... 

you miss the whole idea of a watch

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but without flavor—you miss the whole idea of smoking



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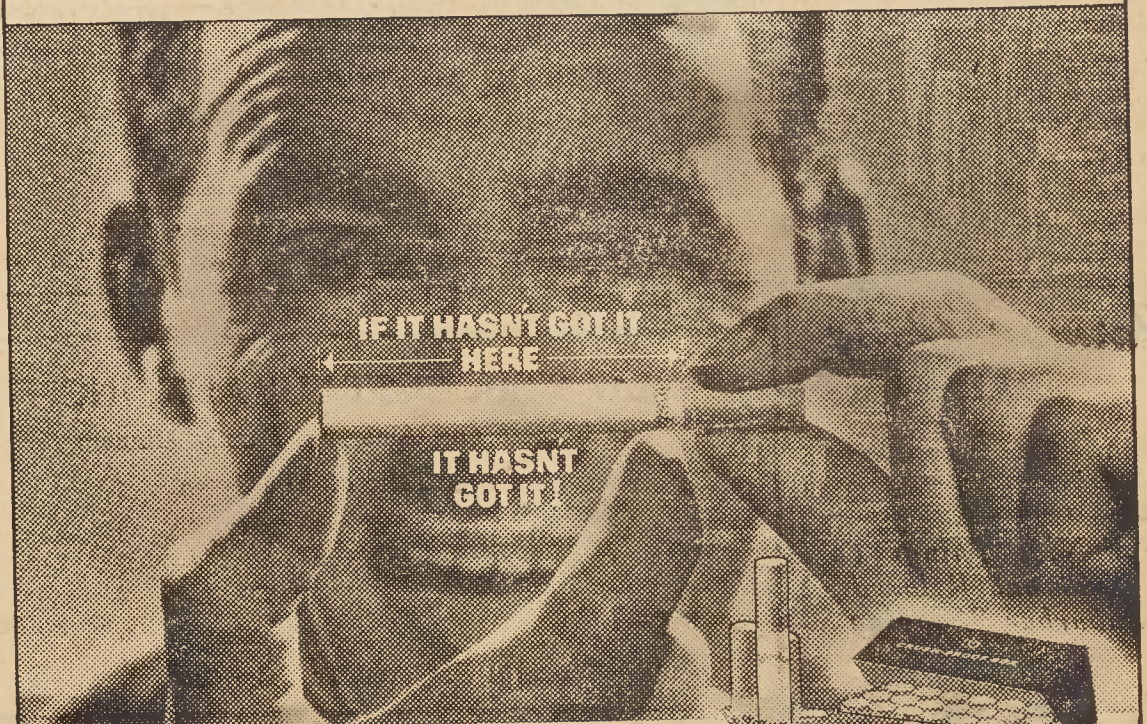
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